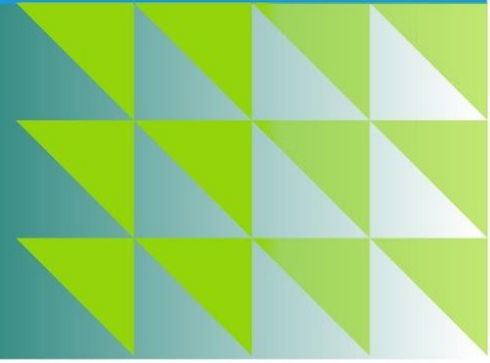




Teens Leading Change



Make a Difference in the Community with Your Library!

TEENS LEADING CHANGE (TLC) is the Los Angeles Public Library's civic engagement initiative for teens aged 13-19 years old.

With funding from the Library Foundation of Los Angeles, mini grants of \$100-\$5,000 are given to Teen Council projects related to:

- Library Advocacy/Information Literacy
- Cultural / Community Conversations & Archives
- Know Your Rights, Immigration & Citizenship
- Net Neutrality / Privacy
- Voting Rights & Voter Registration

CYCLE 1 PILOT PROJECTS (Fall 2017-June 2018)

Be CRAAP Savvy - Jennifer Siron (YA) @ Chatsworth Branch Library

Chatsworth teens researched and developed a media literacy curriculum to help fellow teens, kids and adults evaluate information and combat fake news.

[The CRAAP Test](#) is an acronym to help folks evaluate information, media and digital content and stands for:

- Is it Current?
- Is it Relevant?
- Is it Accurate?
- Who is the Author?
- What is its Purpose?

Northridge Community Clean-up - Cindy Holsey (YA) @ Northridge Branch Library

Northridge teens partnered with the Northridge Beautification Foundation to host litter clean-up days and to host programs with local experts from Cal State Northridge to investigate and discuss if there is a relationship between litter, community pride and crime.



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Community by Design - Marcia Melkonian (YA) @ Pacoima Branch Library

Pacoima teens visited 11 local museums, galleries and cultural institutions that featured the Pacific Standard Time: Latinos in LA exhibits. They then worked with a local muralist and the neighborhood council to design and paint a community mural in Pacoima.

Positive Zone - Jennifer Noble (Sr) & Nancy Mattoon (YA) @ Wilshire Branch Library

Wilshire teens found that while their community is very diverse, different groups often do not interact with each other. They repaired and repainted a bench to create a physical and philosophical Positive Zone in the Wilshire Branch to foster cross-cultural discussions and curate a series of programs around the community conversations that emerge.

Readers to Leaders - Megan Young (YA) @ Woodland Hills Branch Library

Woodland Hills teens worked with local non-profits to learn more about civics, voting and elections, run a voter registration drive, and created and curated an art exhibit focusing on those topics to be displayed at the Canoga Park Youth Art Center.

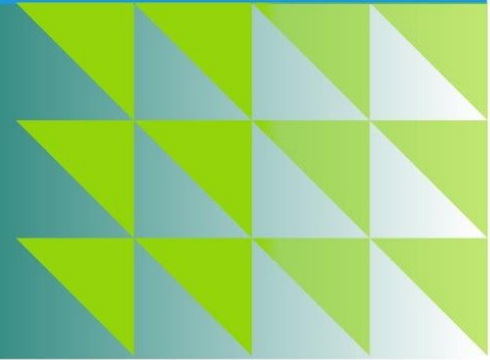
CYCLE 2 PROJECTS (June – December 2018)

Media Lit Now! - Camille Keo (YA) @ Benjamin Franklin Branch Library

Benjamin Franklin Branch teen volunteers and students from Hollenbeck Middle School Journalism & Leadership classes will learn to research and critically evaluate, deconstruct and reconstruct media and be able to produce responsible, ethical messages as content creators. They will work with the teens from the Be CRAAP Savvy project, local nonprofits such as Proyecto Pastoral and Communities in Schools to participate in and host a series of media and information literacy workshops.



Teens Leading Change



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Save the Waves - Kris Peers (YA) @ Granada Hills Branch & Jessica Levy (YA) @ Palisades Branch

Granada Hills teen volunteers will partner with teens and staff from the Palisades Branch and Heal the Bay to research the relationships between trash and ocean pollution, host beach clean-up days, and create and curate a standing gallery to educate the community on the effects of ocean pollution.

Art and Immigration - Chandra Jackson (YA) @ Junipero Serra Branch

JSERRA teens will partner with LACMA to research, host workshops and create and curate an art exhibit that explores the immigration and citizenship process, experience and identity.

Natural Disaster Preparedness - Jennifer Watson (YA) @ Platt Branch

Platt Branch Teen Council members will work with local city and county agencies such as the LA Fire Department to host a series of programs to educate the community about the impact of and how to prepare for natural disasters like earthquakes and wildfires.

Eightfold Path - Teresa Mons (YA) @ Westchester Loyola Village Branch & Shannon Salmon (YA) @ Playa Vista Branch

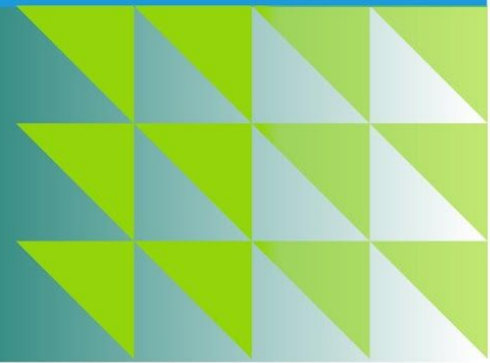
Westchester teens will partner with Loyola Marymount University's Yoga Graduate School and UCLA's Mindful Awareness Research Center to explore topics such as mental health, self-care and learn how to combat stress through yoga and mindfulness as well as teach members of the community how to do so, too.

Tech for Seniors - Elisabeth Calla (YA) @ Westwood Branch

Westwood teens will partner with the LA City Department of Aging to visit local senior centers and gather music playlists, movie requests and book wish lists from seniors. The teens will show the seniors how to use LAPL e-media resources to load the titles on their devices, as well as research and explore issues related to senior rights, availability of assistance and resources for seniors, and oral history.



Teens Leading Change



Make a Difference in the Community with Your Library!

CYCLE 3 PROJECTS (February – August 2019)

We're Here: Tenants Rights in Cypress Park – Lorena Villegas (YA) @ Cypress Park Branch

Cypress Park teens will share their stories of how evictions (legal and illegal), displacement and gentrification have affected their lives, through writing and art. Through civics lessons, they will learn how to respond to unjust evictions, through the proper legal steps. Teens will use new skills acquired by these workshops at the library to build a neighborhood advocacy group.

The Past is our FUTURE – Yoko Hata (YA) @ Little Tokyo Branch

Teens will create a new archive of Little Tokyo by taking first hand oral history and testimonial through first person accounting, then produce Manga books based on their stories and experiences. This project combines the teen's interest in drawing Manga and their curiosity about the library's community of Little Tokyo. Through this process teens hope to learn more about major issues that affected the community such immigration and internment.

Support and Advocate for Youth in Need – Bennett Rankin (YA) @ Mar Vista Branch, Emily Meehan (YA) @ Palms-Rancho Park Branch & Dan Nishimoto (YA) @ Robertson Branch

Mar Vista, Palms, and Robertson teens plan on finding ways to ease the environmental stresses on this vulnerable population with supply drives, peer conversation, and scholastic support. Teens want to educate themselves about both the root causes of this problem and the harsh realities that homeless and at risk youth and families face on a daily basis. Through this project teens hope to better serve the homeless teen population that patronize their libraries.

North of Eden – Emily Appleton (YA) @ North Hollywood Regional Branch

North Hollywood teens are interested in sharing gardening skills and resources to start a community garden, seed library, or container garden project. Many people in the community live in apartments and do not have access to the land or resources to grow their own fresh vegetables. The teens are interested in gardening as a concept and how it can be used to provide access to affordable and nutritious foods. They will host programs about gardens that can benefit the greater community, such as programs that show the benefit of growing produce and how to incorporate it into their diet.



Teens Leading Change



Make a Difference in the Community with Your Library!

Reality Check: Navigating the Distorted World of Social Media – Tara Smith (YA) @ Studio City Branch

Through a series of discussions and workshop, teens will explore the impact social media can have on relationships, self-esteem, body image & mental health wellness. Teens are also interested in producing short videos starring teens, that teens can view that discuss a social media issue, they are experiencing. Create a mini resource guide that will help other young people navigate social media.

Teens Trust Teens: Resources for Help with Homelessness – Amanda Charles (YA) @ Teen'Scape

Library teens will partner with groups combating homelessness in the downtown area, and invite teens assisted by those organizations to help make videos and a resources web page. Participants will research homelessness among local young people to help shape the resources they create. They'll learn about video production and editing, web design, and search engine optimization. Teens will utilize resources available at Central Library, including guidance from Brenda Breau of Library PR.

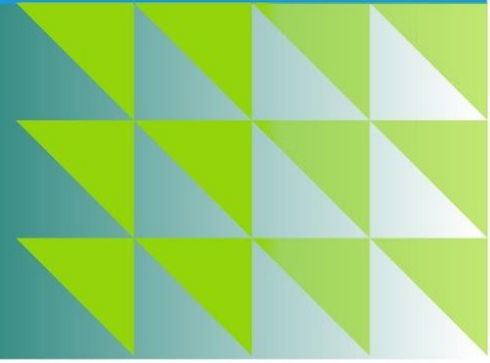
Community Safety – Corinda Humphrey (YA) @ Vernon Branch & Coleen Stretten (YA) @ Vermont Square Branch

Teens will plan a Community Safety Fair with representatives from the local community to inform people how to be safe at work, school, and their neighborhood. They will educate community members about public services available in the area from Council District 9 via the MyLA311 mobile app. They will meet with Newton Division LAPD Cadets and lawyers who can educate them on how to interact with police officers to decrease some of the tension between youth and police officers in the community.



LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Helping Hands for the Homeless – Isabella Ramirez (YA) @ Washington Irving Branch

Washington Irving Branch teen volunteers will research homelessness and look for the root causes of the issue such as housing shortage and mental illness. To this effort they will host several speakers to educate themselves and the community on this topic. The teens aim to create an environment at the library that is friendly to the homeless members of the community and that is proactive in serving their needs.

**For more information about
TEENS LEADING CHANGE,
contact the Los Angeles Public Library's
Young Adult Services Office at
TEENSERVICES@LAPL.ORG OR
(213) 228-7370**

[lapl.org/teens/teens-leading change](http://lapl.org/teens/teens-leading-change)