

Library staff were invited to submit interest statements to Erin Christmas, Library Director, prior to registration and eight were selected to attend, including the adult and family literacy staff. Eight library employees were selected to attend the annual conference including Assistant Library Director, Jessica Herdina, Librarian Charmaine Mendez, Orange Terrace Library Supervisor Hayden Birkett, SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library Supervisor Yesenia Littlefield, Library Associates Karen Flores, Melissa Matrix and Fredi Morales, and Library Assistant Eva Contreras.

Sessions staff attended are shared below.

Day 1 Activities:

The activities included three-hour super sessions, allowing for longer presentations and more in-depth discussions about important topics currently impacting libraries. A few that staff attended were Book Banners, Display Disruptors, and Drag Queen Storytime Protestors: How to Respond to Content Challenges; Working with English Language Learners; Producing Results Through Sustainable Library Advocacy; and Bilingual Storytime 102: Tips, Tricks, and Técnicas for Translating Songs and Rhymes.

Day 2 and 3 Activities:

The conference provided opportunities to network, attend 45-minute panel discussions, meet with vendors in the exhibit hall, and view poster sessions. Staff attended a variety of panels, including Community Service and Rules of Conduct: Developing Policies and Procedures That Support Staff; How to Create, Update and Support and Inclusive Volunteer Program; It Could Never Happen Here: Creating an Active Shooter Plan for Your Library; Revamping your California Library Literacy Services Tutor Training; and What's New in Children's Books.

In addition to attending the conference, Librarian Charmaine Mendez also presented on a panel discussion called Literacy for Newbies: Developing Sustainable Programs – How to Step In, Start Over, or Build a New Grant Funded Program. She worked with literacy staff from three other Inland Empire library systems to create a presentation for new literacy coordinators focused on tools and best practices to keep literacy programs running smoothly.

Library staff returned from CLA with creative ideas and are working with their Supervisors to determine ways to incorporate what they learned to enhance programming and services.

The costs for staff to attend was approximately \$8,060 which covered registration fees and travel and was paid from the Library's operating budget in the amount of \$4,570 and California Library Literacy Services grant in the amount of \$3,490. Additionally, free registration was offered to several staff to offset costs.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This item contributes to **Strategic Priority No. 1 Arts, Culture & Recreation** and **Goal No. 1.1 - Strengthen Riverside's portfolio of arts, culture, recreation, senior and lifelong learning programs and amenities through expanded community partnerships, shared use opportunities and fund development.**

This item aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** – This informational report for staff focuses on literacy resources and services for inclusive community engagement.

2. **Equity** – This informational report provides staff the opportunity to participate in a variety of panels and network with peers and to be able develop the knowledge and skills needed to work for 21st Century libraries and practice what was learned to members of the community for equal access to share the benefits of community progress.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – There were no fiscal impacts to the General Fund with this information report. The Riverside Public Library is a prudent steward of public funds and ensures responsible management of the City’s financial resources while providing quality public services to all.
4. **Innovation** – This information report on Riverside Public Library staff attending the California Library Association’s 2023 conference report is timely in meeting the community’s changing needs and prepares for the future through collaborative partnerships and adaptive processes.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – This informational report on Riverside Public Library staff attending the California Library Association’s 2023 conference relates to meeting the needs of the present without compromising the needs of the future and ensuring the City’s capacity to persevere, adapt and grow during good and difficult times alike.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Jessica Herdina, Assistant Library Director