

Do you know how many libraries there are in the state of Nebraska?

There are 273 throughout the state!

Libraries & Ideas

The new library building will include a large auditorium and share space with the Cultural Arts Center, making it a mixed-use destination for the community. Such a beautifully designed, shared space will create positive experiences for patrons of both partners. Library Journal's Marta Murvosh (2012) writes that mixed-use library developments "can transform a neighborhood . . . Libraries built with partners in Boston, Milwaukee, and Rifle, CO, have been credited with helping spur economic development and bringing a sense of community to their neighborhoods" (Introduction and best practices). They can also save money and draw new community members into the respective organizations. All three examples in the shared buildings section of Murvosh's article reported increased use for each partner in the building. "Libraries sharing buildings with centers of recreation and learning report that their partners bring exposure to new users" (Shared buildings). Many libraries had impressive gains: the Fruita branch library in western Colorado, who now shares a building with the senior and recreation centers, boosted its annual circulation by 57% as a result (Shared buildings).

Many libraries are now sharing buildings with other community organizations, and with positive results. In his article, "New Libraries Revitalize Cities" (2010), Jonathan Lerner gives many examples of successful mixed-use libraries all over the world. He even refers to such examples as "librar[ies] of the future," and believes they are "intended as an engine of city-center rejuvenation." Columbus Library/Cultural Arts Center will be a wonderful contribution to the revitalization of downtown Columbus. Murvosh (2012) asserts that some "construction partnerships have revitalized neighborhoods and led to innovation in service delivery" (Introduction and best practices). In addition, the shared building is one more way the library increases opportunities for collaboration. Partnership "with other community institutions . . . will result in educational opportunities and experiences beyond traditional services such as literacy skills and technology training" (Hendrix, 2010, p. 16). The new library and arts center will be a destination providing patrons with literacy, technology, community and cultural experiences to enrich their lives. "So the library of the future will be a porous container: both a destination itself and a portal to other places, a space for civic engagement and a locus of urban vitality" (Lerner, 2010).

Calendar Connection

Find more at www.columbusne.us/library

- Library Week is April 13-18 this year. We will have awesome bookmarks and magnets for everyone. On Friday April 17th, come in for cookies and coffee. Make sure and sign up for our book drawings which will take place every day that week!

- April is National Poetry Month. Come in and check out books by famous poets such as Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, Edgar Allan Poe and Maya Angelou. If you're feeling creative, try the writing exercises in "You Can Write Poetry" by Jeff Mock. Who knows, you may become the next William Shakespeare!
- Young Adult Events
 - 4/8 Peep Art: Come in and make some yummy spring art!
 - 4/15 DIY Pop-Up Books: Make your own colorful and fun pop-up book!
 - All events start at 3:00 p.m.

Your Columbus Public Library

Check out our expanded digital magazine collection! We joined the Central Nebraska Digital Co-op (a group of libraries purchasing digital resources together) this month, giving you access to 140 digital magazines. Download the free Zinio for Libraries app on your smartphone or tablet, and sign up by following the Zinio Magazines link on the Digital Library page of our website: www.columbusne.us/digitallibrary.



Connecting Readers & Writers

Our CPL Book Discussion Group selection for April is "In The Woods" by Tana French. It is an enthralling mystery set in Dublin, centering on the murder of a young girl, and the similarities between that crime and the disappearance of two children 20 years before. We will have our book discussion on Thursday, April 30th at 7:00 p.m.

Happy Birthday to these authors:

Hans Christian Anderson– April 2, 1805

Maya Angelou– April 4, 1928

Robert Bloch– April 5, 1917

Beverly Cleary– April 12, 1916

Tom Clancy– April 12, 1947