

Fact Sheet

Minneapolis Central Library



Description

- Opened Saturday, May 20, 2006
- Located between Hennepin Avenue, the city's arts and theater district, and Nicollet Mall, the backbone of the city's business and shopping district
- A resource-rich, civic building that is a community gathering place and destination spot

Funding

- \$110 million was approved by Minneapolis voters in the 2000 Library Referendum
- \$15 million in private funding contributed by more than 200 individuals, foundations and businesses, and parking bonds helped pay for parking ramp costs

Architecture

- Designed by Cesar Pelli, the world-renowned architect
- Other projects by Pelli include Manhattan's World Financial Center and the Wells Fargo Center in Minneapolis

Structure

- 353,000 square feet with 140,000 square feet of underground parking
- Eye-catching canopy roof that projects over Hennepin and Nicollet entrances
- 8,140 square-foot atrium links two buildings that make up the library
- Combination of transparent and translucent glass with seasonal Minnesota imagery such as water, snow, trees and prairie grass
- 18,560 square-foot "green" roof planted with low-growing, sun- and drought-resistant ground cover
- Ninety-five percent of the old Central Library building was recycled; the pillars in the new building are from recycled cement
- Automatic lights, heating/cooling and other systems reduce expenses of operating the building
- Overall, projected 30 percent more energy efficient than required by energy code, including:
 - Under-floor ventilation system that reduces cooling costs by 15-20 percent
 - Light fixtures with light sensors and controls to minimize energy consumption
 - Building materials with high recycled content, low VOC content and low life-cycle costs
- Dunn Brothers coffee and The Friends bookstore offer other amenities to customers

Collection

- Third largest per capita public library collection of any major city in the United States with a collection of more than 2.4 million items--including books, DVDs, music, government documents and more
- Nearly 100 percent of its collection is accessible to the public, compared to just 15 percent in the previous Minneapolis Central Library

Technology

- More computers with free Internet access for free public use than any single building in the state -- 300+ up from 75 previously offered
- Best Buy Technology Center for free public classes from basic office software to resume writing - Wireless Internet access throughout the building

Children's Library

- Upper Midwest's largest public library collection of children's books, including materials in more than 30 languages
- Designed to provide children from birth to 12 with room for exploration and fun, and to help parents, families, teachers and caregivers develop children's love of learning and reading

Teen Central

- Emma B. Howe Teen Central is one of the first spaces of its kind in the United States to be designed by and for teens
- Created to welcome teens, engage their recreational and personal needs, provide after-school help from tutors and support their educational goals

New Americans Center

- One in every five households in Minneapolis speaks a language other than English, and more than 6,000 new immigrants join the community every year
- New Americans Center has English Language Learner classes, workforce and business development programs, opportunities to practice English and study

Business Services

- Forty percent of customers, including job seekers, small business owners, investors and patent researchers, use the library for business purposes
- Minnesota's only complete U.S. patent collection and the most extensive collection of government documents of any Minnesota public library
- Serves as an engine for business self-sufficiency and growth

Meeting Spaces

- Twenty-five new meeting and study areas
- Pohlad Hall--a state-of-the-art auditorium
- Mary and David Doty Library Board Room
- Robins, Kaplan, Miller and Ciresi meeting room



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