BUILDING LIBRARIES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY
LIBRARIES ARE BEACONS OF HOPE, OPPORTUNITY AND PROGRESS.

THEY ARE DEMOCRACY’S BEST KEPT PROMISE TO PROVIDE EQUAL ACCESS TO BOOKS, TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION TO ALL WHO WALK THROUGH THEIR DOORS.
WE DELIVER ON THAT PROMISE EVERY DAY.

BUT WE STRIVE FOR MORE.
ASPIRATIONAL BUILDING PROGRAM

1 MAIN LIBRARY

$137 MILLION BUDGET

9 BRANCHES

$27 MILLION IN FUNDS RAISED
On July 30, 2013, we broke ground on our new Driving Park Branch and launched Phase I of our aspirational building program.

On June 6, 2019, we opened the doors to our new Dublin Branch and closed the book on Phase I, whose chapters are stunning stories of neighborhood revitalization and transformed libraries in the Driving Park, Whitehall, Parsons, Main Library, Northern Lights, Shepard, Northside, Hilliard, Martin Luther King and Dublin communities.

New buildings alone don’t make us one of the best libraries in the country, but they provide the updated infrastructure that allows our incredible staff to raise the bar on the work they do that impacts the lives of our customers in the communities we serve.

We’re proud of the work we do. We build libraries that will not only stand the test of time, but evolve with the ever-changing world in which we live.

We can’t wait to see what the next few years bring. We’re continuing our work in Phase II and will bring new libraries to the Hilltop, Karl Road, Gahanna and Reynoldsburg communities, always looking to the future but remaining rooted in our vision of a thriving community where wisdom prevails.
TOGETHER, WE SUCCEED IN BRINGING TO LIFE LIBRARIES THAT ENERGIZE NEIGHBORHOODS AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE. WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR GREATEST CHAMPIONS.
In partnership with Turner Construction, more than 20 percent of the value of construction contracts were awarded to Minority and Women Business Enterprises, exceeding the goal set by the Library Board of Trustees.
WE IDENTIFIED GUIDING PRINCIPLES TO SHAPE THE DESIGN OF OUR NEW LIBRARIES.
GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF OUR NEW BUILDINGS

**Transparency**  Broad vistas into our buildings will pique curiosity about what happens in the library and draw the public inside.

**Flexibility**  The spaces will have maximum flexibility: few fixed walls and open floor plans for future changes.

**Iconic Design**  A bold design makes our innovative and forward-thinking drive for “a thriving community where wisdom prevails” visible to all.

**Sustainability**  We’ll use sustainable practices and help educate the community on their value.

**Technology**  Technologies are key library services and integrating creative applications is a must-have in our new buildings.

**Innovative Programming**  We’ll partner with community organizations to enhance our offerings to the public.

**Customer Experience**  How do we best meet customer expectations and provide world-class service to world-class customers? It’s what we work on every day.

**Young Minds**  The children of our community are our top priority and our buildings will reflect this commitment.

**Showcase Our Collection**  We’ll bring our collection to the forefront of the customer experience, not hidden in rows of shelves.
The previous Driving Park Branch was 6,000 sq. ft. The new branch is 15,000 sq. ft.
WHITEHALL BRANCH

4445 E. BROAD ST.
Dedicated April 11, 2015

ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN AWARDS

*Merit Award*, American Institute of Architects Columbus | 2015
*Building Award*, American Institute of Architects/American Library Association | 2017
*Honor Award*, American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2017

The previous Whitehall Branch was 7,500 sq. ft. The new branch is 20,000 sq. ft.
The previous Parsons Branch was 7,600 sq. ft. The new branch is 19,000 sq. ft.
MAIN LIBRARY

96 S. GRANT AVE.
Dedicated June 25, 2016

ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN AWARDS
Harrison W. Smith Award, Columbus Downtown Commission | 2016
James B. Recchie Design Award (finalist), Columbus Landmarks Foundation | 2017
SOURCE Award (for lighting), Eaton | 2017

Our transformed Main Library features an inviting Grand Atrium that welcomes our customers in, a reimagined Children’s Area that puts kids front and center, a light and spacious Reading Room overlooking the green space of Topiary Park, plus Meeting Rooms, Study Rooms and lots of open spaces for our community to gather.

It’s a civic centerpiece in the downtown Columbus Discovery District and a vital part of the area’s revitalization.
NORTHERN LIGHTS BRANCH

4093 CLEVELAND AVE.
Dedicated September 24, 2016

DESIGN GROUP

ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN AWARD
Merit Award, American Institute of Architects Columbus | 2018

The previous Northern Lights Branch was 11,900 sq. ft. The new branch is 26,100 sq. ft.
SHEPARD BRANCH

850 N. NELSON RD.
Dedicated October 13, 2016

ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN AWARDS
Merit Award, American Institute of Architects Columbus | 2017
Honor Award, American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2018

The previous Shepard Branch was 6,000 sq. ft. The new branch is 10,000 sq. ft.
The previous Northside Branch was 7,700 sq. ft. The new branch is 24,900 sq. ft.
The previous Hilliard Branch was 20,000 sq. ft. The new branch, which moved into an existing building with interior renovation, is 63,000 sq. ft.
Martin Luther King III, the oldest son of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., helped dedicate our new branch, which features historic photos that rotate and illuminate the night sky.

The previous Martin Luther King Branch was 8,900 sq. ft. The new branch is 18,000 sq. ft.
The previous Dublin Branch was 20,100 sq. ft. The new branch is 41,000 sq. ft.
The Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation led the *Great Libraries Create* campaign, an effort to raise $20 million to support the transformation of 10 Columbus Metropolitan Library locations.

The *Great Libraries Create* campaign exceeded its goal and raised $22 million. The Foundation also led campaigns that raised additional funds for the Martin Luther King and Dublin branches.

In all, corporate and community philanthropy helped the Foundation raise $27 million to help Columbus Metropolitan Library bring these 21st century libraries and civic centerpieces to grateful communities.

The City of Hilliard gifted Columbus Metropolitan Library with the $6 million building that is now our new Hilliard Branch, and also gave $250,000 to support the renovation. We’re grateful to Mayor Don Schonhardt and the Hilliard City Council for their generous support.
The **Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation** is grateful for the generous support of those who gave us their time and expertise.

**Great Libraries Create Campaign Steering Committee**
- John Lowe, Co-Chair
- Kathryne Reeves, Co-Chair
- Corde Westwater Robinson, Co-Chair
- Cathy Strauss, Co-Chair
- Roger Sugarman, Co-Chair
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- Cynthia Hilsheimer
- Tom Katzenmeyer
- Charlotte Kessler
- Vicki Linville
- Patrick Losinski
- Jonathan Lucas
- Jeffrey Lyttle
- Mark Ryan

**Martin Luther King Branch Advisory Committee**
- Lela Boykin
- Erika Clark Jones
- Tom Dillard
- Sandra Jamison
- Michael Lawson
- Fred Ransier
- Reita Smith
- Bettye Stull
- Catherine Willis
- Ernest Wood, Jr.

**Dublin Branch Capital Campaign Committee**
- Dr. Carol Clinton, Co-Chair
- Cid Rhomberg, Co-Chair
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- Molly Bollie
- Michelle Cramer
- Rob Crane
- Beverly J. Farlow
- Randy Fortener
- Maria Frommeyer
- Keiko Hidaka
- Stephanie Infante
- Megan James
- DeeDee Kunk
- Jim Kunk
- Diane McCoy
- Amy McClure
- Gay Su Pinnell
- Bill Remias
- Connie Ricer
- Tip Rose
- Rick Schwieterman
- Dan Sullivan
- Gwen Weihe
**OUR 23 BUILDINGS HELP US BRING OUR STRATEGIES TO LIFE.**

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<tr>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>YOUNG MINDS</strong>&lt;br&gt;Encourage learning and growth.</td>
<td>A foundation for a successful life.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MY LIBRARY</strong>&lt;br&gt;Anticipate changing customer needs.</td>
<td>A library that works for me.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LIFE SKILLS</strong>&lt;br&gt;Identify challenges and provide opportunities.</td>
<td>A community that reaches its potential.</td>
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Columbus Metropolitan Library serves Franklin County in neighborhoods large and small, urban and suburban, providing programs and services for customers of all ages and from all walks of life. We serve a larger, global community through our website, columbuslibrary.org, and the resources we provide in this ever-changing and evolving digital age. We are open to all, removing barriers to access to information and technology, so our customers can learn, grow and thrive.
OUR VISION: A thriving community where wisdom prevails.

OUR PURPOSE: To inspire reading, share resources and connect people.