

Librarian's Shelf by Rachelle McPhillips

### New Teen Space

The Columbus Public Library has implemented many exciting changes. Our children's librarian has started a new program on the second Saturday of each month, our circulation department has a new self-check station, and the reference librarian has gathered adult nonfiction into one area. We have expanded our new items shelf to include six months of adult fiction and nonfiction, and our OverDrive eBook service is now compatible with the Kindle e-reader.

The change I am most excited about right now is our new teen space. Thanks to donations from the Friends of the Columbus Public Library and the Library Foundation Board, we have been able to begin transforming a section of the library into a bright and comfortable area for our young adult patrons. Our young adult fiction, nonfiction, periodicals and graphic novels are housed in one place in the building now.

Teens have been meeting regularly to make decisions about the space. They have brainstormed and dreamed big and bold things and have made fun and practical selections of furniture, colors, and features for the new room.

To get the space started at the beginning of the school year, a \$1000 contribution from the Friends was used to purchase an area rug and four chairs for the new teen space. The Library Foundation Board donated \$6000 for the project. To date, those funds have been used to purchase two purple couches, a café table and stools, a second area rug, bean bags, paint supplies, and two chairs with tablet arms for reading and studying.

We are still working to put the finishing touches on the area. Teens will finish splatter painting two of the walls this Saturday. Later we will hang new curtains and make decisions about other features the room should have, including wall art, technology, and book displays.

The teen space is expected to be completed by the end of October 2011.

Young adults in grades 6-12 are welcome to get involved in the changes at their library. Teen Advisory Board meetings are typically held after school on the third Thursday of each month. The dates and times are posted on the library's Facebook page and on signs throughout the library. The next TAB meeting is Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:45 in the teen space.

The library is located at 2504 14th Street, and is open Monday through Thursday 10am-9pm, Friday and Saturday 10am-5pm, and Sunday 1:30-5.

For more information regarding young adult services, contact Rachelle McPhillips at 402-562-4201.