



# Holyoke Public Library

~ A LIBRARY IN A PARK ~

Summer 2013

[www.holyokelibrary.org](http://www.holyokelibrary.org)

## Library Construction Update



The latest news on the renovation and expansion of the Holyoke Public Library is all positive. We are currently in the final stage of completion. As we enter this final phase of construction, PROGRESS is highly

visible no matter where you look – inside and out.

Anyone who drives past the building’s Chestnut Street façade after dark, will be dazzled by a gleaming glass enclosed beacon of light, a brilliant addition to the neighborhood as well as a signal that points the way to the many reports we are hearing of planned construction and revitalization that is still to come, for the area.

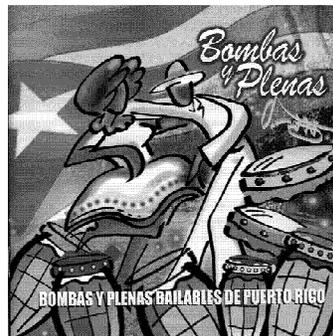
Amazing progress has also taken place on the exterior, including the landscaping of the areas immediately surrounding the building. Site work has included the installation of granite curbing, new sidewalks, necessary roadwork, and handicapped access areas. With the completion of major site work, work crews have moved across Chestnut Street to complete work on the parking lot, where site lighting, parking and landscaping have already been completed. Once all of the work on the building and grounds is completed, the final look is certain to be spectacular!



The completion of the project and our actual move into the building is not that far off at this time. It is a day that the entire city has been waiting for and a day that will be treasured and long remembered by

everyone involved.

## Save the Date



November 16th at the War Memorial — “Noche de Plena: A Night of Music and Dancing” — with Johnny Olivo Jr. con su Herencia de Plena and directly from Puerto Rico, his father with his group Los Pleneros del Quinto Olivo.

December 7th at City Hall Auditorium — “Rulé Candela on Main Street” with Yoruba 2 presenting two major genres of Afro-Rican music — Bomba y Plena — and William Cepeda with Afro-Rican Jazz.



## September Library Card Sign-up Month

September is Library Card Sign-up Month - a time when libraries across the country join the American Library Association (ALA) and the Public Library Association (PLA) to remind parents that along with the lunch and bus tickets, a library card is an important item in your children’s school backpacks.

Remember, learning begins in the home. You are your child’s first and most important teacher. If your children do not have library cards in their school backpacks, stop by the Holyoke Public Library and sign them up for their own library cards this week.



# New Renovated and Expanded Library Floor Plan

## Our Staff

Library Director  
Maria Pagan

Assistant Director  
Carla Wessels

Reference Librarians  
Michael Baron & Cheryl Livengood

Computer Coordinator  
Jose Borges

Children's Librarians  
Jason LeFebvre & Nathan Hayes

Financial Manager  
R. Andrew Parker

Financial Manager Assistant  
Florence Stefancik

Technical Service/Acquisition  
Linda Kurowski

Technical Service/Cataloger  
Martha Olver

Technical Service/Data Entry  
Meg Haley

Library Assistants/ILL  
Lucy Diaz, Anne Gorman, Jane Frankel & Katherine Bowers

Evening Library Assistant  
Mayra Rivera

Custodians  
Mark Gadbury & Tom Keeler

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Vice President  
Ellen Moriarty

Co-Treasurers  
Tom Schwab & George Mettey

Clerk  
Jeremy Smith

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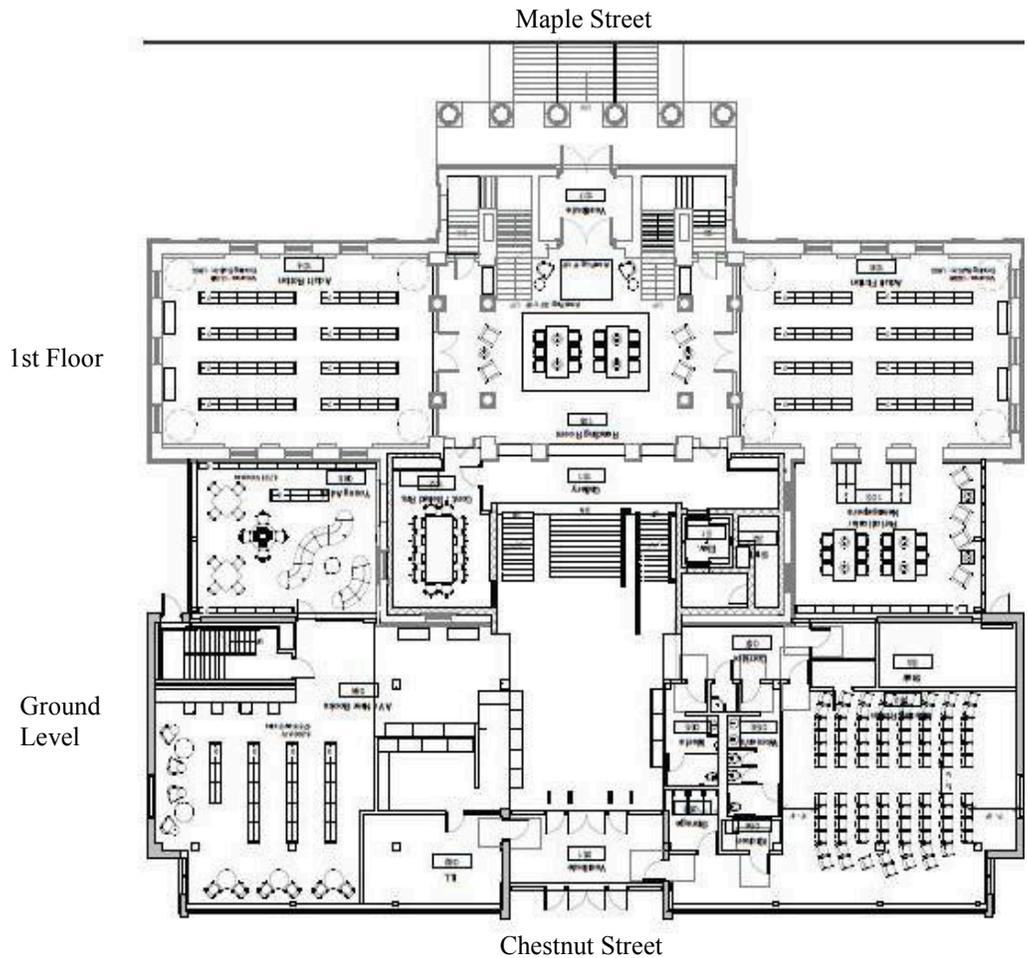
Susan Carey  
Manuel Frau-Ramos  
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Maritza Martinez  
Shauna Hickey  
Bellamy Schmidt  
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Thomas Hazen  
Patrick Lavelle  
Tom Schwab

## Newsletter Editor

Walter Haggerty



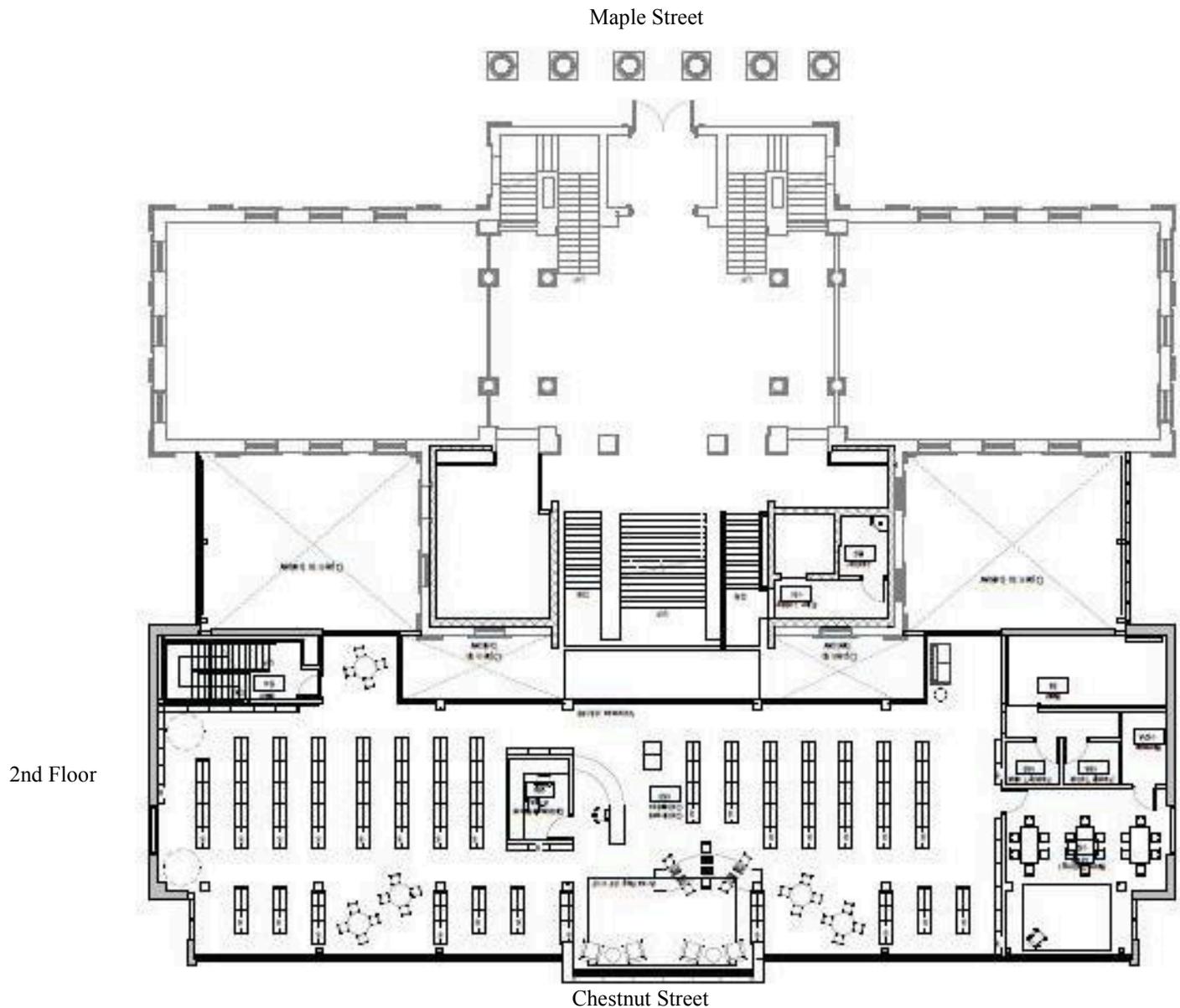
**Ground Level** – New front entrance on Chestnut Street (250 Chestnut Street) As you enter the first set of doors to the library, on the right you will find the Community Meeting Room and on the left is the Intelligent Return System (Book Return or Book Drop).

Through the second set of doors is the Information Desk on your left and Self Check Out units on the right.

Pass the Information Desk, on the right are the public restrooms and elevator. On the left, are the new Young Adult (Teens) Area and the Browsing Area (New Books and Audio-Visual – Recorded Books, CDs, DVDs)

Up the stairs (half flight up to original **1<sup>st</sup> Floor**) you will find a new reading area (where circulation desk used to be) under new skylights. To the left is the new Library Board Conference Room and the Adult Fiction Collection. To the right are the Large Print, Paperbacks, Classics and Spanish Collections, and the new Magazines & Newspaper Room (The Ernie Ross Periodical Room).

The original wooden staircases on the **1<sup>st</sup> Floor**, will take you to the **3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**, where you will find the new Computer Room and the Holyoke History Room.

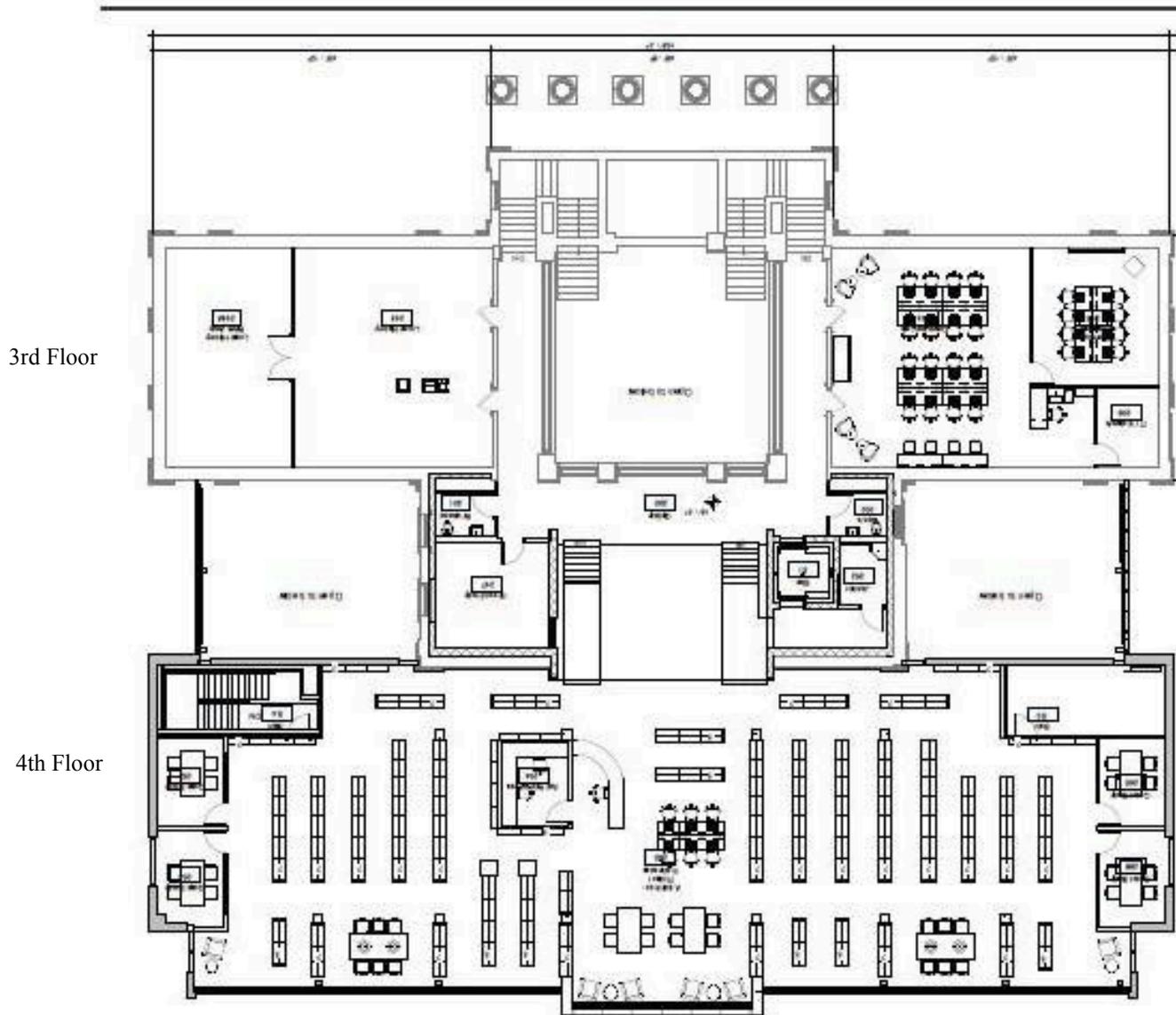


From the original **1<sup>st</sup> Floor**, going up a half flight on the new staircases towards the new portion of the building, you will enter the Children's Room, **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**.

Once in the Children's Room, you will find sections dedicated to different age groups from Toddlers (with the Board Book Collection and games) to Sixth Graders (with Chapter Books and Reference Collections). On the left you will see the Children's Activities Room and Family Restrooms. In the middle are the Computers for Children.

Going down the original wooden staircases, will bring you back to the new reading area on the **1<sup>st</sup> Floor**.

Maple Street



Chestnut Street

Once you are out of the Children’s Room, half flight up towards the original building, you will find a new small Conference Room, the Holyoke History Room and the new Computer Room with Classroom, **3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**.

From the Children’s Room, **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**, going up a half flight towards the new portion of the building, will take you to the Reference and Adult Nonfiction Room – the highest portion of the Library, **4<sup>th</sup> Floor**. Here you will find four new Quiet Study Rooms, two at each end of the room.

In the Basement Level of the original building are the Offices, Technical Services, Historical Collection Compact Shelves, Staff Room, Staff Restrooms, Custodian Area, Storage and the Mechanical, Electrical & Network Rooms.



## A LIBRARY FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY: HOLYOKE PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING

In a few weeks local residents will be able to enjoy the advantages of the newest library in the Commonwealth with the opening of the renovated and expanded Holyoke Public Library.

The renovated portion of the Library, with approximately 18,612 square feet, is complimented by the spectacular expansion which provides an additional 19,064 square feet, for a total of 37,676 square feet of dedicated, usable, functional space including public areas, staff workrooms, offices, conference rooms and essential space for electronics and other mechanical requirements.

The entire building has been designed and constructed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, meet the latest ADA requirements, exceed the goal of attaining LEED certification, and meet or surpass Green Building Guidelines.

The goal for the Library project has been to provide a healthy, safe, comfortable and welcoming environment for patrons and employees, while at the same time, being flexible enough to adapt to and incorporate future changes and new opportunities for service.

### PROFILE OF A 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY LIBRARY

The following information is intended as a brief introduction of what you will find in YOUR new Holyoke Public Library.

**A FLEXIBLE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT** for patrons and staff.

**HVAC SYSTEMS** designed to provide superior heating and cooling, as well as humidity and air flow controls that exceed ASHRAE requirements.

**EFFICIENT LIGHTING** incorporating sensors that harvest daylight and reduce the need for artificial lighting by at least 25%.

**SUSTAINABILITY** – design and construction has taken into account long term and life cycle issues in making the project a showcase and benchmark for future projects.

**MAINTENANCE** - All systems have been planned for lowest possible life cycle costs.

**WATER EFFICIENCY** – Designed to reduce water usage by a minimum of 30%.

**MEETING ROOMS** – Meeting and Conference Rooms for groups of ten to 100 are equipped with occupancy sensors, for lighting and CO2 sensors for ventilation. The largest meeting room also has a separate “After Hours” entrance.

**QUIET STUDY ROOMS** – These rooms have been provided for concentrated research or other study requirements.

**OFFICES AND WORK SPACE** – Work areas are open, however privacy and/or interview areas have also been included.

**COLLECTION** - Space has been provided to accommodate the Library’s current collection with allowances made for a 20-year growth projection.

**PUBLIC SPACE** – The new Library has generous public space throughout the building with many comfortable reading areas, research space, computer labs, etc.

**CHILDREN’S ROOM** – A generous Children’s Room has been designed with separate areas for story hours, crafts, games and a greatly enlarged collection of children’s reading materials.

**REFERENCE** –The reference area has its own reference desk, an enlarged collection of reference materials, and space for patrons to pursue research on their own projects.

**PERIODICAL ROOM** – Patrons will find an enlarged collection of the latest magazines as well as a selection of daily and weekly newspapers in the new Ernie Ross Memorial Room.

**YOUNG ADULT AREA** – A separate room has been created to meet the special needs and interests of teen agers and other young adults.

**INFORMATION DESK** – The new Information Desk has been designed to allow for electronic processing of books, CDs, DVDs and other materials by traditional processing or convenient “Self Checkout”.

## From the Mayor's Desk



On Thursday, September 5, 2013, the Holyoke Public Library lost one of its key employees and dear friend. Jose "Jay" Borges passed away while visiting family and friends in Puerto Rico.

Many knew Jay as the library's IT person. Few knew of his many talents.

Jay had his own music group, Kultura Borikua. He sang, played the piano, guitar, and el cuatro. He was a composer, arranger, conductor, free verse poet, decimista, and improviser.

Before coming to Holyoke, Jay worked in radio, as a computer engineer, and as a graphic artist with a major company in Puerto Rico, as well as an EMT. He had his own business in Puerto Rico. He enjoyed rock climbing and exploring caves.

Jay was very knowledgeable and proud of Puerto Rican culture and music and was a very enthusiastic Boricua. He was born in Barrio Espino, de San Lorenzo, where he died surrounded by his family and friends that loved him dearly

Rest in Peace, Jay. You touched many people and will be greatly missed.



As the summer winds down and excitement begins to buzz with back-to-school preparations, the City of Holyoke also has great reason to be excited for this fall. After years of planning, fundraising and construction, the newly renovated Holyoke Public Library will finally be reopened to the public!

These million dollar library renovations will complement the other exciting improvements that are well underway throughout Holyoke's downtown. The ribbon has been cut on Holyoke's first skateboard park down at Pulaski Park, the designs are being drawn for our new passenger rail train station, and construction will begin on the redevelopment of the old Holyoke Catholic High School building within the next year. In just the last two years, my administration has made the revitalization of downtown Holyoke one of its top priorities, and I am proud of the significant advances we've made in such a short amount of time.

The opening of the library is timely, as young students across our city return to school. This beautiful new facility will provide a place for these children, their families, and surrounding communities to enjoy and use the many resources our library has to offer. We have enjoyed having the company of the library and its patrons upstairs in City Hall during construction, and I am appreciative to the staff of the library for their hard work and patience during this period of transition.

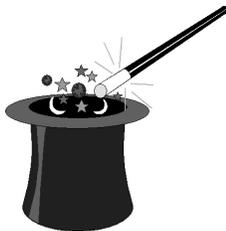
I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation to the countless volunteers, committee members, board members, and city officials and employees who have helped make this possible. Through your tireless efforts, generous donations, and your love for the City of Holyoke, you helped make this dream a reality. Your contributions, however large or small, will impact future generations of library visitors for years to come.

Sincerely,  
Mayor Alex Morse



## SUPER SPECIAL SATURDAYS PROGRAM TO LAUNCH NEW CHILDREN'S ROOM

A magical series of special events for children will highlight the Library's "Super Special Saturdays" program planned by the staff of the Library's Children's Department to commemorate the completion of our spectacular new Library building. Starting Saturday, October 5, the Library will host a series of programs with a strong focus on magic. Each Saturday, at 1:00 PM, a different guest performer will present a new and different program.



Opening the series will be Magician Ed Popielarczyk on October 5. The following Saturday, October 12, Greg McAdams and his dog Axel will offer a "Save Halloween" presentation. October 19 has been reserved for "Marvelous Marv's Science Show," and on October 26, the Pumpernickel Puppets will present their latest fun-filled show "Sir George and the Dragon."

On November 2, the audience will see bubbles in a new light as Jeff Boyer presents his unique Bubble Show. The final presentation in the series will be "A Magical Afternoon" with magician, Scott Jameson.

The Children's Department has also arranged for several other exciting "Super Special Saturdays" programs. Saturday, November 16, the library will present artist Paul Merklein in two programs. The first is entitled "Super Hero's for Kids and Families" at 10:30 AM. In the second program, scheduled for 1:00 PM, Mr. Merklein will teach youngsters how to draw "Super Hero's for Teens and Tweens."

Other events, planned for December, include "Rae Griffiths' Animal Program" at 1:00 PM on December 7, and on December 14, "Folktales" with Eshu Bumpus is scheduled at 1:00 PM. On December 21, artist Paul Merklein will return for two special events; "Holiday Drawing" at 10:30 AM, and a "Banned Books for Teens and Tweens" presentation at 1:00 PM.

All of these programs are being presented free of charge. Advance reservations are strongly recommended as capacity is limited. Registrations can be made by calling either Children's Librarian, Nathan Hayes or Jason LeFebvre, at 413-322-5640, or by registering in person at the library.

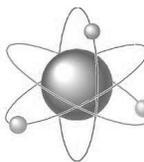


## "MAD SCIENCE" PROGRAM ANNOUNCED FOR NEW HOLYOKE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Maria G. Pagan, Director of the Holyoke Public Library, has announced that the first program to be offered in the Library's new Children's Room will be a six-week "Mad Science" presentation designed to be both entertaining and informative in its appeal to the Library's youngest patrons. The program will begin on Thursday October 10, and will run for six weeks on Thursday afternoons at 4:00 PM. Each week's program will run approximately one hour. This program has been created specifically for youngsters in the kindergarten through sixth grade age group, and will provide them with an opportunity to learn and create safe and exciting, fun-themed science experiments.



Enrollment in the "Mad Science" program is free and all materials will be provided by the library without charge. Due to space limitations, the program will be strictly limited to the first 25 participants who register in advance. Children (or their parents) can register by calling 413-322-5640 and asking for Jason LeFebvre or Nathan Hayes, our Children's Librarians, or by visiting the library in its temporary quarters at Holyoke City Hall Auditorium.

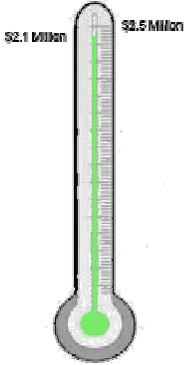


## In Memoriam – Michael E. Allen

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, Holyoke Public Library lost a very dear Friend with the passing of "Mike" Everett Allen, Fontaine Brothers Construction Supervisor on the renovation and expansion project for the city's new Library. Mike was a thorough professional who demonstrated a sincere and profound passion for our Library project. Until the sudden illness with which he was stricken, Mike was on the job every day, overseeing every phase of construction, supervising the preservation of key elements that were to be retained from the original building, and thoroughly dedicating himself to the success of the project. Under his direction the Holyoke Public Library project has moved steadily forward, creating a new gem on the city's landscape. Through Mike's efforts the building project is ahead of schedule and on budget. Those of us who had the opportunity to meet and know Mike, through the Library project, were indeed fortunate. He will be greatly missed by all of us as well as his family, associates and many friends.

## Capital Campaign Update: Join the Team!

### Capital Campaign Progress



Over the next few months the *Next 100 Years* Capital Campaign will be finalizing lists for donor plaques to be mounted in the new library. Every donor who gives \$1,000 or more (over a five year pledge period) will be publicly recognized in the new building. Put another way, if your charitable giving plans allow you to give \$200 or more a year (for five

years) to the Holyoke Public Library, your name will be etched, in perpetuity, on a plaque that will be prominently displayed for generations to see.

In addition to being recognized on a group plaque, all those who give \$1,000 or more can choose a specific "naming opportunity" to honor their family, business or loved one. This includes a name plaque on the back of one of the wooden chairs in the newly restored History

Room (\$1,500), or on a regular adult straight chair (\$1,000); a seating area (\$10,000) or one of the illuminated benches (made from glass from the old stack wing floors) that will line the approach to the new entrance (\$5,000), among other options.

To date, over 400 donors have given to the capital campaign, raising over \$2.1 million of the \$2.5 million we have pledged to raise toward the new building. We hope you will consider being part of that number.

For more information on donor opportunities (including bequests and planned giving) please contact the campaign office at [hplcampaign@gmail.com](mailto:hplcampaign@gmail.com) or 413-322-5636 .

### Please note...

This will be the last printed edition of our newsletter. If you would like to continue to receive the newsletter by email, please send your request to [library@holyoke.org](mailto:library@holyoke.org).



Hours of Operation  
(413) 322-5640  
September - May  
Monday thru Thursday  
8:30 am - 8:30 pm  
Friday and Saturday  
8:30 am - 4:00 pm  
June - August  
Monday thru Wednesday  
8:30 am - 6:00 pm  
Thursday and Friday  
8:30 am - 5:00 pm  
Historical Collection at HCC  
Call for hours  
(413) 552-2842

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