



News Release

For Immediate Release
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NEW LIBRARY FOUNDATION LAUNCHED

Fresno County Librarian Laurel Prysiazny announced today the launch of a new Foundation that will raise major gifts for Library facilities, collections and programs. The Foundation for the Fresno County Public Library will be governed by a Board of Directors with the Library Development Officer, Linda Calandra, also serving as the Executive Director.

“Establishing a Foundation has been an important goal for some time now. We are extremely grateful to the community members who have stepped up to serve as the Foundation’s first Board of Directors. Their enthusiasm and support for this new endeavor will be of great benefit to the Library and our community,” said Prysiazny.

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*Fresno County Public Library
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New Foundation 2-2-2-2-2*

Directors and officers are: Austin B. Ewell, III, President; Greg Bethke, CPM, Vice President/President-Elect; Brigeen Radoicich, Secretary; Al Galvez, Treasurer; Jane Bedrosian; Nancy Kast; Robert Kolbert, ChFC, AEP; Eric Tienken; Dora Westerlund; Jim Whitlach.

Foundation fundraising will support 34 libraries throughout Fresno County in both rural and metropolitan communities. Fundraising will not replace Measure B sales tax or property tax revenue but will provide additional funding to further Library programs and services. The Foundation will also provide advocacy for renewal of Measure B, which will expire on March 31, 2013. Measure B is a 1/8 of one percent sales tax that supports Library operations.

The Friends of the Fresno County Public Library and the branch Friends groups will continue their efforts to support the Central and branch libraries and provide advocacy and grassroots support for the renewal of Measure B. The Friends and Foundation will work closely together on their joint mission to help further the mission and vision of the Library. The President of the Friends of the Library has a permanent seat on the Foundation Board.

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