



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

## San Diego Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **San Diego Public Library to Host Age of Progressive Reform Exhibit**

**SAN DIEGO** – The San Diego Public Library will host a traveling panel exhibition created and funded by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History called “The Age of Progressive Reform: Creating Modern America, 1900-1917.” The exhibition will run from June 15 through July 15 in the first floor lobby of the library and is free and open to the public.

The exhibition examines the period leading up to World War I when America was transformed into a modern industrialized society. Highlights of the exhibition include reproductions of primary source documents and images including “The Octopus.” The exhibition illustrates government legislation to improve labor conditions and reign in big business, the establishment of voting rights for women, as well as the efforts of reform groups to improve urban conditions and address the impact of immigration.

“The exhibition provides thought-provoking educational programming that stimulates and enriches people’s understanding of this critical era in American history,” said Lesley Herrmann, Executive Director of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. “Because it is so visually enticing, it draws the viewer into the story.”

A film, *America 1900*, produced by American Experience, will also be shown in conjunction with the exhibit on Tuesday, June 24, 2008 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. in the Central Library 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Auditorium. This PBS documentary traces the celebrations and climactic moments of this pivotal year in the life of a nation.

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Founded in 1994, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History promotes the study and love

of American history. The Institute serves teachers, students, scholars, and the general public. It helps create history-centered schools, organizes seminars and programs for educators, produces print and electronic publications and traveling exhibitions, sponsors lectures by eminent historians, and administers a *History Teacher of the Year Award* in every state through its partnership with Preserve America. The Institute also conducts awards including the Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, and George Washington Book Prizes, and offers fellowships for scholars to work in the Gilder Lehrman Collection. The Institute maintains two websites, [www.gilderlehrman.org](http://www.gilderlehrman.org) and the quarterly online journal [www.historynow.org](http://www.historynow.org).

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org)

*The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future*

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