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CITY OF PALMDALE
NEWS RELEASE

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Palmdale City Library Receives California State Library “Book to Action” Grant

PALMDALE – The Palmdale City Library has received a grant from the California State Library entitled “Book to Action,” that is designed to encourage student civic engagement.

“We’re excited to have been selected to be part of this innovative program,” said Library Director Thomas Vose. “We’re going to reach out to middle school students and provide them with copies of the book *How To Be An Everyday Philanthropist: 330 Ways to Make a Difference in Your Home, Community, and World - at No Cost!* by Nicole Boles, and encourage them to share and develop their ideas for improving their city. The best ideas will receive financial assistance to help make them a reality,” said Vose.

The Library’s grant will be leveraged with the City’s recently awarded “Village Square” grant from the Davenport Institute at Pepperdine University. The City will launch a series of programs designed to spark civic engagement in the community in 2015.

“We’re very excited to be collaborating with the City on this project,” said Library Director Thomas Vose. “We hope to help create a new generation of civic minded kids who take action and make their community a better place!”

The Palmdale City Library is open seven days a week. Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 10 am to 8 pm; Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm; and Sunday from 1 to 5 pm.

For more information, please call the Library at 661/267-5600 or visit www.cityofpalmdale.org/library.

About the “Book to Action” Grant

The California State Library and the California Center for the Book are collaborating to launch the “Book-to-Action” initiative. “Book-to-Action” builds on the traditional book club concept, but in addition to providing an opportunity to collectively read and discuss a book, “Book-to-Action” enables readers to put their new-found knowledge into action by engaging in a community service project related to the book's topic.

About the Davenport Institute

Since its founding as a multi-partisan and non-profit organization in 2005, The Davenport Institute has worked to engage the citizens of California in the policy decisions that affect their everyday lives. It is their firm belief that, in today's world of easy access to information, and easy connectivity to others, California's municipal and education leaders are seeking ways to involve the residents of their communities in the important issues they confront. Done legitimately, this new kind of leadership produces better, more creative policy solutions and better, more engaged citizens committed to the hard work of self-governance.

For more information on the Davenport Institute, please visit www.publicpolicy.pepperdine.edu/davenport-institute/about/.

About the Village Square

The Village Square is a nonprofit organization devoted to building vibrant civil dialogue across partisan and ideological divides on matters of local, state, and national importance in communities across America.

Founded in Tallahassee, Florida eight years ago after a contentious debate on a local issue, the Village Square builds social civic community in a 21st century revival of the

old-fashioned American town hall. The Village Square offers a menu of cutting-edge civic engagement programs, many in partnership with local government. Named by U.S. Senator Olympia Snowe as one of eight organizations to support if you're concerned about building common ground, the Village Square launched its first California location in Sacramento this fall. You can read more about the Village Square in this recent piece in *The Christian Science Monitor*. <http://digbig.com/5bkniid>

The Grant

The Village Square Public Engagement Grant will bring the Village Square's Dinner at the Square series to the City of Palmdale. It is a capacity-building grant to improve the local civic dialogue and support an ongoing constructive relationship between government and citizens around various issues for years to come.

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