

PLP Innovation and Technology Opportunity Grant Program Application

Library Name: Sunnyvale Public Library

Project Title: Sunny Side Up: Sunnyvale Public Library Mobile Kitchen Cart

Select category you are applying under:

Category A: Innovation and Technology Opportunity Grant

Category B: Grant Replication Program

If Category B is selected, enter the name of the grant you are replicating:

1. Please provide a one paragraph project summary.

Sunny Side Up: Sunnyvale Public Library Mobile Kitchen Cart will be a program where library staff and culinary experts teach classes on food and nutrition at the library using a mobile kitchen cart. Programs will be offered for all age groups (children, teens, and adults), and will be on topics such as cooking fundamentals, nutrition, multicultural recipes, and seasonal cooking. The goal of the program is to provide instruction on basic cooking techniques, share recipes from our different cultures, celebrate cultural events with food, and get library patrons of all ages excited about healthy cooking. To facilitate these programs, the library is requesting funds to purchase a mobile kitchen cart, which contains a burner, oven, sink, and expandable counter space. During the grant period this fiscal year, the library will aim to offer 3-4 cooking programs for various age groups, create a marketing plan to spread the word about our new programs, and create a community cookbook of shared recipes.

2. Explain how this project fits with the library's strategic directions.

Mission statement: We inspire a healthy community by fostering lifelong learning and play through progressive services and programs for all.

City of Sunnyvale General Plan: Maintain library facility and purchase materials that are easily obtainable and appropriate based on changing community needs.

Throughout our library's closure and phased reopening due to COVID-19, our online cooking programs have proven to be very popular. Between June 2020 and August 2021, the library hosted 19 culinary programs, including cook-alongs and bake-alongs for kids, teens and adults.

Attendance for these programs ranged from 10-96 attendees. The library received positive feedback on these events, with 100% of the programs surveyed receiving a very good or excellent rating.

Our collection of cookbooks is also one of our largest and most popular collections. In the past two years, our collection of 7,602 cookbooks have circulated 83,369 times. Books about cooking are our highest circulating subject accounting for over 12% of total nonfiction circulation. This demonstrates that our community is enthusiastic about food and cooking programs.

Sunny Side Up will allow us to serve this community need in our library building, rather than remotely through our staff's respective kitchens. We will be able to educate and inspire our patrons on cooking and eating healthfully. We will be able to offer cooking programs at the same rate as we did during our closure. This will also allow us to do more hands-on activities with more community interaction and engagement. The kitchen cart we are asking to purchase has been created with libraries and classrooms in mind and will be easy to purchase and work into library programming.

City of Sunnyvale General Plan: Providing educational support for library users of all ages.

We believe the library plays an important role in encouraging culinary literacy for patrons of all ages. Culinary literacy encompasses multiple skills such as reading, mathematics, science, and creative arts. Reading and understanding a recipe requires reading comprehension skills. Understanding measurements and how to convert a recipe to produce different quantities requires mathematics skills. Knowing how to substitute ingredients, or why certain ingredients are called for in a recipe requires knowledge of food chemistry. Patrons can get creative in creating a new recipe, adding items to an existing dish, or decorating or plating a baked item. For teens and young adults, we will offer basic or survival cooking skills classes to prepare them for independent living. By providing culinary programs we will be helping patrons of all ages practice these skills in a fun and engaging way. Through hands-on learning, we can educate as well as entertain our patrons.

3. Please provide a detailed description of the proposed project including the population served and the demographics of that population.

Sunny Side Up: Sunnyvale Public Library Mobile Kitchen Cart will establish food and nutrition related programs to the Sunnyvale Public Library. The library will purchase a mobile kitchen cart from Kitchen A La Cart along with various kitchen tools. The cart features a sink with hot and cold water, induction cooktop, oven, blender, and assorted cookware. The cart measures 55" long, 46" tall, 31/5 wide and weighs 450 lbs. The cart runs on 110 volts. The cart will be used in our outdoor library spaces, such as our back patio behind the children's room, and the plaza in front of the library's entrance. This cart was selected for its size, functions, adaptability, and quality of customer service support.



Kitchen a la Cart from Edible Education

The library will brand the cart with our name and logo and create a marketing plan to let our community know about our upcoming food programs.

The library will begin planning our initial programs using the cart. We will start off with 3 to 4 events during the 2021/22 fiscal year, with at least one program each for kids, teens, and adults. We will plan at least one program on the following topics: nutrition, basic cooking skills, and cultural celebrations. Possible program topics include easy recipes and techniques for kids, holiday baking, library community bake off, zero waste cooking, basics of vegan cooking, recipes that remind us of home, and cooking with in-season produce.

We will also reach out to organizations and professionals in our community, such as our local community garden (Charles Street Garden) and our city's environmental services department to find partnerships in creating programs around cooking with fresh, sustainable ingredients.

The library will obtain food handler safety permits for all staff interested in creating library programs with the kitchen cart.

Beginning Fall/Winter of 2022, we will begin presenting programs. The library will create a survey to assess the success of the events, and gauge community interest in other culinary offerings. We will also work with the patrons to create a recipe collection of favorite foods from our diverse community.

The City of Sunnyvale is the seventh largest city in the Bay Area with a population of 152,703 according to a 2019 Census estimate. Our city has a multicultural population, with 48.6% of our

residents born outside the United States. Food is a perfect way to gather people from all backgrounds and find common ground as well as celebrate our differences. Conversations and celebrations around food and cuisine can bring our large and diverse community together.

4. What are the goals and objectives of the project?

Goal 1: Improve multiple literacies (reading, math, science) through culinary skills in our community.

Objective: Create 3-4 programs for kids, teens and adults that teach reading, math, and measurement skills through the creation of recipes. Foster multiple literacies in our community through developing culinary skills.

Goal 2: Celebrate our multicultural community through food and cooking.

Objective: Create at least one program for library patrons that spotlights multicultural recipes. Create programming where members of the community can do cooking demonstrations of their favorite recipes from home and share with attendees.

Objective: Using patron input, create a community cookbook with recipes from different cultures. With over 21,902 checkouts of ethnic cookbooks over the last two years, there is a definite interest in cooking from different cuisines. Share the cookbook with our community through our newsletter and social media pages.

Goal 3: Improve community health through nutrition education.

Objective: Create at least one program with an emphasis on nutrition and healthy eating. Partner with local experts to create programs focused on cooking with fresh ingredients and sustainability. Program topics could include garden to table recipes in collaboration with a local community garden.

5. Please include your project timeline (include detail of activities).

Activity	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Create marketing plan	x	x										
Create logo for cart	x	x										
Purchase cart		x	x									
Purchase additional program supplies		x	x									
Obtain servers permits for staff (ok permits with union)				x	x							
Reach out to potential community partners		x	x	x								
Schedule initial cooking programs			x	x								
Receive cart					x							
Host program for kids						x						x
Host program for teens								x				
Host program for adults										x		
Create program survey					x							
Send out surveys						x		x		x		x
Gather and evaluate survey responses											x	x
Create community cookbook										x	x	
Share community cookbook with our patrons											x	x

6. Please indicate how you will evaluate success of your project.

We will evaluate our project through program surveys distributed after each program, program attendance numbers, and community engagement (social media interactions, number of potential collaborations, etc.). The survey questions will include how satisfied attendees were with the program’s ability to improve their culinary literacy skills, how well the program did to improve their knowledge of healthy cooking and food choices, how satisfied they were with the program’s celebration of different cultures, the level of interactivity provided in the program, what future topics they would be interested in, etc.

7. Please detail your project budget. (Note: Indirect costs are not allowed).

Kitchen a la Cart without supplies and smallwares.	\$9,995
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Total requested: \$9,995

8. Please indicate how the project will be sustained after the grant term is over.

After the initial set up and preparation costs, we are confident we will be able to sustain this program with our program operating budget and contributions from our Friends of the Sunnyvale Public Library group. We hope to continue offering at least 1-2 culinary programs per quarter after the grant period has ended.

Complete Only for Category B Grants:

9. Explain what grant was selected to replicate and why.

10. If there are changes or enhancements to the original grant, including budgetary changes, please detail the changes and your rationale for making them.