



A NEW ERA FOR THE LOUSSAC LIBRARY

SUMMER 2017

Photo above: Assistant Director Virginia McClure welcomes patrons into the new library entrance. Photo by Lyndsey Brollini

Loussac Re-Opens with a New Entrance

On July 19, 2017, the Loussac Library revealed its new, modern entrance to the public. Construction is not all complete, but will be finished this fall.

One of the most striking features of the new entrance is the enormous sculpture hanging from the ceiling - the "Portal of Perception." When standing under the sculpture looking up, you look into the "eyeball" of the sculpture and see yourself in the pupil surrounded by rows of lights.

The glass walls and open space make this entrance much more warm and inviting to patrons. The new spaces created in this renovation include four new meeting rooms, a tech bar where patrons can view the Portal of Perception, a "living room" that encourages conversation among patrons, and more!

Save the date: 100 Years of the Anchorage Library Celebration at Loussac Library, October 7

Support the Friends and the Foundation to help the Library meet its commitment to our community!



The Future of Loussac Library

The library entrance is now open, but there is still much work to do. Our success so far is thanks to generous community members like you.

This innovative entrance was designed to fit the needs of the entire community. When patrons walk in, they can see all the activity occurring on the first through third floors. There are resources for children, teens, business-owners, homeless, and many more. But there is a moment when you step from the new carpet to the old carpet and you notice the deficits the old structure has. This 30-year-old building has critical systems that are nearing the end of their lifespans and need to be fixed or replaced.

Seismic, building systems, ADA, and energy efficiency improvements are needed to keep the building safe and operational. We also want to renovate the 4th floor to create a community educational hub and upgrade the children's area, one of the most popular areas of the library. Additionally, the old furniture, signage, and carpet need to be replaced to match the new sections.

The new Loussac entrance is a vibrant and welcoming space that has quickly become a huge source of pride for our community, which is why the Municipality of Anchorage and the Anchorage Library Foundation are dedicated to finishing the Loussac renovations.



Major Donors to the Entrance Renovation:

The State of Alaska
Municipality of Anchorage
The Estate of Alfred Hanisch
BP
Stanley H. Reitman Family
Charitable Fund
Anchorage Library Foundation

Friends of the Anchorage
Public Library
Anonymous
Calais Company
The Carr Foundation
ExxonMobil



Upper left: The Portal of Perception in the newly renovated Atrium. Upper right: Patrons use the café in its new location. Lower right: the library "living room" encourages discussion between patrons.

The full list of donors can be found at www.LibraryChampion.com

Downtown Library

The Anchorage Library Foundation aims to build a library downtown by 2020 to bring a safe, public space that welcomes all types of patrons

With a downtown library, the Anchorage Public Library will be able to reach new patrons and offer a convenient location for downtown workers, residents and visitors.

The downtown library won't be like a traditional library. Our vision is to make this location community-centered and have a flexible space that can be used for a variety of programs and activities.

This project is possible because of a generous bequest from Janet and John Goetz. They imagined a walkable library that fits the diverse needs of downtown residents, visitors, workers, and more.

Some potential features of the downtown library include:

- A small collection of popular books and DVDs
- Free Wi-Fi
- A large community room with a kitchenette
- Study rooms for 2-6 people
- Public computers and printers
- Classes, workshops, movie nights, and other programming
- Bus access and café

For more information, visit www.LibraryChampion.com/Downtown



Example of what the downtown library may look like.

Detach and mail to: Anchorage Library Foundation/Friends of the Library: PO Box 244714, Anchorage, AK 99524

YES! I want to help the Anchorage Public Library transform lives.

Name: _____ City: _____

Address: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

I'd like this gift to go to a specific library (please list):

Please keep my name anonymous in recognition materials.



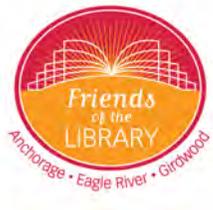
I'd like to support the Library's immediate needs for materials and programs with a gift in the amount of \$_____.

Make check payable to: **Friends of the Library**



I'd like to support the long-term growth of the Library and new library initiatives with a gift in the amount of \$_____.

Make check payable to: **Anchorage Library Foundation**



P.O. BOX 244714
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Job Lab

Library collaboration provides extra support for job-seekers

The newest program at the Loussac Library is a weekly Job Lab, a peer counseling program in which volunteers help job-seekers create resumes, conduct mock interviews, demonstrate library job search tools and provide advice in the job-seeking process.

20% of patrons who come to Loussac are looking for work, and patrons often ask librarians about job assistance, so the Library stepped up to meet this need by offering Job Lab at Loussac Library every Wednesday 2-5 pm.

The program is based off the successful Mountain View Library Job Lab, which is offered every Tuesday from 2-5 pm. The program will eventually expand to offer mobile Job Labs at other library locations and community hubs.

This program is made possible by a grant from the Alaska Community Foundation for the Municipality of Anchorage's Path to Purpose program, which provided an AmeriCorps VISTA and equipment for mobile labs.

AmeriCorps VISTA Sarah McBryde, who launched the Mountain View program and is now initiating the Loussac Library and mobile Job Labs, and organizing volunteers to serve as the peer counselors.

Want to help? Become a Job Lab volunteer! Little experience is needed and volunteers are provided with training and resources to use during the labs. Additionally, consistent volunteers will get letters of recommendation. Contact Sarah at McBrydeS@muni.org if you are interested!



VISTA Sarah McBride (left) with Job Lab volunteers.