



**BERKELEY  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FOUNDATION**

SPRING 2016

Dear Library Friend,

When I was a kid, I spent a lot of time at the library. I mean a *lot*. When I was 12, the librarians threw up their hands and hired me to shelve books, since I was there all the time anyway. I can't imagine my life without libraries, and I don't want to. Maybe you feel the same way.

Berkeley has five wonderful libraries, **thanks to a community that cares and to donors who support the Berkeley Public Library Foundation**. With its flagship Central Library and four newly restored or rebuilt neighborhood branches, Berkeley boasts of one of the country's most heavily used libraries for a city its size. Adults, kids, teens, families — everyone is at the library. For all of us, the Foundation amplifies the public's investment to make this great library extraordinary.

All around town you'll see the dollars of Foundation donors at work in these ways:

- » Our four beautiful **NEW BRANCH LIBRARIES**, outfitted with \$3 million from the Foundation.
- » The popular Library on Wheels "**BOOK BIKE**," bringing library services to farmers' markets, community events, and areas not easily served by branches.
- » Homeless teens with new-found **ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY** through Foundation-funded laptops.
- » Little kids getting a jump on reading in **EARLY-CHILDHOOD LITERACY** programs.
- » And soon, a ground-breaking library program **ENGAGING PEOPLE OF ALL AGES IN STEM** — science, technology, engineering, and math.

Next up, the Foundation and the library have teamed up to declare "**It's Time for Central**" to bring some major improvements to the historic downtown library. There will be something new for every member of our community. A more graceful, efficient entryway. A fresh and flexible reference room that can double as a space for community events and library programs. A first-floor teen space, imagined by and for Berkeley's teens. Vastly improved lighting and acoustics. And easier access to the collections and resources that today's library users want most.

**Your tax-deductible gift will make all of this — and much more — happen at the library we love.** Join us in making the library the best it can be. Your donation will change lives, maybe even your own.

ANNIE BARROWS, Author and 2016 Authors Dinner Honoree



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**A FAVORITE OF GROWN-UPS AND KIDS ALIKE, ANNIE BARROWS' BOOKS INCLUDE *THE TRUTH ACCORDING TO US*, *THE GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY*, AND THE BELOVED *IVY + BEAN* SERIES.**

BOOK COVER CREDIT:  
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