



Annual Report 2019

The Year in Review

Prepared by Frances L. McCullough, Ed.D.
Immediate Past President

Our Mission

The mission of the Solano County Library Foundation (SCLF) is to support the programs of the Solano County Library and the literacy and lifelong learning needs of the community it serves. Since its establishment in December 1994, the Foundation has raised more than \$5 million dollars.

2019 Board of Directors

President, Frances McCullough, Ed.D

Vice President, Billie Cohen

Past President, Beth Shedden

Treasurer, Manuel R. Lawrence

Assistant Treasurer, Verneal Brumfield

Secretary, Dar Bruley

Director of Library Services, Bonnie A. Katz
(Ex-Officio Member)

Board Members: Bonnie Hamilton M.D.

Manveer Sandhu

Ravi C. Shankar, BSEE, MBA

Vera K. Smith

Jan Stevens

Kelly Towey

Ash Varma, M.D.

Honorary Members: Jennifer Barton and
James Moehrke



Reading and advocacy for literacy was just as important in 2019 as it was in 1994 when the Solano County Library Foundation (SCLF) was founded with a vision of stamping out illiteracy. Programs such as Reach Out and Read, Solano Kids Read, Tutor.Com and Adult Literacy are as essential today as they were twenty-six years ago.

Reading is a lifelong gift that cannot be taken away. "Once you learn to read, you will forever be free", Frederick Douglass, an African-American born into slavery in 1818 who went on to become a national leader.

Staff

Office Administrator, Colleen Porter

History

Since its inception in 1994, the Solano County Library Foundation has raised more than \$5 million dollars for Library literacy programs. We raise funds for library programs not supported by tax dollars.

Solano County Library Literacy Programs We Supported in 2019

- **Reach Out and Read Pediatric Clinics Gave Out 19,307 Books in 2019**



Parent and children in waiting room at one of the clinics

Pediatricians at 14 partnering clinics join us in fostering a love of reading by including stories in all well child visits for kids 5 and under. Medical providers talk with parents about the benefits of reading aloud and sharing stories with their young children beginning at birth. This makes for unmatched access to families during the years from birth to age three—a period of critical brain development. Parents are shown how to best engage their children with the text and images and make the stories come alive. Families gain a deeper understanding of why they should make reading a daily habit and leave inspired to cuddle up with their young one and a book.

We provide sibling books and maintain a bookstand with free books for parents and children to access while they are waiting to be seen by the Pediatrician.

- **Students had 6,552 Sessions with Tutor.com**

Tutor.com is a Learning Suite that combines live online tutoring, homework help, and test preparation with highly qualified tutors in a variety of subjects from algebra, calculus and statistics to English, chemistry and physics. Every session is one-to-one and personalized to the student's subject and questions. Students access this free site using their Solano County Library card via the Solano County Library website. SCLF and major donors fund the sessions.

- **2,229 Children Participated in Solano Kids Read**

Solano Kids Read is a free, countywide reading project that encourages reading for entertainment, inspiration and delight. Working closely with the schools, the Solano Kids Read (SKR) program brings authors and kids together to discuss writing and reading and to encourage a free-ranging conversation. Authors sign books for the kids. Meeting an author is a significant piece of the program, which is funded by the Solano County Library Foundation.

- **Adult Literacy**

This literacy program served 312 adult students in 2019, including one on one tutoring, group tutoring and independent learning opportunities while waiting for a tutor. Total number of instructional hours received by students: 11,427, Literacy Tutor/Volunteers: 196 - Total Volunteer Hours provided: 23,295

Our Year in Events and Activities

Twelfth Annual National Women's History Month Celebration



Patti Navalta, author and anti-gun violence advocate is the 2019 Woman of the Year

On March 15, 2019, SCLF co-sponsored the Twelfth Annual Women's History Luncheon with the Solano County Women's History Luncheon Committee and raised over \$18,000 in support of women programs and literacy. This sold-out event has been held at the beautiful Joseph Nelson Community Center in Suisun City for the past ten years. The committee will now seek a larger venue for this very popular National Women's History Month event in order to accommodate more guests.



Midsi Sanchez was our Keynote Speaker.

• Nineteenth Annual Authors Luncheon

Our 2019 Authors Luncheon was attended by 275 people and raised over \$33,000. Suzanne Bruce, local poet and author, was the Mistress of Ceremonies for this annual event, "Lighting the Path to Literacy", held at the Clubhouse at Rancho Solano in Fairfield.

After a pre-prandial Mimosa, and an excellent luncheon, attendees honored long-time Literacy Tutor and Benefactor Jeanne Strong as the Honorary Chairperson of the event. There was a special presentation by Cynthia Gross, Literacy Tutor at the Solano County Literacy Program, who discussed her experiences with learners and the positive effects of literacy on their lives. Joe Gates of *Have Gavel Will Travel* conducted a highly successful live auction. Guests were then entertained by authors: Sheri L. Smith, Abbi Waxman, Suzanne Cotsakos, Ryan McCulloch, Eileen Rendahl, Russell Moore and Allison Hopelain as they shared their life experiences and literary endeavors.

Book sales, silent auction items, and sales of the beautiful hand made centerpieces by Dar Bruley were brisk. Jan Stevens, Chair of Authors Luncheon 2019 and SCLF President McCullough both expressed great appreciation to all sponsors and donors for their support.



Authors and Patrons of the 2019 Authors Luncheon



Giving Tuesday – Give Local Solano

This December 3rd fundraiser netted \$1220 in just one day! Thank you to our partners at the Solano Community Foundation for hosting this event!



Solano County Literacy Recognitions

Solano County Board of Supervisors recognized Adult Literacy Month.

September was recognized as Adult Literacy Month by the Solano County Board of Supervisors at its meeting on September 10th, where they acknowledged the 25th Anniversary of the Solano County Library Literacy program.

Beth Shedden and **Soroptimist of Central Solano County** were honored with the *Beth Shedden Reach Out and Read* award, **Diane Robinson** received the *Diane Robinson* award for Literacy, and a third award, *Mary Undlin Volunteer Award* went to two literacy tutors, **Elaine Pulido** and **Yolanda DeVore**.

Distinctive 2019 Literacy Gifts



Dr. Ash Varma presented \$10,000 to *Reach Out & Read*. **Frances McCullough**, **Ash Varma**, **Bonnie Katz**, **Manuel Lawrence**



Dr. Ash Varma presented SCLF with a \$15,000 African-American Cultural Literacy Gift

SCLF received a gift of \$15,000 from SCLF Director, Dr. Ash Varma. The funds are to be matched and used toward the production of an African-American Cultural Literacy Experience that depicts *The Great Migration of African-Americans from the Southern States to the Western and Eastern states*. This program is scheduled for June 2021.

ROAR receives a financial gift from David Grant's Family Medicine and Pediatric Dept.



Frances McCullough, President of Solano County Library Foundation accepts a check for \$1,500 from David Grant's Family Medicine and Pediatric Department. The funds will be used to purchase books for Reach Out and Read.

OUR GOALS for 2020

- Increase number of books given out in pediatric clinics by 1,000
- Increase and maintain the general membership of the Foundation
- Expand our Board of Directors to increase diversity of skills & ethnicities
- Increase the overall representation of our donors and participants
- Co-Sponsor the 13th Annual Women's History Luncheon
- Sponsor the 20th Annual Authors Luncheon

Thanks for Exceptional Literacy Support!

Suihkonen CPA's and Consultants

We are grateful for the many years of tax consultancy services provided by Andy Suihkonen, CPA. Andy, thanks for ensuring SCLF taxes were timely completed correctly for over twenty years. Sharon Boatright, CPA & Co Inc. of Benicia, CA will now provide Tax services for SCLF.

Hilton Garden Inn

Solano County Library Foundation received exceptional support from the Hilton Garden Inn of Fairfield in 2019. The Hilton Garden Inn stepped-up to make available elegant *Winemakers Dinners* to SCLF patrons when they were most needed. Special thanks to General Manager John McKaig and Chef Peter Garcia.

NorthBay Healthcare

A special thank you to Steve Huddleston, Dr. Judy Yang, and all at NorthBay Healthcare for their enduring, early literacy support through Reach Out and Read (ROAR) for many years.

Kaiser Permanente

Thank you to Kaiser Permanente for generously underwriting our Women's History Luncheon. We are grateful for your continued support.



Our Financial Well-Being (Year-End for 2019)

Prepared from the books and records of Solano County Library Foundation

Assets

\$122,708 in restricted funds securely held for Solano County Library programs

\$196,941 unrestricted (bank accounts, deposits and investments)

\$319,649

Liabilities: None

Revenue

\$ 51,094 for Grants and Memorials

\$110,138 for Fundraising, Events, Membership

\$161,232

Disbursements and Expenses

\$ 38,268 to Solano County Programs and Memorial Funds

\$ 27,257 to Event Expenses

\$ 30,152 to Operating Expenses

\$ 95,677

Total Net Revenue

\$ 65,555

Our Supporters



Thank You!

Thank you for your generosity and belief in our work. Every donation made to the Solano County Library Foundation makes a difference. Following is a list of supporters who contributed \$500 or more in 2019.

Benevity Community Impact Fund

Jennifer Barton

Dar and Bob Bruley

Verneal Brumfield,

Billie Cohen

Justin Cullum

George and Bernadette Curry

First Northern Bank - Fairfield

Friends of the Vacaville Library

James and Anne Gemmer

Bonnie Hamilton, MD

William T. Hinson, Jr. Family Trust

Nancy Huston

Kaiser Permanente

Bonnie Katz

Teresa Lavell

Leo and Frances McCullough

Jim and Deb Moehrke

NorthBay Healthcare

Potrero Hills Landfill

Republic Services, Fairfield

Rhonda Renfro

The Robby Poblete Foundation

Rotary Club of Fairfield-Suisun

Gerald and Beth Shedden

Marilee Scholl

Sheldon Gas Co.

Solano Community Foundation

Solano County Office of Education

Jeannette Stevens

Sutter Health Valley Area

Travis Credit Union

Travis Spouses Club

Ash B. Varma, MD

Joselita Villanueva

Isabelle J. Voit

The Wiseman Company



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