



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wednesday, March 8, 2017

CONTACT:  
Nicole Darling at 619-379-8377 or [ndarling@sanidiego.gov](mailto:ndarling@sanidiego.gov)

# **Librarians from United States and Mexico Gather for Annual Binational Conference**

## **CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION TO EXPLORE FUTURE OF LIBRARIES**

SAN DIEGO – Librarians from both the United States and Mexico will gather in San Diego on Friday, March 10 for a bilingual conference to share professional knowledge and exchange ideas on topics including literacy, technology, equity and community-based solutions in libraries.

**“San Diego is pleased to host the Seguimos Creando Enlaces Conference once again this year. It is an opportunity to highlight the cross-border community, creativity, innovation and educational ties that make our binational region like no other,”** said Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer.

Now in its sixth year, the Seguimos Creando Enlaces Conference is a partnership between the San Diego Public Library and the Serra Cooperative Library System. The two-day conference brings librarians, staff and stakeholders from public libraries and universities across Southern California and the entire Baja region together, spending one day in each country:

- Thursday, March 9 at CETYS University in Baja California and
- Friday, March 10 at San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common, 330 Park Blvd.

The theme of this year’s conference is “Preserving Our Past While Welcoming the Future: Libraries as Preservation Centers and Information Hubs.”

**“This conference is the perfect example of collaboration and cooperation as librarians from both sides of the border come together to share best practices and work together to provide the best library experience for our patrons in every community,”** said Library Director Misty Jones.

Several of the conference sessions will focus on educational services and outreach involving refugee and immigrant communities, including a new mentorship opportunity that pairs City of San Diego employees with new American citizens. Through the “Welcoming New San Diegans” program, city staff will use

feedback to evaluate public services that are currently available and develop a resource guide to be included on the city's New San Diegan Resource Center webpage.

**“This collaboration engages youth citywide and professionals across multiple nations,” said Leslie McNabb, Internship and Work Readiness Program Coordinator for the City of San Diego. “I couldn’t be more proud to be a part of efforts to make San Diego a world-class city for all.”**

Other sessions will focus on teaching cultural intelligence, bilingual outreach to patrons, historic preservation, community archives, digital literacy and more.

The conference is held in collaboration with L.I.B.R.O.S., a local organization of librarians and others interested in library service for Chicano/Latinos and Spanish-speaking individuals. Other partners include San Diego State University, Friends of the Logan Heights Library and ABIBAC (Asociación de Bibliotecarios de Baja California).

Funding is provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

#### **About the San Diego Public Library**

With a vision of being the place for opportunity, discovery and inspiration, the San Diego Public Library is a hub for knowledge and lifelong learning. As the largest library system in the region, it serves a population of more than 1.3 million people. Learn about events at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common and 35 community branch libraries, find links to programs and resources or search for materials in the online catalog at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

###