

Library of America Worldwide

Fifty libraries and universities in the Middle East and Southeast Asia to receive 100-volume sets of Library of America editions

“The Library of America series would be a perfect addition to these institutions and would strongly compliment the Embassy’s public diplomacy efforts by providing a comprehensive and balanced collection of America’s great writers.”

Haynes Mahoney, Cultural Affairs Officer, Embassy of the United States, Cairo, Egypt

LOA Worldwide is a matching gift program that sends core collections of American literature and history to libraries, universities, and cultural centers around the world. The goal of the program is to offer new avenues to a deeper understanding and appreciation of the United States. Fifty institutions in eight countries have been selected to receive 100 authoritative volumes from the Library of America series. The countries are Armenia, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines. Each set of books, valued at \$2,600, is funded by the Mark Krueger Charitable Trust, the Charina Endowment Fund, an anonymous foundation, and the gifts of private U.S. citizens.

Chosen with the assistance of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State, the institutions are among the most important in these countries, and many have long-established American Studies programs. But because of poor funding, government controls, or civil unrest, even the major works of American literature and history are often lacking. LOA Worldwide is an example of “soft diplomacy” and has undeniable benefits for the United States as well. According to an official at the U.S. Department of State, LOA Worldwide has “profound potential to foster a deeper understanding of the United States, its people, and its history.”

About The Library of America

The Library of America is a nonprofit publisher and cultural institution that helps to preserve our nation’s literary heritage by publishing America’s best and most significant writing in handsome, authoritative editions. For the first time in our history the full range of outstanding American writing—from Thomas Jefferson, Henry James, and Richard Wright to Flannery O’Connor and Robert Frost, as well as anthologies of poetry, war reporting, sermons, crime fiction, and other genres—is being systematically published in unabridged, long-lasting editions that are kept permanently in print. The series now numbers over 200 volumes and is widely recognized as the national library of American writing.

“That indispensable pantheon of our national literature, The Library of America”
Fortune Magazine

“The Library of America, the closest thing we have to an official canon.”
The New York Times

“Our national library” *The Wall Street Journal*

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