

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, May 14, 2012 CONTACT: Marion Moss Hubbard 619-236-5848

SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTED AS "PUBLIC SERVICE AT ITS BEST"

San Diego Grand Jury Commends San Diego Public Library as Civic Success

SAN DIEGO – Most organizations that undergo scrutiny by the County Grand Jury come away from the process with recommendations for improvements in moving forward. In its most recent report, the San Diego County Grand Jury highlighted the San Diego Public Library as one the organizations that is doing an outstanding job and providing noteworthy community services. The Grand Jury report stated that, "The Public Library and its staff have gone above and beyond the call of duty to provide services to the San Diego Community – truly a civic success."

The report particularly noted the construction of the new Central Library scheduled to open in summer of 2013. With the inclusion of a Charter High School, the award winning literacy program, 1.2 million material capacity, an auditorium, three story reading room, and an onsite café, the Grand Jury said the new Central Library will be a "tremendous asset to the East Village and will be an iconic landmark on the San Diego skyline."

The report also gave accolades to the employees and volunteers who have served the community for 127 years. On a typical day in 2010 the Library served 25,000 people who came to check out or renew 28,000 items; 6,000 of them used a computer, and another 1,500 attended free programs. The report stated that, "in challenging economic times communities recognize the great value and contribution of libraries."

"Our employees and volunteers have a passion for what they do." said Library Director Deborah Barrow. "We are pleased to be recognized for the great service we provide the community each and every day. The new Central Library is going to help us make our programs and services even more responsive to the needs of our community and it will be an inspiring and happening place for years to come."

Learn about events and programs at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials online in the Library's catalog at <u>www.sandiegolibrary.org.</u>

Library Mission-Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other.