In 1903, a $200,000 gift from industrialist Andrew Carnegie provided the funding for Main Library, which opened to the public in 1907.

After a major renovation in 2016, Main Library continues to be a cornerstone of our community that inspires reading and connects people.

CHECK IT OUT

Children’s
Our space is designed to help your child become a better reader and offers:

• Story Circle featuring innovative programs for children and families
• Ready for Kindergarten area to help preschoolers and their families learn about kindergarten classrooms
• Early reader area with reading practice for K-3 students during Reading Buddies
• Homework Help Center where K-12 students can get after-school assistance
• Teen area on the 2nd Floor for 12-17 year olds to hang out and study, along with a YouMedia Lab that connects teens with staff mentors and technology

Technology
Main Library connects customers with technology, offering:

• Free wireless access
• Public computers throughout the building
• Tablets and interactive touch screen monitors with learning apps for kids
• Interactive Discovery Boards that help customers learn about and navigate the library

Visit Carnegie’s Cafe and our Friends of the Library Store on the 1st floor.

Local History & Genealogy
In our 3rd floor space you’ll find:

• 70,000 books and materials, plus military rosters, vital records and special collections
• A Digital Lab where customers can watch as staff scan materials into our digital collection found at columbuslibrary.org/myhistory
• A Discovery Board that highlights recently digitized items, historic Columbus neighborhoods and more; ask a staff member how to contribute to our digital collections

Art
Main Library is home to some inspiring art, including:

• Spectacular pieces by artists Virginia Overton (commissioned to celebrate the 2016 renovation), Elizabeth Emery, Denny Griffith, Ann Hamilton and Aminah Robinson
• Exhibition shows in our 2nd floor Carnegie Gallery sponsored by the Friends of the Library that showcase local galleries and artists

Books
Books are at the center of everything we do, and Main Library has a great collection that includes:

• High-interest books for adults and children (see map on back for specific collections)
• A “Quick Pick” collection that allows walk-in customers to check out some of the hottest new titles without waiting
1ST FLOOR
- Grand Atrium
- Customer Service and Checkout
- Express Computers
- Reserves
- Homework Help
- Celebration of Learning Gallery
- Children’s
- Auditorium
- Meeting Rooms
- Friends of the Library Store
- Carnegie’s Cafe
- Park Plaza Entrance

2ND FLOOR
- Public Computers
- CCTV Magnifier
- Fiction, Movies and Music
- Newspapers and Magazines
- Reading Room
- Teens/YouMedia
- CML History Room
- Carnegie Room
- Carnegie Gallery
- Study Rooms
- Learning Lab

3RD FLOOR
- Reference
- Nonfiction
- Meeting Rooms
- Local History & Genealogy
- Digital Lab
- Franklin County Genealogical & Historical Society

HOURS:
Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
Friday & Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sunday, 1-5 p.m.
(Park Plaza closes at 11 p.m.)