

Foundation Facts

The San José Public Library Foundation was established in 1987 as a non-profit organization to assist San José's public libraries. The Foundation's mission is to provide the advocacy, financial support and innovative leadership necessary to transform San José's public libraries into vibrant learning centers. Private funds from individuals, corporations and foundations raised through the San José Public Library Foundation complement the City's annual allocation to the Library. Foundation funds enable new ideas, new initiatives, and new resources for the San José Public Library system.

Branch Libraries Campaign

Branching Out: From Dream to Reality is the name of the Foundation's ambitious campaign in support of the Branch Libraries Project. By the year 2011, fourteen branch libraries will be renovated, and six new libraries will be built to better serve the communities in which they are located. The Foundation's efforts will enable the City to bring expanded collections, advanced technology, furnishings, and specialized equipment to these branch libraries. The end result will be more than wonderfully furnished buildings—it will be the creation of warm, welcoming, safe places for people of all ages to read, learn -- and dream.

In Partnership with the Community

To meet the challenges of the "Branching Out" campaign, the Foundation seeks support from all sectors of the community:

Ardent library advocates who, through leadership gifts, will set the standard for philanthropic participation throughout San José;

Community members who value the important role of a branch library in their own neighborhoods;

Corporations, foundations, and local businesses that wish to support lifelong learning in San José.

Other Foundation Initiatives

"*Silicon Valley Reads – One Book One Community*" is an innovative program promoting community-wide reading of the same book along with a month-long series of group discussions and events centered on the book and author.

Literacy Programs for all ages, from preschoolers to adults, encourage reading and a lifelong love of books. The Foundation supports Library's programs such as, "Books for Little Hands," an early literacy program reaching 6,400 young children in childcare, their parents, and their childcare providers, and "Partners in Reading," an adult literacy program.