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City Welcomes Kathleen Ashmore as Library Manager for the Oxnard Public Library

OXNARD, Calif. – The City of Oxnard is pleased to announce the appointment of Kathleen Ashmore as the new Library Manager for the Oxnard Public Library. With a career spanning over 17 years in library services, Ashmore brings a wealth of experience and a commitment to community engagement to Oxnard.

“I’m thrilled to have Kathleen join the team in Oxnard. She brings a tremendous portfolio of skills and experiences, and I am fully confident that she will effectively shape the future of Oxnard Public Library for more success and inclusivity,” said Cultural and Community Services Assistant Director Renee Rakestraw.



Ashmore previously worked for the Lonoke County Library System in Arkansas, where she successfully established a teen department and programming, implemented teen and adult volunteer programs, and revitalized the adult programming department before moving into a management role. Her focus on excellent customer service, community involvement, and staff morale significantly improved library services.

In her new role as Oxnard’s Library Manager, Ashmore will leverage her expertise in interpersonal communication, team building, and professional development to strengthen the library team and enhance its community impact. She is committed to ensuring that the library becomes an integral partner in the community and meets the needs of the modern 21st-century library.

Said Ashmore, “The public library plays a vital part within the fabric of a community through cultural and educational services for all its residents to enjoy. I am excited at the opportunity to enhance these ideals to the Oxnard Public Library and the residents it serves.”

“The Oxnard Friends of the Library welcomes Ms. Ashmore to our community. We look forward to partnering with her in fundraising, expanding outreach and exclusivity, while broadening and elevating the level of programming for all Oxnard residents,” said board member Oneita Hirata, Oxnard Friends of the Library Foundation.

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Oxnard's Public Library system includes the Main Library and a branch in La Colonia and South Oxnard. It employs 35 full and part-time staff members across the three locations. Staff are responsible for overseeing the vast resources of the public library systems, ranging from managing the system's books, periodicals, reference materials, and videos; to assisting visitors; and developing unique programming and events to serve the greater Oxnard community.

Ashmore will begin her role as Library Manager on January 8, 2024.

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