

San Diego County Library

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Library News

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION HELD FOR NEW LINCOLN ACRES LIBRARY

February 4, 2013

More than two hundred children, teens, and adults celebrated the Grand Opening of the Lincoln Acres Branch Library on Saturday, January 26. The library was completed as part of a larger renovation project, which includes a community room, park, and playground. The 2,750 square foot library is more than three times the size of the previous facility, and offers public-use laptops, lounge seating, a study room, and separate spaces for children and teens.



Jodie Proano and family
(Top Row: Steven, Foluke, Kaden, Jodie, Ed, Susan; Bottom Row: Silas, Matthew)
[\[Download Image \(3 MB\)\]](#)

The event kicked off with speeches by Chairman Greg Cox of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, Library Director José Aponte, Parks and Recreation Department Director Brian Albright, Branch Manager José Ocadiz, and library customer Jodie Proano. Proano has been coming to the Lincoln Acres Library since she was a child and now brings her children in for bilingual storytime.

"The simplest way to express what the new library means to me is that we now have a bigger living room," said Proano. "It is bigger and better. We have a beautiful building with great big windows that let the sun shine in, where love shines out. Love - that's the something special about the Lincoln Acres Library."

Following the official ribbon cutting ceremony, customers were treated to free backpacks, coffee mugs, and a special new collection of materials courtesy of Cox, along with free basketballs courtesy of the Parks and Recreation Department. Lunch donated by Olive Garden Restaurants and performances by the Roman Watchdogs and Alma Latina Dance Company closed out the event.

"Everyone has a library story," said Aponte. "Everyone remembers that one time, that one book, that one paragraph, that one teacher that was transformative. That's our job here."

The new Lincoln Acres Library was inspired by the life and death of José Luis Rodriguez, a library staff member who was murdered in 2007, just minutes before his eighteenth birthday. Rodriguez always recognized the importance of literacy among children, and therefore the library's children's area has been named the José Luis Rodriguez Family Discovery Center.

The library project was completed by Safdie Rabines Architects and RSM2 Contractors, Inc. The branch was designed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver qualifications, featuring solar panels and energy efficient building materials.

For a video featuring the Grand Opening Celebration, visit <http://bit.ly/LAOpening>. For more information on the Lincoln Acres Library, visit www.sdcl.org or contact Chelsie Harris at (858) 495-5042.

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