

LIGHT 2009

BRaille INSTITUTE ANNUAL REPORT

LIGHT 2009

CELEBRATING **90** YEARS



*Empowering visually impaired
people to live fulfilling lives*

BRAILLE INSTITUTE AT A GLANCE

People Assisted	76,579
Staff (303.2 FTE)	321
Volunteers	3,883
Volunteer/Staff Ratio	12 to 1
Facilities Managed	426,000 sq. ft.
Administrative Costs	3.0%
Fundraising Costs	9.4%

FROM 1919 TO 2009 AND BEYOND...

EMPOWERING VISUALLY IMPAIRED PEOPLE FOR 90 YEARS

This year marks a milestone for us. From the heady dreams of a blind cowboy named J. Robert Atkinson, Braille Institute has blossomed from humble beginnings in a one-story Los Angeles home to a renowned organization boasting five regional centers throughout Southern California and a wealth of programs and services. Yet our mission — eliminating barriers to a fulfilling life caused by sight loss — has remained a constant for nearly a century.

We are proud of our enduring legacy but look with renewed enthusiasm toward an even brighter future and a wider breadth of services. Today, there are more opportunities than ever to reach greater numbers of people through an upcoming public education campaign, the power of the Internet and Braille Institute's recently launched social networking sites.

*www.brailleinstitute.org
www.facebook.com/brailleinstitute
twitter.com/Braille_Inst
www.linkedin.com/in/brailleinstitute*

The colorful profiles on the following pages reflect the personalities and characters of the thousands of people who come to Braille Institute hoping to obtain or regain their independence and end up not only achieving it, but finding fulfillment in ways they may never have dreamed of: by creating beauty, nurturing the environment and passing on their knowledge, skills and gifts to new generations.

Our mission is to eliminate barriers to a fulfilling life caused by blindness and severe sight loss.



ESTHER ZABIN

Art has always been the grand passion of Esther Zabin's long and productive life. It began, she said, when she was about 12 and received her first brush and paint pot. From that day on she was hooked. Now 88, and still energetic and cheerful, Esther looks back over a lifetime of her creations: paintings, baskets, prints, ceramics, collage, and her specialty – hand-painted silk scarfs.





“I lost no time in checking out the Sight Center in Los Angeles and discovered the wonderful program in the arts there. Once I realized I could make art again despite my visual impairment, my spirits soared.”



ART IS A PASSION

Born and raised in Chicago, Esther attended the prestigious Art Institute of Chicago, then came to California in 1950 to attend UCLA. She taught at various co-op schools for 35 years, all the while developing her skills in art. Along the way she met and married Irving Zabin, a professor at UCLA and an accomplished violinist. They have been married for 66 years.

Shortly after she retired and began to devote full time to her art, Esther realized her vision was fading. "About 10 years ago, I found I could no longer see clearly," she said. "And being an artist, this depressed

me terribly. I couldn't read, I couldn't drive. I was terrified." She was diagnosed with macular degeneration.

Esther found some solace in a support group for visually impaired people, but her world really brightened when one day a woman shared a small basket she had made. "I asked her where she'd made it, and she told me about the art program at Braille Institute."

"I lost no time in checking out the Sight Center in Los Angeles and discovered the wonderful program in the arts there. Once I realized I could make art again despite

my visual impairment, my spirits soared."

Soon Esther was giving back: She is now an assistant instructor in art, a volunteer and a donor. "I make hand-painted scarfs and sell them," she explained. "That money goes to Braille Institute.

"Braille Institute meant the difference between being a sick, miserable person and a healthy, functioning person," Esther said. "The art program gave me an opportunity to explore my own ability to create. This is crucial to my life. I couldn't have made it without this place."



NICK AND MARGIE THOMAS

Nick Thomas fondly remembers his freewheeling youth. After leaving his home in Canada as a teenager, he spent a decade working as a truck driver, which took him and his 18-wheeler on adventures across North America. But his travels brought him more than just adventure. He found love. At a truck stop in Minnesota he met a young waitress named Margie, and he knew immediately that his days on the open road were numbered.





“I was walking from the parking lot to the ophthalmologist’s office, and everyone was waiting for me by the front door. And I walked into a boulder. I was scared, angry and, quite frankly, mortified as I lay there on the ground. I knew I needed help.”



PLANTING A FULFILLING LIFE

The pair soon married and moved to California, and Nick began a long and successful career as a mechanic. But in his 30s, he noticed something was going very wrong with his vision. He was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa, a degenerative eye disease that would eventually leave him completely blind.

The couple retired to Joshua Tree, and Nick tried to adjust to his diminishing vision. But as he approached 60, things came to a head. “I remember the turning point like it was yesterday,” he said. “I was walking from the parking lot to the ophthalmologist’s office, and everyone — Margie, the

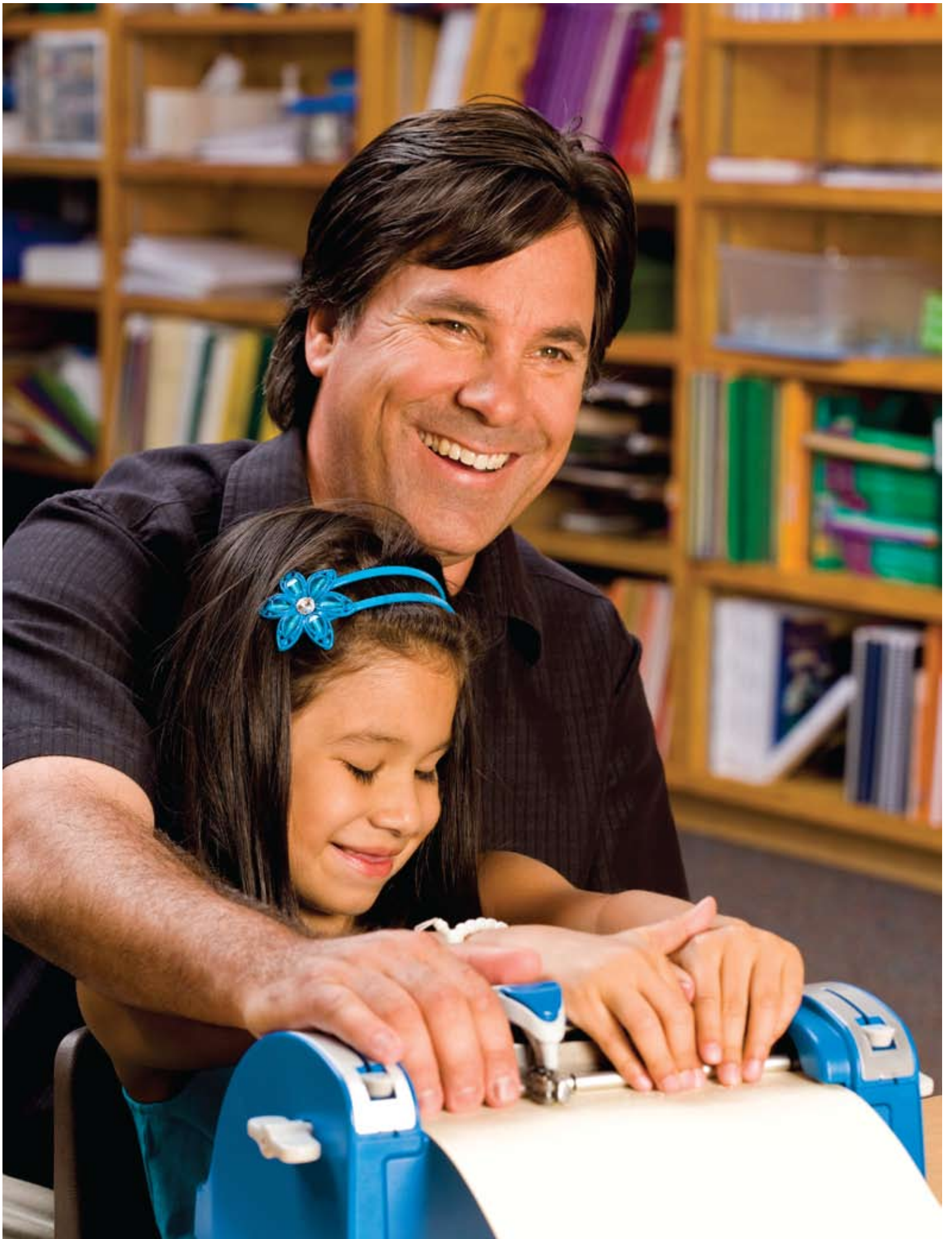
nurses and the doctor — was waiting for me by the front door. And I walked into a boulder. Looking back, I can’t help but find humor in it. But at the time, I was scared, angry and, quite frankly, mortified as I lay there on the ground. I knew I needed help.”

At his doctor’s suggestion, Nick agreed to come to Braille Institute in Rancho Mirage. “I knew immediately that this was where I needed to be,” he said. “I learned to make adjustments and find ways to cope with my sight loss.”

As Nick’s driver and constant companion, Margie decided to get involved herself. An avid gardener,

she volunteered to teach a class in the Center’s greenhouse. Thanks to her upbeat personality and vast horticultural knowledge, her class soon became one of the Center’s most popular enrichment courses.

Fourteen years later, Margie’s class is more popular than ever. Now with excellent mobility skills and a natural green thumb of his own, Nick assists her at every turn. Looking back, he recalls his pivotal encounter with the boulder. “I think of it as a metaphor for my life,” he explained. “That boulder is still there, but I’ve moved on, and for that I thank my wife and Braille Institute. This organization truly gave me another life.”



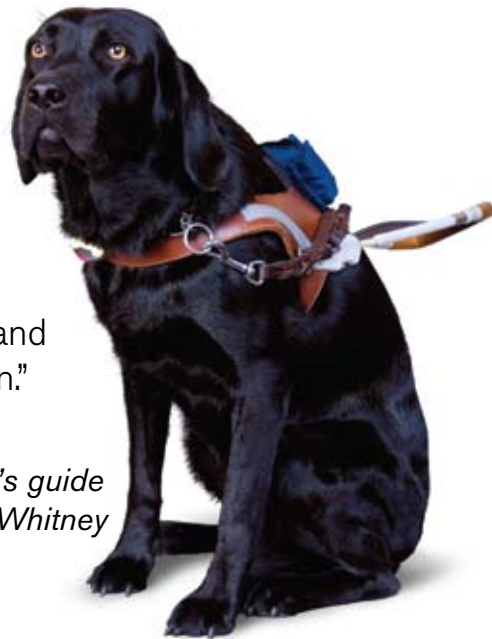
KEITH CHRISTIAN

KEITH CHRISTIAN

Keith Christian's life has never been defined by the barriers he has overcome or the challenges he's had to face. He tells people he's just an average guy who decided he wasn't going to let anything, not even blindness, keep him from living the life he wanted to live. It is this tenacious and independent spirit that defines who Keith really is, and that same drive led him to his chosen profession.

"I love being a teacher," Keith said. "I didn't realize I'd end up working with blind children, but now I know that's exactly where I need to be. It's so great to share my knowledge of the world with these kids and watch them grow and learn."

Keith's guide dog, Whitney





“I teach them everything they need to know to be able to succeed in a mainstream classroom with their sighted peers. And many of the adaptive devices we use in our class were actually provided by Braille Institute’s technology loan program.”



TEACHING INDEPENDENCE

Diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa at age 11, Keith came to Braille Institute in the early 1970s. Counselors encouraged him to join the Orange County Center's Youth Program to help boost his self-confidence and teach him the skills he would need to become the fiercely independent man he is today. His experiences in that program not only changed the way he viewed the world, it influenced his ideas about his place in it as well.

"There was a constant battle against the idea that you can't accomplish something because you're blind. We did everything sighted kids were doing and some things they were too afraid to try," Keith said,

recalling his days plunging down rapids on white-water rafting trips. "The most important lesson I learned was that my will to succeed had to be stronger and taller than any barrier I might face. I teach my students that same lesson. I know they're going to need it one day."

Throughout Keith's childhood, Braille Institute was ever-present. When he wasn't challenging himself with activities such as judo, he was learning independent living skills and ways to explore the world safely using his mobility skills. His role models there encouraged him, just as he now encourages his own students at Anaheim's Clara Barton Elementary School.

"I teach them everything they need to be able to succeed in a mainstream classroom with their sighted peers," said Keith. "And many of the adaptive devices we use in class were actually provided by Braille Institute's technology loan program."

Keith's journey from student to teacher, and his mission to give back to the community that nurtured him, are the foundations on which he has built his success. Now he is guiding a new generation of Braille Institute youths along a similar path.

"There isn't a day when I don't use some part of my Braille Institute training," he said. "I hope to make the same impact in the lives of my students."

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE



Braille Institute Board and corporate officers (left to right): Beverly E. Adair, Secretary; James H. Jackson, Chairman; Sally H. Jameson, Vice President of Programs and Services; Leslie E. Stocker, Jr., President; James J. Rhodes, Vice Chairman

This past fiscal year was arguably one of the most challenging periods in memory. Individuals, corporations, charities and governments all over the world have been reeling from an unparalleled global financial crisis. But there have been many other times of crisis in Braille Institute's 90-year history. We were founded at the end of World War I, grew with the "roaring 20's" only to struggle through the Depression and World War II. Numerous "bull markets" and recessions have punctuated the last half century. Through the good times and bad, this organization has adapted and continued to grow in size and with innovations to serve the constantly growing and changing population of visually impaired people.

Significant advancements in braille publishing technology started right here with the tireless efforts of our founder. Low Vision Rehabilitation has grown more refined in recent years, but it was in the 1950's that Braille Institute launched its first low vision service. We provided one of the nation's first subsidy programs for access technology back in the 1980's when such equipment was just beginning to be developed. Today our Braille Challenge Invitational and Special Collection (children's books in braille) are having a huge impact on literacy for braille-reading children all over North America.

Through the pages of this report you will see that in terms of service this has been a vintage year. The numbers of people served by our organization has reached a new high. Our programs aimed at helping other service providers understand how best to serve visually impaired people have continued to grow. And efforts to reach traditionally underserved populations are bearing excellent fruit. The true constant throughout these nine decades has been our fierce commitment to delivering services to individuals and families who struggle with sight loss in such a way that enables our students and clients to reclaim their lives, to say "yes, I can" just about every day and to live a rich, full life.

Our resiliency and adaptation to changing times and needs – not only for this year, but for the last 90 years – comes from a rich chemistry of people – people with heart, vision and perseverance. That includes the stewardship of our governing Board, the unwavering dedication of professional staff along with the unmatched selflessness of our volunteer workforce and the faithful generosity of our donors. Suffice it to say that we are overwhelmed with gratitude as we consider the impact of Braille Institute this past year, and for the past 90 years. To all of you who made it possible we extend our profound appreciation.

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Upon request, this annual report is available on tape or in braille.

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PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Programs for Adults

We serve people who are blind or visually impaired through more than 200 classes designed to help them regain self-sufficiency. We offer individual advisement to determine the best curriculum to meet each student's special needs. And we offer a myriad of recreational and social activities, further enriching the lives of our students as we help them to restore their independence.

Library Services

Our Library Services provide adults and children alike with more than 100,000 titles on cassette and in braille. And it's all right here, at their fingertips—from recreational and informational titles, to hundreds of descriptive videos to more than 40 of today's most popular periodicals. In addition, we offer access to the entire National Library Service collection, further expanding our library offerings while expanding our clients' world.

Low Vision Rehabilitation

We help determine the best assistive devices for each of our low vision clients—from special lamps and nonprescription magnifiers to closed-circuit televisions. And we help them to adapt—both their lifestyle and their thinking—when it comes to making the most of their remaining vision.

The Braille Challenge[®]

We motivate school-age braille readers to excel through the Braille Challenge[®], a nationwide literacy contest designed to celebrate their talents and abilities. Working in concert with teachers and celebrities, we inspire students to succeed not only in their academic endeavors, but in their life's every endeavor as well.

Braille Publishing

Since our beginnings, we've grown into the largest braille publisher on the West Coast, publishing more than 2.5 million pages per year. We've also become one of the largest resources for new and recorded media, providing invaluable and stimulating information to the visually impaired community.

Child Development

We help families to prepare for the challenges of parenting a young child who is blind or visually impaired. Through our in-home program, we offer resources and suggestions in order to help families as they respond to their blind or visually impaired

infant or toddler's changing needs. And, working in community preschools, we aid in the development of preschoolers, getting them ready for kindergarten, while fostering both their physical and emotional growth.

Youth & Career Services

We work with children and teens (ages 6-18) to develop daily living and life preparation skills. And we work with young adults (ages 19-30) with job referrals and job readiness. From activities such as rock climbing and surfing to participation in choral groups and more, we bolster the confidence of our young people and, in turn, brighten their future.

Regional Center	Center	Students Enrolled	Hours
Adult Education and Counseling	Los Angeles	774	54,440
	Orange County	805	50,528
	Rancho Mirage	366	30,939
	Santa Barbara	251	14,762
	San Diego	248	32,606
	Totals	2,444	183,275


Low Vision Rehabilitation Services	Center	Consultations
Services	Los Angeles	1,286
	Orange County	1,144
	Rancho Mirage	757
	Santa Barbara	607
	San Diego	734
	Totals	4,528

	Library Services	Readers Registered	34,305
		Individual Titles	106,315
		Books Available	1,339,949
		Books Circulated	1,311,232*
		Machines Supplied	50,134
		Machines Repaired	4,197
		Cassettes Produced	55,601
		Deposit Libraries	1,599
	* Including CMLS & ILL books (NLS)		

Community Outreach	Center	Students Enrolled	Sites Visited	Communities Visited	Contact Hours
Outreach	Los Angeles	1,973	90	82	15,584
	Orange County	525	44	33	3,236
	Rancho Mirage	327	41	28	1,291
	Santa Barbara	533	41	37	17,201
	San Diego	568	40	17	15,933
	Totals	3,926	256	197	53,245

Volunteer Services Center	Volunteers	Hours
Los Angeles	1,854	78,055
Core	708	63,665
Short Term	331	11,375
Occasional	815	3,015
Orange County	515	27,105
Core	228	25,247
Short Term	8	619
Occasional	279	1,239
Rancho Mirage	190	15,190
Core	109	14,988
Occasional	81	202
San Diego	396	13,588
Core	128	12,740
Occasional	268	848
Santa Barbara	928	25,671
Core	323	23,455
Short Term	1	6
Occasional	604	2,210
Totals	3,883	159,610
Annual Designated Assignments (unduplicated total)		5,818

TeleService Department	Service Calls Received	5,530
	Service Calls Made	2,135
	Total	7,665

Braille Publishing	Commercial Clients	121
	Total Subscriptions Publications (Including Braille Special Collection, Partners in Literacy, and Rose Parade Program)	6,261
	Total BIA Publications Readers Registered	5,440
	Braille Special Collection Books Distributed	9,626
	Total Braille Pages Embossed	2,514,344
	Total Braille Pages Transcribed	20,840


Digital Media Production	Digital Masters	
	Visual	30
	Audio	32
	Media Duplication	
	In-House	5,909
	Outsourced	3,285

Mobile Solutions (Rancho Mirage, Santa Barbara and Los Angeles Centers)

Sites Visited	406
Low Vision Rehabilitation Consultations	1,171
Number of Visitors	1,750
Library Applications Returned	100
Vistas Sales	\$34,819

Web Sites Web Site Visits	88,653
(Including www.brailleinstitute.org, www.braillelibrary.org, and www.braillechallenge.org)	
Individuals Assisted	1,214
PDF Downloads	45,523

Public Education Speaking Engagements	424
Group Tours	586
Film and Television Consultations	21
Regional/National Media Coverage	
Feature Stories (Print and Television)	208
Southern California Media Coverage	
Feature Stories (Print and Television)	124
Public Service Announcements	284

Vistas Center	Transactions	Gross Sales
 Los Angeles	9,707	\$213,625.00
Orange County	7,897	231,256.00
Rancho Mirage	2,581	87,317.00
Santa Barbara	1,758	50,520.00
San Diego	1,413	57,471.00
Totals	23,356	\$640,189.00

Braille Institute admits persons of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available at Braille Institute. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its policies or programs.

Who We Serve

Braille Institute Services July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009

From a total enrollment of 7,629 there were 3,446 adults, youths and infants enrolled for the first time this year.

Gender	Male	33%
	Female	67%
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Primary Causes of Blindness	Macular Degeneration	44%
	Glaucoma	10%
	Diabetic Retinopathy	9%
	Cataracts	8%
	Retinitis Pigmentosa	3%
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Age	Up to 19	4%
	20 to 64	23%
	65 and over	73%
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Duration of Blindness	Up to 1 Year	7%
	Up to 5 Years	6%
	Up to 10 Years	73%
	Up to 20 Years	3%
	More than 20 Years	3%
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Education	High School Graduate	19%
	College Degree	24%
	Not Stated	50%
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Nature of Blindness	Congenital (blind since birth)	7%
	Adventitious (formerly sighted)	93%
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Child Development: Primary Services	(Includes all long-term consultations of six months or more)	
Infants Through 5 Years of Age	Early Intervention (Birth to 3 Years)	
	In-Home Services	
	Number of Infants/Families	182
	Hours of Service	3,815
	Pre-School Support and Transition Programs	
	Number of Families/Children Over Age 3)	98
	Hours of Service	2,656
	Medical Visits with Families	322
	Consultations	
	Short Term	80
	(Number of Families Served for Up to Six Months)	
	Long Term	200
	Total Children and Families Served*	280

*94 additional families not enrolled in Braille Institute's programs were served through parent groups.

Youth Services:	Center	Youths	Contact Hours
6 to 18 Years of Age	Los Angeles	189	19,003
	Orange County	175	11,137
	Rancho Mirage	59	1,097
	Santa Barbara	44	1,470
	San Diego	91	3,510
	Totals	558	36,217

Young Adults:	Center	Youths	Contact Hours
19 to 30 Years of Age	Los Angeles	84	2,433
	Orange County	272	54
	Rancho Mirage	43	289
	Santa Barbara	6	906
	San Diego	16	224
	Totals	421	3,906

Career Services:	Employer Contacts	171
All Centers	Employment	
	Full Time	12
	Part Time	37
	Job Saves	12
	Paid Internships	23
	Job Referrals	68

Access Technology	Youth Equipment Loan Recipients	91
	Subsidy Total	\$38,000
	163 youths have received Assistive Technology equipment since the program was created in 1998, valued at \$466,370.	

Collaborative Relationships	Los Angeles	250
	Child Development	118
	Orange County	236
	Rancho Mirage	385
	Santa Barbara	103
	San Diego	404
	Total	1,496

The Braille Challenge®



The Braille Challenge® is the only national reading and writing contest in braille for blind children in first through twelfth grade. Now in its ninth year, this two-part program – consisting of a preliminary round and a final competition for the top 60 scorers – has become the centerpiece of our Braille Literacy Initiative. This year we fulfilled 1,379 requests for preliminary exams, an increase of 23 percent over the previous year. Of these, 664 (or 48 percent) were returned to us for scoring. This year we partnered with agencies and schools across the U.S. and Canada to host 30 preliminary contest events, an increase of 11 percent over the 27 events the previous year.

Preliminary Contests Requested	1,379
Preliminary Contests Returned	664
Teachers Requesting Contests	110
Teachers Administering Contests	64
Regional Events Hosted	30
U.S. States Represented	39
Canadian Provinces Represented	3
Regional/National Media Placements	208

Community Training Programs	Center	Clinicians	Caregivers	Other Professionals	Public Education	Eye Disease Seminars	Total
LA		618	35	90	1,682	2	2,425
OC		458	246	967	1,243	15	2,929
RM		160	9	92	725	261	1,247
SB		307	97	279	2,242	160	3,085
SD		571	248	188	3,265	38	4,310
Child Dev		148	–	501	428	–	1,077
TOTAL		2,262	635	2,117	9,585	474	15,073

“How do we know we are successful?”

Every year for the past eight years we have used outcome assessments as a way to shed some light on this question. As we reflected on the information gathered thus far, we determined that broadening the scope of our assessment was in order. Our revised assessment form for this year used some questions modified from two valid and reliable evaluation instruments in wide use with visually impaired adults: The National Eye Institute’s Visual Function Questionnaire (VFQ-25) and the Age-Related Vision Loss Scale (AVL-12). The VFQ-25 measures the influence of visual disability on emotional well-being and social functioning. The AVL-12 provides a psychosocial measure of adjustment specifically for older adults who are adapting to late-life vision loss.

This year 235 new adult students who enrolled at all five of our regional centers completed a pre- and post-enrollment

questionnaire that asked for responses to 17 statements covering skills, abilities, social functioning, and adjustment to vision loss. We received both questionnaires from 24% of our 988 new adult students. 14 of the 17 statements showed double-digit change between the pre-enrollment and the post enrollment responses. Students arrive at our five regional centers with differing needs and can access a range of services to meet those needs. Given the significant variation in the extent and type of rehabilitation services received, variation in the amount and direction of change in adaptation should be expected. Findings do show that significant change did occur on the individual level, indicating greater independence and confidence among participants of our programs this year. Since the mission of Braille Institute is to empower individuals, our assessment provides evidence that we are having a positive impact. The following is a sample of our results:

I move confidently by myself without or with an assistive device around my neighborhood.

	Pre-enrollment	Post-enrollment
Usually	33.6%	51.9%
Sometimes	35.7%	31.1%
Rarely	14.5%	9.4%
Never	15.7%	5.5%

I move confidently by myself without or with an assistive device around my town.

	Pre-enrollment	Post-enrollment
Usually	17.4%	31.9%
Sometimes	22.1%	31.5%
Rarely	27.2%	16.6%
Never	31.5%	17.9%

I pursue interests I had before losing my vision.

	Pre-enrollment	Post-enrollment
Usually	21.3%	43.4%
Sometimes	42.1%	36.2%
Rarely	20.4%	11.1%
Never	12.3%	2.1%

I complete personal or household tasks that I did before losing my vision.

	Pre-enrollment	Post-enrollment
Usually	40.0%	54.0%
Sometimes	28.1%	28.1%
Rarely	16.2%	10.2%
Never	13.2%	2.1%

I feel positive about my ability to live with vision loss.

	Pre-enrollment	Post-enrollment
Usually	42.1%	55.7%
Sometimes	18.3%	24.3%
Rarely	19.1%	7.2%
Never	16.6%	2.6%

Because of my change in vision, I stay home more of the time than before.

	Pre-enrollment	Post-enrollment
Strongly Disagree	31.1%	34.0%
Disagree	19.1%	24.7%
Agree	26.8%	29.4%
Strongly Agree	20.9%	7.2%

Because of my change in vision, I need more help from others than I used to with daily activities.

	Pre-enrollment	Post-enrollment
Strongly Disagree	2.6%	3.4%
Disagree	15.7%	28.9%
Agree	51.9%	52.8%
Strongly Agree	27.7%	9.8%

Because of my change in vision, I feel frustrated more often than before.

	Pre-enrollment	Post-enrollment
Strongly Disagree	2.9%	3.1%
Disagree	11.8%	21.5%
Agree	40.2%	50.0%
Strongly Agree	40.2%	16.9%

Because of my change in vision, I have less control over what I do than before.

	Pre-enrollment	Post-enrollment
Strongly Disagree	30.6%	37.0%
Disagree	21.7%	25.1%
Agree	28.9%	27.7%
Strongly Agree	16.6%	6.0%

Because of my change in vision, I worry about doing things that will embarrass me or others.

	Pre-enrollment	Post-enrollment
Strongly Disagree	8.8%	9.2%
Disagree	35.3%	42.3%
Agree	32.4%	35.4%
Strongly Agree	17.6%	6.9%

For a complete outcome assessment report, please contact our Programs and Services Office by phone: (323) 663-1111, Ext. 1321, or via email: cpak@brailleinstitute.org.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS*

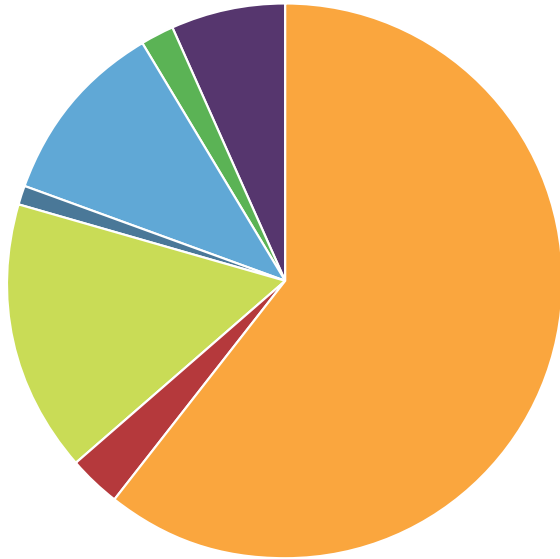
Income (\$000)

Public Support	2009	2008
Bequests from Wills	18,222	8,566
Trusts	759	1,083
Contributions and Foundation	4,671	5,216
Support Group Contributions	221	271
Total Public Support	23,873	15,136
Other Revenue		
Royalties	3,178	3,616
State Library Appropriation	697	657
Net Investment Income	1,933	3,208
Total Other Revenue	5,808	7,481
Allocation from Reserves	–	1,306
Total Funds Received	29,681	23,923

Expenditures (\$000)

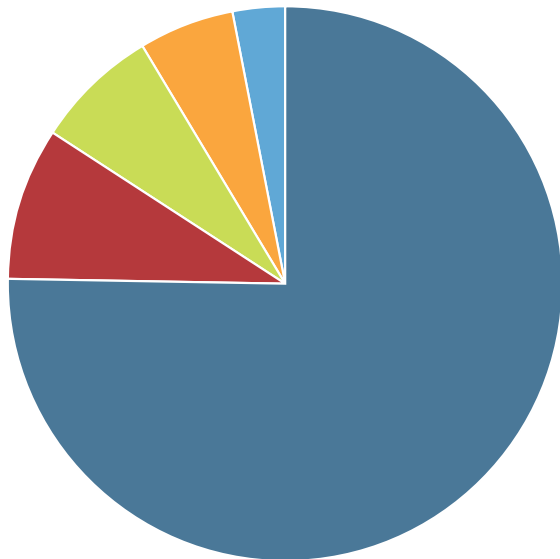
	2009	2008
Los Angeles Center	3,997	3,693
Child Development	716	687
Rancho Mirage Center	1,663	1,654
Orange County Center	2,676	2,652
San Diego Center	1,871	1,844
Santa Barbara Center	1,793	1,717
Braille Publishing	1,231	1,575
Library Services	2,828	2,839
Volunteer Services	622	552
Total Program Services	17,397	17,213
Administration	756	721
Development	2,403	2,348
Public Education	1,389	941
Support Services	1,855	1,807
Total Operating Expenditures Before Depreciation	23,800	23,030
Capital Expenditures	1,054	893
Allocation to Reserves	4,827	–
Total Expenditures	29,681	23,923
Total Net Assets	122,491	142,020

* For complete financial results, prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the USA, refer to the Report on Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for Braille Institute, which is available on its Web site www.brailleinstitute.org.



Income Sources

Bequests from Wills	61.4%
Trusts	2.6%
Contributions and Foundation	15.8%
Support Groups and Other	0.7%
Royalties	10.7%
State Library Appropriation	2.3%
Investment Income	6.5%



Operating Expenditures *

Program Services	74.8%
Development	9.4%
Support Services	7.3%
Public Education	5.5%
Administration	3.0%

* Including Depreciation of 2,055



EL PODER *Sin Ver*

UN PROGRAMA
DE BRAILLE INSTITUTE



LOS ANGELES COUNTY LATINO SENIORS FIND ABILITY WITHOUT SIGHT

In Los Angeles County, more than 62,000 Latinos aged 65 and older have severe vision loss. Language and cultural barriers, coupled with a fractured health care system, make accessing existing services next to impossible. Homebound and without hope, many of these seniors believe they have no reason to live.

Enter **El Poder sin Ver**, Braille Institute's five-year strategic initiative aimed at providing help and hope for older Latino men and women who are blind and visually impaired. Launched in 2006, El Poder sin Ver (which means "Ability Without Sight") weaves Latino cultural beliefs and practices to link Braille Institute and the Latino community.

The heart of El Poder sin Ver is its *promotoras*, grassroots educators who are respected members of Latino communities. In the words of one *promotora*, "I am so proud to bring this much-needed program to

my people." Through the *promotoras*, El Poder sin Ver connects visually impaired Latino seniors in nine Los Angeles County communities to a holistic package of resources and services. Our traditional partners have been expanded to include health promotion and health care providers — a first step toward filling the gap that exists in rehabilitation services for this group.

One program participant recently spoke of how El Poder sin Ver has given her hope and motivation to move forward with her life. A program family member added, "My mother is diabetic and losing her sight. I wish I had had this information many years ago so that I could have helped her more."

Now through El Poder sin Ver, thousands of older Latinos can take advantage of Braille Institute's innovative programs. And Latino families countywide have a way to help their visually impaired loved ones live fulfilling lives.

WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!

Braille Institute is built upon a strong tradition of philanthropy dating back to 1919, the year of our founding, when Mary and John Longyear's generous gift first made the work of Braille Institute possible. And that same spirit of philanthropy carries on today through donations made by individuals, foundations, businesses, service clubs, volunteers, students, clients and staff – people like you, whose gifts continue to sustain and grow our vital programs and services.

We do not seek government funding nor do we charge for any of our services. And the one constant since our founding has been that the impact we have on the lives of blind and visually impaired men, women, children and their families each year is not possible without our generous donors.

We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to everyone who gave gifts of time or money to Braille Institute between January 1, 2008, and December 31, 2008. We could not benefit blind and visually impaired people without you!

As we give recognition for support, space limitations allow us to list only those donors whose gift level qualified them for membership in one of the following donor recognition clubs.

PILLARS

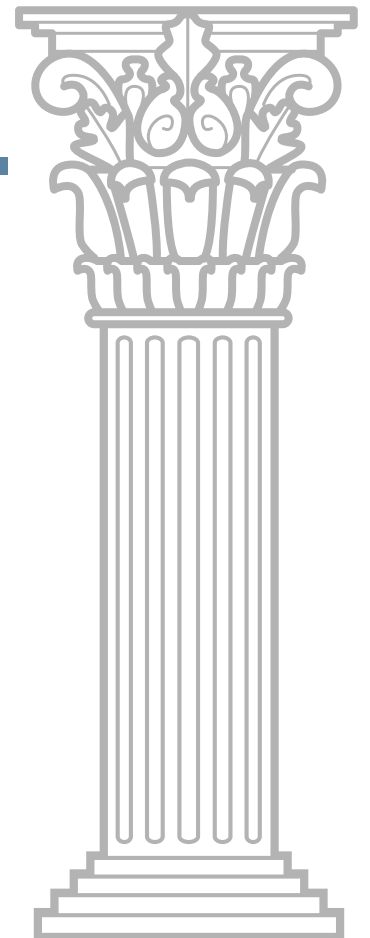
Pillars are donors who, in addition to their current gifts of cash, securities or property made in calendar year 2008, have made donations to Braille Institute for at least five previous years. Year after year, it is this group of generous friends that helps provide the strong financial foundation that has made it possible for Braille Institute to continue to provide its programs and services – free of charge – for the past 90 years.

Braille Institute is blessed to have hundreds of loyal donors who belong to this club; however, space limitations allow us to list only those donors who have given gifts from January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2008, and who have made at least one donation a year for 30 or more years, not necessarily in consecutive years.

Mrs. Fred Bartman
Mr. & Mrs. Dwight E. Bishop
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Boish
Mrs. Geraldine Brooks
Ms. Evelyne Conti
Ms. Virginia M. Davis
Mr. Edgar Frenkel
Mrs. Anita Fried

Mrs. Ruth B. Hanshe
Mrs. C. S. Hawthorne
Mr. Rufus L. Hayden
Mr. Hans Inpijn
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Mrs. Joyce L. Jurin
Mr. Dave E. Kalinge
Dr. & Mrs. Solomon A. Kaplan

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Walter & Nancy Lusk
Mrs. Rosita Mallah
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Mrs. Barbara B. Mortensen
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Mr. Tom J. Rickords
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Mr. Gary Robinson
Mr. Jack Rogo
Mr. Ted H. Schorr
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schrimmer
Mr. Ross W. Seton Jr.
Dr. Joan Shipley
Mr. Gordon Sine
Mrs. Adele C. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Strauss
Mrs. Daniel V. Tudor
Mrs. Rose Ungar
Mr. & Mrs. David S. Walker



1919 CIRCLE

A giving circle, named after the year of our founding, that includes all donors who made gifts of cash, securities, or property, regardless of gift purpose, in a calendar year. (Excludes planned gifts and bequests, which are recognized separately.)

As we give recognition for support, space limitations allow us to list only gifts of \$1,000 or more (cumulative) between January 1 and December 31, 2008.

\$25,000 and more Individuals

Anonymous
Ms. Meredith A. Jury
Dot and Rick Nelson

\$25,000 and more Foundations/Corporations/ Special Groups

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla
Indians
H.N. & Frances C. Berger Foundation
Braille Institute Associates of the
Desert
Braille Institute Auxiliary, Inc.
Braille Institute Auxiliary East San
Gabriel Valley
Braille Institute Auxiliary of Santa
Barbara
Fritz B. Burns Foundation
California Community Foundation
Forest Lawn Foundation
Friends of Braille Institute San Diego
Frank & Joseph Gila Fund of the
Santa Barbara Foundation
B. C. McCabe Foundation
The Johnny Mercer Foundation
The Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris
Foundation
Weingart Foundation
The Wood-Claeysens Foundation

\$10,000 to \$24,999 Individuals

Mrs. Betty Bufkin
Mr. Bill Evans
Ms. Marlene B. Frommer
Dr. & Mrs. Allen Ginsburg
Martin & Enid Gleich
Ms. Verdna M. Henderson
Mr. Ernest Lieblich
Mr. & Mrs. H. Austin Mahr
Ms. Clyde Osterhaus Thayer
Mr. James J. Shea, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Vaughan
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Wishon
Georgia Wundrow Fogg

\$10,000 to \$24,999 Foundations/Corporations/ Special Groups

Braille Institute Auxiliary of Pasadena
Bruce Ford & Anne Smith Bundy
Foundation
City of Laguna Woods
The Julia Sterns Dockweiler
Foundation in Memory of
Marcus E. Crahan, Jr.
Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation
dot.dat.inc
Matthew Dragicevich Charitable
Remainder Trust
The Leon and Toby Gold Foundation
Goldbaum Charitable Foundation
O. L. Halsell Foundation
Philip Hohnstein Family Foundation
Ingram Micro, Inc.
The Karl Kirchgessner Foundation
Walter Lantz Foundation
La Vista Foundation for the Blind &
Physically Handicapped
The Harold McAlister Charitable
Foundation
The Henry E. & Lola Monroe
Foundation
Northrop Grumman Corporation
Pasadena Tournament of Roses
Association
The Patron Saints Foundation
Ann Peppers Foundation
Meta & George Rosenberg
Foundation
Schlum Charitable Trust Foundation
The Lucille Ellis Simon Foundation
Lon V. Smith Foundation
Sidney Stern Memorial Fund
Sidney Stern Memorial Trust

\$1,000 to \$9,999 Individuals

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Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Applegate
Mr. & Mrs. Frank G. Arnstein
Mr. Stanley L. Ascough
Ms. Helen A. Atherton
Mr. J. P. Augustyn
Mr. Ernest Barber
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Mrs. Russell S. Bock
Dale & Rosemary Bohlka
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Mr. Randall S. Cline
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Ms. Virginia Covell Parham
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Mr. Rodney F. Darby
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Ms. Susan J. deGolyer
Mr. & Mrs. Robert DeKarlo
Ms. Wendy Disch
Mr. Robert Dodge
Mr. & Mrs. A.E. Dotson
David Dunn
Ms. Lucile M. Dunn
Mrs. Lucille Eldridge
Mr. Francis D. Fetty
Mr. & Mrs. William S. Field

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Dr. Lily George
Ms. Florencine W. Gerard
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Ms. Harlene R. Goodrich
Mr. & Mrs. Franklin D. Halladay
Jean Hahn Hardy
Dean R. Hartlep
Mr. Rufus L. Hayden
Mrs. Catherine L. Hazlett
Mrs. William B. Hicks
Mr. Jing Ho
Ms. Helen E. Hoag
Chun Pyo Hong
Mr. E. Gregory Hookstratten
Ms. Cheryl (Cheri) A. Hunter
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Mr. & Mrs. Allen Jaffy
Mrs. Sally H. Jameson
Ms. June Jensen
Dr. & Mrs. Solomon A. Kaplan
Mr. Arnold Karlson
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Karlson
Mr. & Mrs. Leon E. Kent
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Dr. Rozella S. Knox
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Mr. Mark Lambert
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Ms. Gayle Liebowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Michael J.D. Lindsay
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Mr. Brian Maas
Mr. & Mrs. John Magnuson
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Ms. Alice McConnell
Paula McConnell
Mr. Nelson McCrady
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Mr. Gilbert N. McIntyre
Ms. Ann McKenzie
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 Mr. William R. Payden
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 Mr. Wayne W. Schulz
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 Mr. Truman B. White
 Ms. Judith B. Whitsit
 Ajjay & Nancy Wilson
 Mr. Howard O. Wilson
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Wilson
 Ms. Nancy B. Wintersteen
 Mr. Gin D. Wong
 Mr. & Mrs. Philip P. Woodward
 Clara Wu
 Ms. Stephanie Yates
 Ms. Mary Zeyen
 Mr. Gordon C. Zwirtz

**\$1,000 to \$9,999
 Foundations/Corporations/
 Special Groups**

The Ahmanson Foundation
 Anonymous
 David S. Ascher Charitable
 Foundation
 Association of Handcrafted
 Automobiles
 Bank of America Foundation
 Beverly Hills Rotary Community
 Foundation #1006
 Billingsley Foundation
 Board Family Foundation
 The Louis L. Borick Foundation
 Byram Memorial Trust
 The Champions Volunteer Foundation
 Chubb Group of Insurance
 Companies
 Church of Good Shepard
 Arnold and Kay Clejan Charitable
 Foundation
 Betty Corradini Endowment Fund
 Delta Gamma Foundation
 Catherine C. Demeter Foundation
 Desert Regional Medical Center
 Auxiliary
 Florence R. Devine #1 Fund of the
 California Community Foundation
 Florence R. Devine #2 Fund of the
 California Community Foundation
 Elks of Los Angeles Foundation
 Emerald Court
 Samuel I. & John Henry Fox
 Foundation
 Georges & Germaine Fusenot Charity
 Foundation
 The Ann Jackson Family Foundation
 The Gerald M. & Elizabeth Jennings
 Foundation
 Junior League of San Diego
 Just for the Spell of It
 Keiter Family Foundation

La Jolla Kiwanis Foundation
 The Lafferan Family Foundation
 The Ruth Lane Charitable Foundation
 Lark Ellen Lions Charities
 Livingston Memorial Foundation
 Los Angeles Breakfast Club
 Foundation
 Lluella Morey Murphey Foundation
 Dorothy Trask Clune Murray
 Foundation
 NBC, MSNBC, CNBC
 Nichols Enterprises, L.P.
 Nissenson Family Fund of the
 California Community Foundation
 Pacific Palisades Women's Club
 Palm Springs Rotary Club Foundation
 Pasadena Showcase House for the
 Arts
 Pomona Host Lions Club
 Ramona's Mexican Food Products
 Rancho Park Rotary Club
 Reseda Woman's Club
 Rotary Club of Studio City
 Safeco Insurance Foundation
 The Simon-Strauss Foundation
 SoCal Solo II
 Richard & Elizabeth Steele Fund
 Teles Properties
 Thoren Family Charitable Trust
 Tour de Palm Springs
 United Agencies, Inc.
 Wells Fargo Foundation

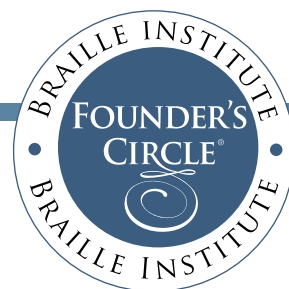
FOUNDER'S CIRCLE

Each year the Chairman of the Board of Braille Institute selects a program of utmost importance for special support. The Founder's Circle recognizes those donors who designate contributions of \$1,000 or more to this project. In calendar year 2008, those donors' gifts went toward the support of Braille Institute's Child Development Services.

Mr. Leo Branton Jr.
 Mrs. Henry Braun
 Mr. Thomas Callister

Mrs. Marva Cummins
 Mr. & Mrs. Edmond R. Davis
 Ms. Lucile Dunn

Mrs. Adele Geller
 Mrs. Sally H. Jameson
 Richard & Shirley Larson
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael J.D. Lindsay
 Dr. & Mrs. Harry A. Louie
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Mallory
 Mr. Brent Mayne
 Mr. Frank R. Miller Jr.
 Dot & Rick Nelson
 Mr. & Mrs. Ronald E. Smith
 Mrs. Elizabeth Steele



Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Stocker Jr.
 Lester & Linda Sussman
 Mr. & Mrs. Phil Swan
 Mr. George Thomas
 Mr. Howard Wilson

OTHER GIVING CATEGORIES

Planned Gifts

Planned gifts, also known as deferred gifts, help to secure Braille Institute's future. We wish to thank and recognize those individuals who made irrevocable planned gifts to Braille Institute during calendar year 2008.

Anonymous
Ms. Jean Arley
Huguette Ashley
Mr. Ray E. Barnum
Ms. Martha H. Beach
Ms. Doreen Chadbourne
Ms. Laurette Gensler
Ms. Andrea Giambrone
Ms. Lucille Gilbert
Burnis L. & Jean B. Goodwyn
Ms. Anna M. Hafeli
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Nelson
Mr. Marvin J. Paffenroth
Mr. Robert E. Peterson
Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Proctor
Mrs. Lela Rettig
Ms. Esther S. Schuster
Mrs. Evelyn H. Shopp
Miss Gretchen Sibley
Mrs. Marian B. Stanley
Ms. Eileen F. Ulrich
Mr. Robert N. Williams

In Memoriam & Tribute Gifts

By making a gift to the Braille Institute Tribute Fund, you can honor a special occasion, pay tribute to someone you care about or celebrate the memory of a loved one. Recognized below are those whose gifts made in their name totaled \$1,000 or more in calendar 2008.

In Honor of:

Cecile Betts
Betty Clark Mong
Nancy Cobb
Maureen Spaulding

In Memory of:

Betty Black
Richard Cromer
Frances Dobney
Gladys Esensten
Marion Cooper Frahm
Eileen Danelian McNatt
Garo Gazurian
Evelyn Glynn
Vivian Hart
Pauline Houston
Richard Knerr
Shirley Anne Koch Disch
Mabel Langen
Dell Looney
Ethel R. Mandell
Garnette & Lloyd McVey
Frances C. Mendell
Dr. John Frederick Merritt
Virginia Murphy
Andrew Joseph Ozurovich, Sr.
Sarita M. & Dominick Pietropaolo
Lucille R. Smith
Tom Stephenson
Joyce Ullman
Dr. Frederick Weiss

Gifts in Kind

Gifts in kind are non-monetary gifts of tangible goods that either in themselves, or from the proceeds resulting from their sale, help support the mission of Braille Institute. We wish to thank all those who made donations of gifts in kind from January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2008. However, space limitations allow us to only list those whose gifts were estimated to be of a value of \$1,000 or more.

Mary Arndt
Kelly Berardini
Emma Diaz
Freedom Scientific Corporation
Mr. Richard Geringer
Sylvia Jackman
Walter & Nancy Lusk
Perkins Products, Perkins School for the Blind

Employers with Matching Gift or Employee Directed Giving Programs

In 2008 Braille Institute received gifts from the following companies through either an employer gift matching program or an employee-directed giving program.

ACE INA Foundation
Allstate Giving Campaign
America's Charities
American Express Company
Bank of America Foundation
Bank of America United Way Campaign
Employees Community Fund of the Boeing Company
Chevron HumanKind Matching Gift Program
Combined Federal Campaign of Greater Los Angeles

Dell Direct Giving Campaign
ECHO, Northrop Grumman Employees Organization
Edison International Employee Contributions Campaign
Feed the Children, Inc.
Goodrich/Rohr Employees Will-Share Club
Mattel Children's Foundation Matching Gift Program
Medco Health Employee Giving Campaign
Microsoft Giving Campaign
The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
Nestlé - The Matching Gift Center
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gift Program
The Prudential Foundation Matching Gifts
Qualcomm Matching Gift Program
Safeco Insurance Employee Giving Program
The Charles Schwab Corporation Foundation
Scitor Corporation Charitable Gift Matching Program
Sempra Employee Giving Network
Sequoia Union School District
Union Bank of California
United Technologies Matching Gift Program
United Way, Inc.
United Way of The Inland Valleys
United Way of New York City
United Way of Orange County
United Way Princeton Area
United Way of San Luis Obispo County, Inc.
Washington Mutual Foundation Matching Gifts Program
Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign
Wellpoint Associate Giving Campaign
Western Union Foundation
Yahoo! Inc

BEQUESTS FROM WILLS AND TRUSTS

From Braille Institute's very beginning, bequests have been essential to our financial well-being. In fact, they are the most significant means by which we receive financial support. And since 1919, hundreds of friends, volunteers, students, and clients have chosen to make bequests to Braille Institute through their wills or trusts as a meaningful way of being permanently identified with the significant work of the Institute. Each year, the income received from bequests through wills and trusts helps to ensure that for years to come thousands of blind and visually impaired people of all ages will have a brighter future.

With deep gratitude, we honor the memory of the following individuals whose bequests provided income during calendar year 2008.

Ms. Mary Joaquina Abascal
Mr. Merrill J. Ainsworth
Ms. Ruth Appleby
Ms. Cecele Baca Greene
Ms. Mary Elizabeth (Bette) Baldwin
Mrs. Marjorie Grace Bales
Ms. Ruth A. Batterton
Mrs. Ruth Belson
Mr. Albert D. Berard &
W. Douglas Steinmetz
Mrs. Florence M. Bisenius
Mrs. Mary V. (Edward) Blockinger
Mrs. Herta Boninger
Mrs. Gertrude H. (Samuel) Bowlby
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Ms. Martha R. Brady
Ms. Sonia P. Braverman
Mrs. Evelyn E. (G.D.) Burbank
Ms. Katy Sue Campbell
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Mr. Stanley Warfield Clark
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Mr. Sydney Cole
Mrs. Annette G. Collinge
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Mrs. Lucille A. Conlan
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth W. Cooper

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Mr. Laurence B. Flaws
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Mrs. Helen M. Gittings
Ms. Myrtle M. Glendenning
Goldie & Benjamin Goetz
Ms. Pearl Goldwater
Pearl Gray
Mr. Wilbur C. Grosse
Mrs. Rosemary Hancock Smurr
Ms. Marilyn J. Hanna
Mrs. Leah B. Hanssen
Mr. Donald J. Heintzelman
Fred & Lucille Hirsch
Ray & Frances Hommes
James & Margaret Howard
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Ms. Ruth Dean Johnson
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Mr. William L. Kennedy
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Ms. Aleen R. Kiser
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Mr. Gerard L. LeBeau
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Joseph & Pearl Noh
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Ms. Mary Oddis Robinson
Mr. Harry W. Ofshay
John & Elizabeth Parker
Eileen M. & Rufus Patrick
Joseph & Evelyn Pertusati
Miss Anna K. Pfeiffer
Grace Phelps
Ms. Mary Josephine Phosky
Mr. & Mrs. John Jack Pick
Ms. Mary E. Plummer
Ms. Mildred Irene Powell
Charles Previn
Joan & Ronald Prisk
Ms. Ruth C. Reese
Ms. M. Elaine Rhoades
Mrs. Sylvia H. Robb

Mrs. Sydney B. Robinson
Mr. Floyd M. Rogers
Mr. Woodrow W. Romine
Ms. Constance E. Ropolo
Lena & Jack Ross
Mr. Nels C. Rostad
Mrs. Vivian M. Roxburgh
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Mrs. Winnifred H. Turner
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Emily Van Nuys
Mr. Jay Raymond Voight
Mrs. Gudrun (Bruno) Wainoris
Mrs. Evalyn B. Wais
Albert & Ruth Walker
Mr. Don C. Ware
Mrs. Isabel Webster Ball
Mrs. Pauline Weinstein Ledeen
Mr. Thomas Lyle Williams
Mrs. Marian E. Withers
Ms. Agnes Wood
Ms. Phyllis J. Yates
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Youngs
Ms. Mayme Zahirniak Barnes
Mr. Burton V. Zoul

**Bequests from the wonderful friends listed above provided
64% of Braille Institute's operating income in 2009.**

When creating your will or trust, please remember to include Braille Institute as a beneficiary.
It could be the most meaningful gift you ever make!



LET YOUR LEGACY BE A HERITAGE OF HOPE.



When you leave a bequest to Braille Institute by will, trust, life insurance policy or other deferred giving instrument, you are helping to ensure that thousands of blind and visually impaired people of all ages will have a brighter future. If you wish, you can also be recognized as a member of our prestigious J. Robert Atkinson Heritage Society, which honors those who have notified us that they have set aside gifts for Braille Institute in their estate plans.

It is our great pleasure to recognize those friends who, as of December 31, 2008, have demonstrated their vision of the future by remembering Braille Institute in their will or trust.

The J. Robert Atkinson Heritage Society Members

Charlotte Abrams	Dr. Paraskeva N. Danailov	Mr. & Mrs. Russell W. Kirbey	S. Roguin
Mary Allen	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Du Fault	Dr. Rozella S. Knox	Kenneth Rothschild
Marjory M. Alsdurf	Mike Dudish	Arthur Kusahara &	Bill & Doreen Sanders
Anonymous	Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Emery	Marguerite Garner	Esther S. Schuster
Carmen Apelgren	Estelle Fields	Mark Lambert	Gretchen Sibley
Ms. Jean Arley	Mrs. Lucille Fleming	Shirley J. Lane	Elayne Sidley
Thomas & Arloah Artingstall	Ralph Flood	Palmer Langdon	Mrs. Walter E. Simmonds
Mr. Edwin D. Ashton	Eileen Fontaine Ulrich	Lori Larson	Ms. Mary Smiley
Mrs. Fannie "Bobby" Avrut	Jane K. Fox	Richard & Shirley Larson	Richard C. Smith
Mr. Thomas J. Baldwin	Bobbe Frankenberg	Mr. & Mrs. Ray Lawrence	Mr. & Mrs. Sherman Smith
Mr. Ray E. Barnum	Eunice Friend	Lewis Lazarus	Mrs. Ruth Sollet
Mr. John J. Baro	Sanford & Gertrude Gerber	Franz & Eileen Lilloe	Mr. Karl Sommer
Ms. Bernice Barth	Lu Gilbert	Kenneth W. Lintz	Marian Stanley
Ms. Cecile Betts	Thelma Ginzler	Ruth & Nathan Lipscomb	Pauline W. Stanley
Mrs. Amelia "Pat" Bianconi	Lillian H. Glassman	Mrs. Diana J. Longenberger	Milton R. Stark
Mr. & Mrs. William B. Billingsley	Carl & Jeanette Goldbaum	Mr. & Mrs. John Magnuson	Dr. Harry Stiver
Harris J. Bloch	Rochelle Gollin	Alma Mathias	Mr. & Mrs. Leslie E. Stocker, Jr.
Mark S. Bobry	Jean B. Goodwyn	Mr. Ramsay McCue	James & Jecelyn Stockton
Janice L. Boisclair	Ron L. Gordon	Mr. & Mrs. Ron Meyer	Shirley P. Struble
Evelyn P. Borden	Mr. Eugene Gottsdanker	Robert & Sara Moore	Sean Thomas
Daniel & Evelyn Bourne	Anna M. Hafeli	Margaret Moran	Sharlotte & Frank Tubin
Mary A. Bowler	Franklin D. & Phyllis M. Halladay	Patricia A. Morey	Roy & Hope Turney
William B. Brende	Evelyn Hamil Shopp	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Murphy	Paul & Lois Vaughan
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Brown	Mr. John G. Hamilton	Dr. William Murray	Lloyd Vogelweid
Mr. Windford R. Brown	Heinz & Thelma Hanau	W. Tracy Nadeau	Davis H. & Jean E. von Wittenburg
Mr. & Mrs. George Buckhalter	Evelyn V. Hanson	Dot & Rick Nelson	Ms. Nancy Wannberg
Mr. & Mrs. David Burkhardt	Roger J. Harmon	Ms. Angela G. Nowlin	Mrs. Jack L. Watson
C. Margo Burnett	Mrs. Mary M. Hart	Ms. Barbara Oberle	Leona Weiss
Marvin A. & Maxine L. Burnett	Charlotte Hatfield Cox	Mrs. Susanne Oken	Dr. Donald M. Weitzman
Mrs. Mary Burson	Connie S. Hawthorne	Marvin J. Paffenroth	Mrs. Marie Wickes
Thomas K. Callister	Catherine L. Hazlett	Glenn T. & Kathleen C. Patmore	Robert N. Williams
Ms. Doreen Chadbourne	Rosalyn S. Heyman	Mr. Robert M. Pedraglia	Karen Williamson
King & Cindy Chan	Dr. Robert V. Hine	Josephine Pendino	Murray & Marion Winagura
Ms. Venus Devina Charistma	Alzia Jackson	Thomas Petersmeyer	Mr. & Mrs. Philip P. Woodward
Ms. Marion A. Christoffel	Milt & Sandy Kandl	Mr. Donald F. Pratt	Mrs. Ethel Young
Bruce & Jo Ann Clark	Frances B. Kaplan	Ms. Hildegard Princiotta	Suzanne Zolfo
Gertha Collins	Minna Kaye	Helen E. & Jesse W. Proctor	
Ward Crittenden	Mrs. Rose Kempf	Homer A. Ralles	
Pilar Curren	Jack & Diana Keown	Shirley Rhode Curtis	

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF THE FUTURE

From Braille Institute's very beginning, bequests have been essential to our financial well-being. In fact, they are the most significant means by which Braille Institute receives financial support.

Each year, bequests help to ensure that thousands of blind and visually impaired people of all ages will have a brighter future.

Perhaps you have thought about making a large charitable gift to Braille Institute but didn't think you could afford it right now. Well, virtually everyone has the power to give a gift larger than he or she ever dreamed possible after his or her lifetime — by making a gift called a bequest. And since 1919, hundreds of friends, volunteers, students, and clients have chosen to make bequests to Braille Institute as a meaningful way of being permanently identified with the significant work we do.

If you would like assistance, please call our Planned Giving office at 1-800-BRAILLE (272-4553), Ext. 1256.



Leaving a bequest through your will or trust is easy — simply include the following language:

I give (X dollars or X percent or all of the residue of my estate) to Braille Institute of America, Inc., a California Nonprofit Corporation with principal offices located at 741 North Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90029-3594.

Tax Identification Number: 95-1641426

Date of Incorporation: September 20, 1961

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS



*Empowering visually impaired
people to live fulfilling lives*

741 North Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90029

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