



***On the Horizon:
The Kern County Library
Celebrates Successes & Reopenings***

A Year of Success at the Library

\$351,600+
in Donations
FY20-21



6,500+
Events Offered
In-Person & Virtually
FY20-21

NOVEMBER 2020
Launched Wireless Printing Services.



With the support of the Kern County Library Foundation, the Library launched wireless printing services, making it possible to enjoy contactless service at a low cost. Print jobs can be submitted via a smartphone, online from a computer, or through email.

kerncountylibrary.org/wireless-printing

MAY 2021
Launched 2021 Story Tours.



To reach more residents, the Library teamed up with Community Action Partnership of Kern to bring the Bookmobile to areas affected by a lack of library services, particularly during the pandemic. The Bookmobile visited West Kern, Bakersfield, and East Kern, and specifically stopped at closed library facilities on a weekly basis.



538,300+
Total Materials Checked Out

Made Possible with the eLibrary & Curbside Services
FY20-21

21,900+
Customers Assisted
Via Phone

FY20-21

2,300+ Customers Assisted Via Email

JANUARY 2021
Released the Job Seeker Toolkit
& Supported Job Seekers in the
Evolving Post-COVID Economy.



To aid Kern residents and support the California State Library's workforce efforts, the Kern County Library launched an online toolkit to support job seekers, released multiple resources (including online resume support), supported job seekers with one-on-one appointments, added titles to the Kern County Library's collection, and connected with both JobFest and Employers' Training Resource to make community job alerts available to Library visitors.

kerncountylibrary.org/job-seeker-toolkit

AUGUST 2021
Expanded Lunch at the Library
Beyond Summer with the
Snacks in the Stacks Program.



To support food insecurity in Kern County, the Library expanded Lunch at the Library beyond June and July, offering both Grab-N-Go Lunches throughout the year and launching Snacks in the Stacks, a program that focuses on after-school support offering dinner and snacks to children ages 2-18.

kerncountylibrary.org/lunch-at-the-library

650+
Attended Virtual Book Cafes 2021

\$214,800+
in Awarded Grants for Special Projects

(Does not include donations) FY20-21



600+
Checkouts to Seniors Through
Meals on Wheels

2021

Impact Report



66,100+
Meals Served

April - December 2021



290,300+
Participants in Events
In-Person & Virtually

FY20-21

2,388,400+
Reached on Social Media

FY20-21



5,900+
Books Given to Families
to Build Their At-Home Libraries

2021



22,200+
Total Carryout Crafts & Take-Home
Activities Distributed

2021



5,100+
Signups for the
Summer Reading Challenge

June-July 2021

2,400+ read 10 books or for 10 hours
439,000+ minutes spent reading in the Summer
31,000+ books read over the Summer

SEPTEMBER 2021
Launched the 1,000 Books
Before Kindergarten Program.



With the support of the Kern County Library Foundation, the Library is now supporting parents and caregivers in emphasizing the importance of literacy and jumpstarting a child's lifelong success from day one. With the 1,000 Books program, adults are encouraged to read 1,000 books with their child before they reach kindergarten; along the way, children win milestone achievement prizes, including a FREE lanyard and library card holder, benchmark buttons, and an award certificate. By reading together, family members participate in a wonderful opportunity to connect and spend time together, as well as instill a love of reading.

kerncountylibrary.org/1000-books-before-kindergarten



JANUARY 2022
Launched the Book a Book Service.

Contactless service just got easier with Book a Book! Library visitors no longer need to register to pick up materials or set up an appointment. This curbside, contactless service keeps our communities safe and is incredibly convenient. View your available holds through the Library's ValleyCat app and simply let us know that you're on your way. When you arrive, we'll get your materials to you conveniently and quickly.

kerncountylibrary.org/book-a-book



JANUARY 2022
Reopened 5 Branches and
Expanded Hours at 4 Branches.

Currently, 18 of the Kern County Library's 22 branches are open without restrictions following California Public Health's mask mandate. Check Facebook and the Library's website for updates and information.

kerncountylibrary.org/find-hours-l-cations



JANUARY 2022
Zip Books Returns.

Read, return, and repeat with the Zip Books program! Originally launched as a pilot project, the Zip Books program quickly became a popular, FREE alternative to interlibrary loan (ILL). Library card holders in good standing can get speedy access to materials not in the Kern County Library's collection; requested books are shipped directly to your home. Since inception, the program has connected over 600 residents with 2,300+ titles. It has allowed the Library to expand its collection through a user-driven approach, matching collection development to the needs of the community. Can't find a title? Then we recommend using Zip Books!

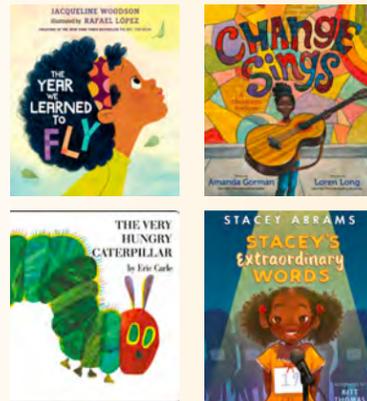
kerncountylibrary.org/zipbooks

OCTOBER 2021
Reopened the
Buttonwillow
Branch Library.

Most Popular Materials of 2021

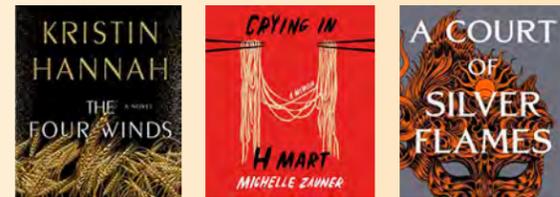
Picture Books

THE YEAR WE LEARNED TO FLY by Jacqueline Woodson
CHANGE SINGS by Amanda Gorman
THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR by Eric Carle
STACEY'S EXTRAORDINARY WORDS by Stacey Abrams



Adult Fiction

THE FOUR WINDS by Kristin Hannah
CRYING IN H MART by Michelle Zauner
A COURT OF SILVER FLAMES by Sarah J. Maas
DUNE by Frank Herbert
BILLY SUMMERS by Stephen King
THE DUKE & I by Julia Quinn
MALIBU RISING by Taylor Jenkins Reid
GREAT CIRCLE by Maggie Shipstead
GO TELL THE BEES THAT I AM GONE by Diana Gabaldon
THE PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER by Bill Clinton & James Pattersons



Juvenile Fiction

DOG MAN: MOTHERING HEIGHTS by Dav Pilkey
DIARY OF A WIMPY KID: BIG SHOT by Jeff Kinney



Teen Fiction

LORE by Alexandra Bracken
FIRE KEEPER'S DAUGHTER by Angeline Boulley



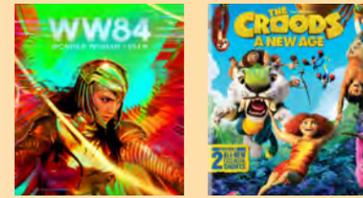
Adult Nonfiction

ATOMIC HABITS by James Clear
AMERICAN MARXISM by Mark R. Levin
THE LINCOLN HIGHWAY by Amor Towles
A PROMISED LAND by Barack Obama



DVDs

WONDER WOMAN 1984 distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures
THE CROODS: A NEW AGE distributed by Universal Pictures



Audiobooks

ANTHROPOCENE REVIEWED by John Green
THE MIDNIGHT LIBRARY by Matt Haig



Large Print

STATE OF TERROR by Hillary Rodham Clinton & Louise Penny
CLOUD CUCKOO LAND by Anthony Doerr
THE SENTENCE by Louise Erdrich
KLARA AND THE SUN by Kazuo Ishiguro



Hot 2022 Reads

Upcoming new releases can be requested in the Catalog!

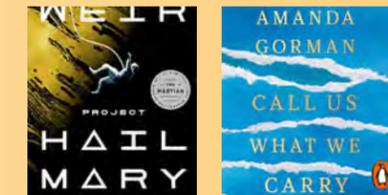
OLGA DIES DREAMING by Xochitl Gonzalez **Release: January**
HOW HIGH WE GO IN THE DARK by Sequoia Nagamatsu **Release: January**
FION AND JANE by Jean Chen Ho **Release: January**
30 THINGS I LOVE ABOUT MYSELF by Radhika Sanghani **Release: January**
THE PARIS TREATMENT by Lucy Foley **Release: February**
TRUST THE PLAN by Will Sommer **Release: March**
END OF THE WORLD HOUSE by Adrienne Celt **Release: April**
NOBODY GETS OUT ALIVE by Leigh Newman **Release: April**
BOOK LOVERS by Emily Henry **Release: May**



eBooks

Discover popular titles in our eLibrary!

PROJECT HAIL MARY by Andy Weir
CALL US WHAT WE CARRY by Amanda Gorman



eAudiobooks

THE LAST THING HE TOLD ME by Laura Dave
HARLEM SHUFFLE by Colson Whitehead





701 Truxtun Avenue | Bakersfield, CA 93301

A Message From Your Kern County Librarian

Happy 2022 Kern County!

Throughout 2021, the Library experienced changes and challenges as did other organizations. Over the past year, our talented library team has planned creative programs for families across the County as well as refreshing our print and digital collections to ensure residents have ample reads to discover. We are continuing to offer in-person events and activities for all ages and our residents are responding by attending our programs, checking out titles, and asking for assistance or guidance from our expert staff.

One of our success highlights from last year was the launch of our Book Talk Bakersfield podcast which is a great avenue to share news, information, connect residents to authors, promote programs and services, and introduce library staff to the public. We also implemented mobile wireless printing curbside for residents which has proved to be a convenient and popular option for customers. The Library partnered with Aging & Adult Services to bring library materials to homebound seniors for Meals on Wheels clients in the Bakersfield, Lake Isabella, and Ridgecrest areas to help ease isolation and boredom during the pandemic. Being able to assist the public through phone and email during the pandemic and helping to connect residents to their accounts, book recommendations, and digital reading platforms proved to be beneficial for County residents. We received calls and emails, and are glad the public trusted us to assist them through the phone and online during the pandemic.

The messages of kindness and appreciation from our visitors throughout the pandemic encouraged staff to continue to provide the best library experience possible through our programs, collections, and services. Our calling has always been to provide our residents with high-quality free programs and services and we welcome your ideas for how the Library can continue to be responsive and relevant.

We are in the midst of planning many exciting projects in 2022, so be on the lookout for all the new activities and programs to come. Drop in and visit your library branch to see all the wonderful activities and resources available. We look forward to seeing you and your family. Stop by and say hello.

Sincerely,

Andie Sullivan
Director of Kern County Libraries



KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- Phillip Peters* - District 1
- Zack Scrivner* - District 2
- Mike Maggard* - District 3
- David Couch* - District 4
- Leticia Perez* - District 5



Funding to print WordPlay is provided by the KCL Foundation.

KERN COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

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GET IN TOUCH

Main Number 661-868-0701
General Inquiry info@kernlibrary.org

BE SOCIAL    

kernlibrary.org #kernlibrary

YOUR LOCAL KCL BRANCH Locations & hours — For a full listing of Kern County Library locations countywide, visit kernlibrary.org

Bakersfield

- BAKER** - 1400 Baker St. • Mondays & Tuesdays
- BEALE** - 701 Truxtun Ave. • Mondays - Fridays
- HOLLOWAY** - 506 E. Brundage Ln. • Thursdays & Fridays
- RATHBUN** - 200 W. China Grade Ln. • Mondays - Wednesdays
- SOUTHWEST** - 8301 Ming Ave. • Mondays - Thursdays

all branches are open 11am-6pm

Countywide

- ARVIN** - 201 Campus St. • Tuesdays - Thursdays
- BORON** - 26967 Twenty Mule Team Rd. • Fridays
- BUTTONWILLOW** - 101 N. Main St. • Thursdays & Fridays
- CAL CITY** - 9507 California City Blvd. • Wednesdays & Thursdays
- DELANO** - 925 Tenth Ave. • Wednesdays - Fridays
- FRAZIER PARK** - 3732 Park Dr. • Tuesdays - Thursdays
- KRV** - 7054 Lake Isabella Blvd. • Wednesdays - Fridays

- MOJAVE** - 15555 O St. • Mondays & Tuesdays
- RIDGECREST** - 131 E. Las Flores Dr. • Mondays - Thursdays
- ROSAMOND** - 3611 Rosamond Blvd. • Mondays - Wednesdays
- TAFT** - 27 Cougar Ct. • Mondays - Wednesdays
- TEHACHAPI** - 212 Green St. • Tuesdays - Fridays
- WASCO** - 1102 7th St. • Mondays & Tuesdays