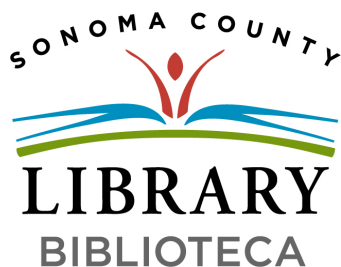


Library News April 2025

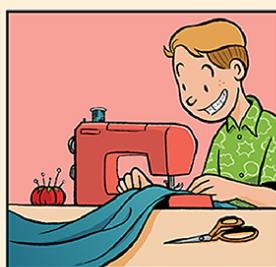


"The library is the most welcoming, friendly, and helpful place in the community."

Sonoma County Library patron

Sonoma County Library creates community through discovery, culture and connection

National Library Week is April 6-12



Drawn to the Library

National Library Week
April 6-12, 2025

Cautivados por la Biblioteca

La Semana Nacional de las Bibliotecas
6-12 de Abril de 2025

ALA American Library Association

Library of Congress

ACQUISITION

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Sonoma County
Library Director
Erika Thibault

Library Funding Update

The library and museum world is reeling from a new executive order issued on March 14, 2025 targeting the Institute for Museum & Library Services, which provides federal funding to support libraries in all 50 states.

The order eliminates funding for the Institute for Museum and Library Studies (IMLS), where all staff have

been placed on administrative leave, effective immediately. In 2024, California received the most IMLS funding nationwide, including nearly \$16 million for libraries through the Grants to States program, an additional \$1.8 million in other library grants, and nearly \$9 million for museums.

Sonoma County Library has benefited from IMLS grants funding specific programs for our

community as well as from several statewide programs funded by IMLS, including an Ebooks for All grant; Stay & Play grants for children and caregivers; the History & Genealogy Playback Memory Lab grant; SonomaFi hotspot lending, mobile WiFi pop-up units for large groups; and Read Together story kits, for parents to help their young children learn how to read.

Sonoma County Library currently receives about \$20,000 in Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) funding from the California State Library for the e-Books for All grant. We also rely upon other State Library initiatives including a *New York Times* subscription and staff development opportunities – all funded through LSTA. Our library will adjust to these cuts, other libraries will not fare as well.

We are devastated to hear that the IMLS is being cut, and staff are being put on leave. We encourage everyone who loves libraries to reach out to their federal elected officials and tell them to fight for IMLS before it's too late.

Library News April 2025

OUR PATRONS SAY ...

From library patrons:

"The library offers so much more than only books. It is truly an exceptional community resource."

"I have been using so many services the library has to offer for so long. Probably about 25 years."

"The library has a great selection to choose from and the librarians are knowledgeable and kind!"

"I love our libraries because reading for knowledge and pleasure is essential to our lives as an educated populace. Online I can order a new book and am notified when it's ready for pickup. How wonderful!"

"So easy to check out, find your holds, and I just love the atmosphere."

FROM THE COMMISSION CHAIR



**Library Commission
Chair Deborah Doyle**

Spring is here with changeable weather and many opportunities. We are still watching Washington; an executive order is closing the small federal department that serves libraries nationwide. Please write to Congress and the President to object.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is a lifeline for students, families, veterans, businesses, job seekers, individuals with disabilities, and seniors. With just 0.003% of the federal budget, libraries provide free, non-partisan services that benefit everyone. Locally, Sonoma County Library continues to champion and promote free access to information, education and entertainment for all. The newly refurbished Windsor Regional Library is open; please visit!

Deborah Doyle
Chair, Sonoma County Library Commission
Free people read freely!

Southwest Asian, North African & Arab American Heritage Month

Celebra el mes de la herencia del suroeste asiático, el norte de África y árabe-estadounidense este mes de abril—iy durante todo el año!—con la Biblioteca del Condado de Sonoma, donde **celebramos a nuestra comunidad más de un mes.**



Celebrate Southwest Asian, North African & Arab American Heritage Month this April—and all year long—with Sonoma County Library, where **celebrating our community is more than a month.** Explore SWAANA books for kids, teens, and adults by visiting sonomalibrary.org or any library.



The Sonoma County Library Commission

Deborah Doyle, Town of Windsor, Commission Chair
Brooke Greene, City of Cloverdale, Commission Vice-Chair
David Cahill, City of Santa Rosa
Andy Elkind, City of Healdsburg
Fred Engbarth, City of Sebastopol
Eve Goldberg, County of Sonoma
Paul Heavenridge, City of Petaluma
Sarah Laggos, City of Santa Rosa / County of Sonoma
Barbara Mackenzie, City of Rohnert Park
Tina Poles, City of Cotati
City of Sonoma; vacant
Erika Thibault, Library Director

MISSION

Sonoma County Library creates community through discovery, culture and connection.

VISION

Sonoma County Library welcomes all to grow and thrive in a community where equal access to knowledge creates understanding and limitless potential:

- with innovative library programming, robust collections, and responsive services;
- through equitable access to information, technology, and connectivity;
- and opportunities to contribute, interact, and participate.

VALUES

- **Equity:** Fostering justice and inclusion within our community
- **Curiosity:** Cultivating new perspectives and possibilities with the community
- **Creativity:** Valuing original ideas and approaches to support community aspirations
- **Compassion:** Embodying kindness and respect for the lived experiences within our community
- **Trustworthiness:** Bringing reliability, accountability, and transparency to the community