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**SJSU KING LIBRARY’S AFRICANA, ASIAN AMERICAN, CHICANO, AND NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER SELECTED FOR COMPETITIVE FEDERAL HUMANITIES GRANT**

***\$10,000 Grant Will Help the Library Recover from the Coronavirus Pandemic***

[San Jose] — SJSU King Library’s Africana Asian American, Chicano, & Native American Studies Center (AAACNA) has been selected as one of 200 libraries nationwide for the American Library Association’s American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Libraries opportunity, an emergency relief program to assist libraries that have been adversely affected by the pandemic.

With funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, SJSU King Library’s AAACNA Studies Center will use funds to anchor itself in the community as a strong humanities institution. The competitive award comes with a \$10,000 grant that will help the library deliver excellent programs and services related to culture, history, literature, and other humanities subjects.

More than 370 libraries applied for the grant, according to ALA. [View the full list of selected libraries.](#)

The participating libraries, selected through a competitive, peer-reviewed application process, include public libraries, academic/college libraries, K-12 libraries, and tribal, special and prison libraries. The recipients represent 45 states and Puerto Rico and serve communities ranging in size from 642 residents in Weir, Kansas, to the city of Los Angeles. Libraries were chosen with an emphasis on reaching historically underserved and/or rural communities.

“The ALA’s American Library Rescue grant program will support our local community,” said Kathryn Blackmer Reyes, director of the AAACNA Studies Center. “After years of COVID we eagerly anticipate celebrating San Jose’s commitment to local art and culture. Come Join Us!”

SJSU King Library’s AAACNA Studies Center will use the grant funds to support two upcoming exhibits: “East Side Dreams: The Untold Story of East San José” in collaboration with the SJPL’s California Room and the “Annual Art of Remembrance Altar Exhibit” in collaboration with the San José Multicultural Artists Guild. Both exhibits draw strongly from the community and will feature a panel discussion with scholars and other community members as a part of its opening. To learn more about AAACNA, please visit their <https://library.sjsu.edu/aaacna>



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“Libraries have faced significant hardships throughout the pandemic —from budget cuts to staff furloughs to building closures — especially in our communities of the greatest need,” said ALA President Patty Wong. “This crucial support from NEH will enable our beloved institutions, and the dedicated people who run them, to rebuild and emerge from the pandemic stronger than ever.”

American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Libraries is an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) made possible with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.