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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Discover & Go, California!

Contra Costa County Library Receives Grant to Expand Discover & Go into Lo Angeles County

April 10, 2013 – Pleasant Hill, CA - Contra Costa County Library and the County of Los Angeles Public Library will partner to expand Discover & Go, the innovative downloadable museum pass service developed and implemented by Contra Costa County Library in 2011, into Southern California. The expansion project, called Discover & Go, California! is being funded by an \$84,000 grant awarded to Contra Costa County Library by the California State Library. The County of Los Angeles Public Library will serve as the Southern California regional administrator for Discover & Go, California!, expanding the service to its 3.4 million residents and Contra Costa County Library will further expand the service in Northern California with the addition of 10 new library members.

Discover & Go augments existing library services and resources to meet the needs and preferences for increased art-related programs and services for library cardholders, especially children. By making museum passes more accessible, Discover & Go, increases the cultural experiences of residents living in the communities served by the libraries in the Discover & Go Network. The program offers a simple way for library cardholders to access the best in local culture and currently offers access to over 40 museums, gardens, science centers, theaters and zoos all the way from Santa Rosa down to Santa Cruz. With over 200,000 cultural visits made possible since its inception, the success of Discover & Go has been underscored by the ability for libraries to provide free, online printable passes to local museums and cultural venues. And this success is matched by the ability for museums to gain broad visibility through local libraries.

Discover & Go, California! aims to develop the platform so that more libraries in the state can join the Network and bring their local museums in as Discover & Go partners. The project will expand functionality of the platform to allow museums throughout the state to be able, if desired, to provide pass offers beyond their own local geographic region through libraries in other regions in the state.

Contra Costa County Library serves over 902,000 residents of urban, suburban, and rural communities through 26 community libraries, 3 Library-a-Go-Go book dispensers, and online library services available 24/7 at ccclib.org. As the winner of numerous awards, including the 2012 National Medal for Museum and Library Service from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award and two from the American Library Association Office for Information Technology Policy for Cutting-Edge Technology in Library Service as a leader among libraries implementing technology to improve service, reduce costs, and deliver on the Library's mission of bringing people and ideas together.

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