

INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES WITH 21ST CENTURY LIBRARIES



Since 1873, Columbus Metropolitan Library has kept a promise to the citizens of Franklin County to be open to all, providing access to information and services vital to our communities.

Each of our library locations is an extension of its community. We adapt, innovate, and become what our customers need to improve their lives.

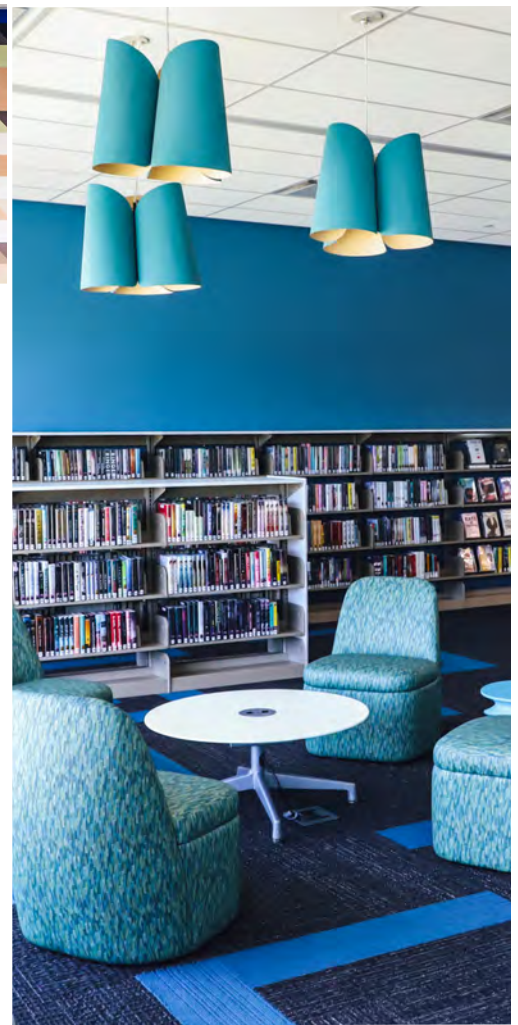




BUILDING 21ST CENTURY LIBRARIES

Since 2014, we've opened new libraries in our Dublin, Driving Park, Gahanna, Hilliard, Hilltop, Karl Road, Main Library, Martin Luther King, Northern Lights, Northside, Parsons, Reynoldsburg, Shepard, and Whitehall communities as part of our aspirational building program.

This work continues in 2025, when we'll bring new libraries to the Barnett, Linden, and Marion-Franklin communities. In 2026, we'll open a new library in the Canal Winchester community. Work is also underway for our 24th library location – West Case Branch, in northwest Columbus.





GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We provided architects with guiding principles to interpret and shape the design of our new community libraries.

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 be purposeful and respectful of best practices.

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.





REINVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Some of our reimagined libraries are now more than 10 years old. In that time, the world has changed, and our customers' needs have changed as well. We continue to invest in our buildings to adapt to those needs and maintain the quality of our buildings. We have also made updates to our Franklinton, New Albany, Southeast, South High, and Whetstone branches, which aren't currently a part of the building program.



BARNETT BRANCH

3434 E. LIVINGSTON AVE.

Scheduled to open late in 2025, the branch is undergoing a complete renovation and nearly doubling in size. New features include all new furniture, three large meeting rooms, four study rooms, a Learning Center, a recording studio, and dedicated areas for tweens and teens. The new Teen area will include makers tables, a game room with an Xbox, foosball and air hockey tables, gaming computers, and more. The Children's area will feature a Draw Alive interactive art display, LEGO® DUPLO blocks, a train table, and a large aquarium.



ARCHITECTS:



ARCHITECTURE. INSPIRED.



Thanks to our generous supporters:
Battelle | Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation





CANAL WINCHESTER BRANCH

123 GROVEPORT RD.



After a decade providing library services from the gymnasium of the former Canal Winchester High School building, we are bringing this southeast suburb its first standalone library in 2026. It will feature engaging spaces for children, tweens and teens, plus a Learning Center, public computers, and meeting and study rooms.



ARCHITECTS:

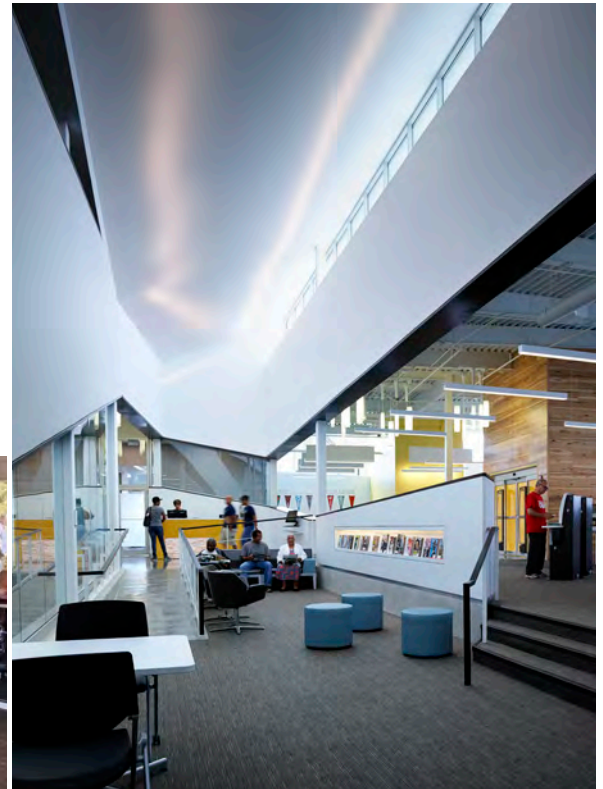


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Battelle

DRIVING PARK BRANCH

1422 E. LIVINGSTON AVE.

Ten years after opening in 2014, we refreshed several areas in 2024. We added new lounge furniture, including a makers table, shelving, LEGO® DUPLO blocks and magnetic ball wall to the Children's area. We added new furniture, shelving, and a graphic wallcovering to the Teen area. We replaced the customer service desk and reconfigured our public computer area to include a business center for printing, scanning, faxing, and more.



ARCHITECT:
nbbj

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

- *Merit Award*, American Institute of Architects Columbus | 2014
- *Honor Award*, American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2015
- *James B. Recchie Design Award*, Columbus Landmarks Foundation | 2015
- *Innovations Award*, Contract Magazine | 2015

Thanks to our generous supporters:

American Electric Power Foundation | Battelle | Huntington | L Brands Foundation |
Nationwide Foundation | The Robert F. Wolfe and Edgar T. Wolfe Foundation | Scotts |
Siemer Family Foundation



DUBLIN BRANCH

75 N. HIGH ST.



This modern two-story library opened in 2019, and we continue to reinvest. In 2022, we added interactive air tubes to the Children's area. They've been a huge hit.



ARCHITECT:
nbbj

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

- **Design Award Honorable Mention**, American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2019
- **Columbus Interior Design Award - Public/Civic**, International Interior Design Association Columbus | 2019
- **Merit Award**, American Institute of Architects Columbus | 2019
- **Honor Award**, American Society of Landscape Architects | 2020
- **Achievement Award**, American Council of Engineering Companies | 2021

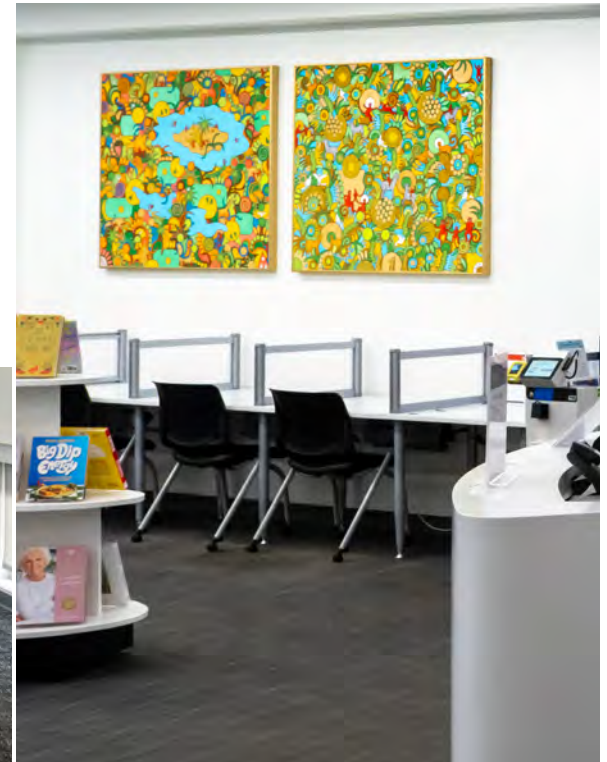
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Huntington | IGS | KeyBank | L Brands Foundation | Nationwide Foundation |
The Robert F. Wolfe and Edgar T. Wolfe Foundation | Scotts | Siemer Family Foundation

FRANKLINTON BRANCH

1061 W. TOWN ST.

This branch, located just west of downtown, opened in 1995. In 2019, we installed new carpet, new furniture, a new customer service desk, a new Teen area with computers, and more. In 2026, we're refreshing our Children's and Teen areas, adding makers tables, interactive toys, gaming areas, and expanded space for programs.



ARCHITECT:



Moody Nolan

Thanks to our generous supporters:
Battelle



GAHANNA BRANCH

310 GRANVILLE ST.

Opened on Columbus Metropolitan Library's 150th birthday in 2023, the two-story Gahanna Branch features an interactive Children's area, dedicated spaces for tweens and teens, three large meeting rooms and nine study rooms. Commissioned works of public art complement an iconic 21st century library.



ARCHITECT:
nbbj

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

- *Best Neighborhood Impact Honoree*, Columbus Business First Building Columbus Awards | 2023
- *People's Choice*, American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2023

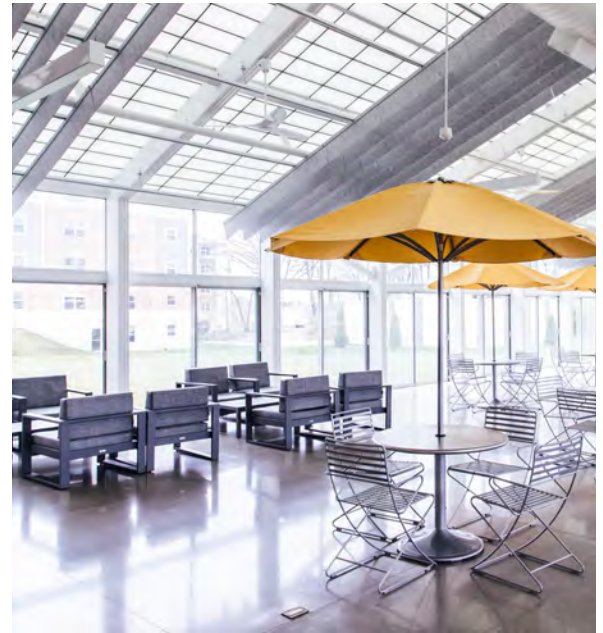
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HILLIARD BRANCH

4500 HICKORY CHASE WAY

Built within the two-story clubhouse of a never-completed senior living facility, this library opened in 2018 and provides ample room for a rapidly growing westside community. It features interactive spaces for children, tweens and teens, three large meeting rooms, 11 study rooms, a café, and a sunlit reading pavilion. In 2023, we renovated a portion of the Children's area to create a motor skills space for toddlers. In 2024, we enhanced the Teen area with makers tables, a gaming center, and more. And in 2025, we're redesigning the pavilion with new furniture, a built-in sound system, and a large area rug to better accommodate children's programs, concerts, and events.



ARCHITECT:



ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

• *Reconstruction Award*, Building Design+Construction | 2019

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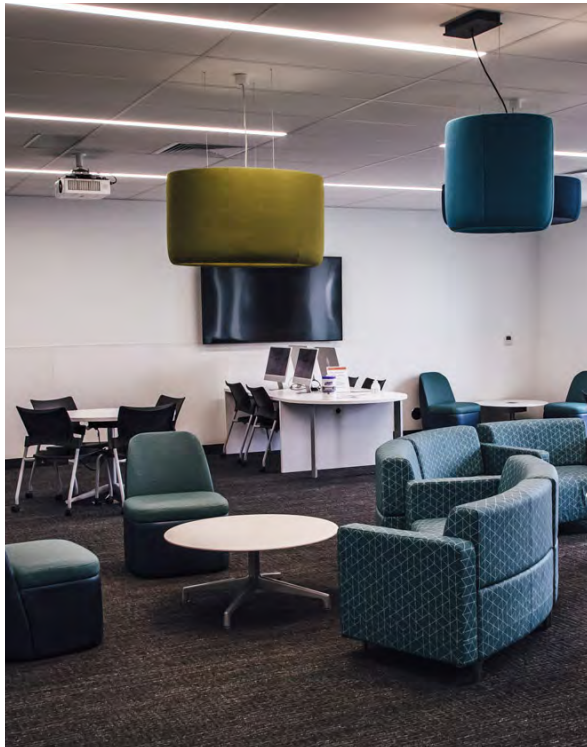
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HILLTOP BRANCH

511 S. HAGUE AVE.

The branch was completely renovated in 2021 and expanded by more than 12,000 square feet to meet the needs of the community. Features include a large, interactive Children's area, as well as dedicated spaces for tweens and teens, four large meeting rooms, two conference rooms, six study rooms, a spacious quiet room, and more.



ARCHITECT:



ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

- *Award of Merit: Restoration and Renovation*, American Institute of Architects Tennessee | 2023
- *Building Award*, American Institute of Architects/American Library Association | 2025

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The Columbus Foundation | CoverMyMeds | Encova Insurance | The Estate of Virginia M. Ritchey |
Lisal and Don Gorman | Ingram White Castle Foundation | Nationwide Foundation | PNC |
Paul Smith | The Reinberger Foundation | Wolfe Associates Fund

KARL ROAD BRANCH

5590 KARL RD.

The two-story branch, opened in 2021, features a large, interactive Children's area, as well as dedicated spaces for tweens and teens, three large meeting rooms, two conference rooms, 10 study rooms, a spacious quiet room, and more. In 2024, we created a centralized service point on the second floor to better serve our customers.



ARCHITECT:



Moody Nolan

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

• *Honor Award*, American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2022

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Lisal and Don Gorman | Ingram White Castle Foundation | Nationwide Foundation | PNC |
Paul Smith | The Reinberger Foundation | Wolfe Associates Fund



LINDEN BRANCH

2223 CLEVELAND AVE.

The branch is undergoing a complete renovation and more than doubling in size. When it opens in 2025, it will include three large meeting rooms, 10 study rooms, a Learning Center, and a two-story Children's area featuring a Draw Alive interactive art display, LEGO® DUPLO blocks, and more.



ARCHITECT:



Moody Nolan

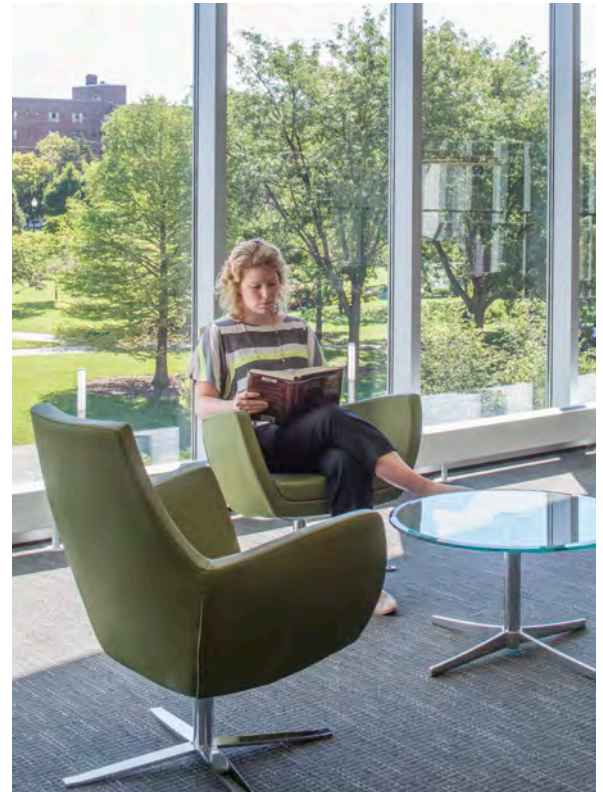
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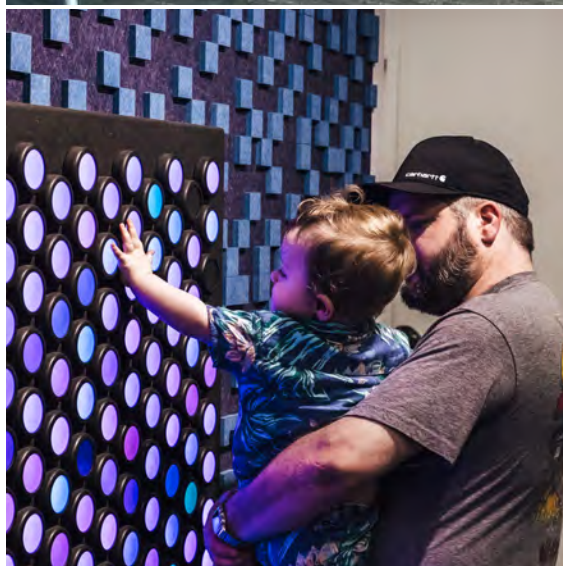
Battelle | Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation | Meta

MAIN LIBRARY

96 S. GRANT AVE.

Columbus Metropolitan Library's flagship location offers three stories of library space. The first major renovation in 25 years took place in 2016 and connected the building to the neighboring Topiary Park, completely reimagined the Children's area, and added a two-story Reading Room. We added many works of public art and preserved two treasured staircase murals by local artist Aminah Robinson. In 2022, we redesigned Main Library's east plaza, naming it Kaufman Plaza and adding more tables, chairs, and shade structures, as well as outdoor games. In 2023, we refreshed the Children's area, adding an Everbright wall and train table, as well as a Draw Alive interactive art display and an activity area filled with toys for motor skill development. Also, in 2023, we unveiled our Business & Nonprofit Resource Center, a dedicated workspace for businesses and nonprofit organizations to pursue their goals.





ARCHITECTS:



ARCHITECTURE. INSPIRED.



GUND PARTNERSHIP

MKSK

ARCHITECTURE & 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
- *James B. Recchie Design Award*, Columbus Landmarks Foundation | 2019
- *Aesthetic Contribution Award*, Discovery District SID | 2022 (for Kaufman Plaza)

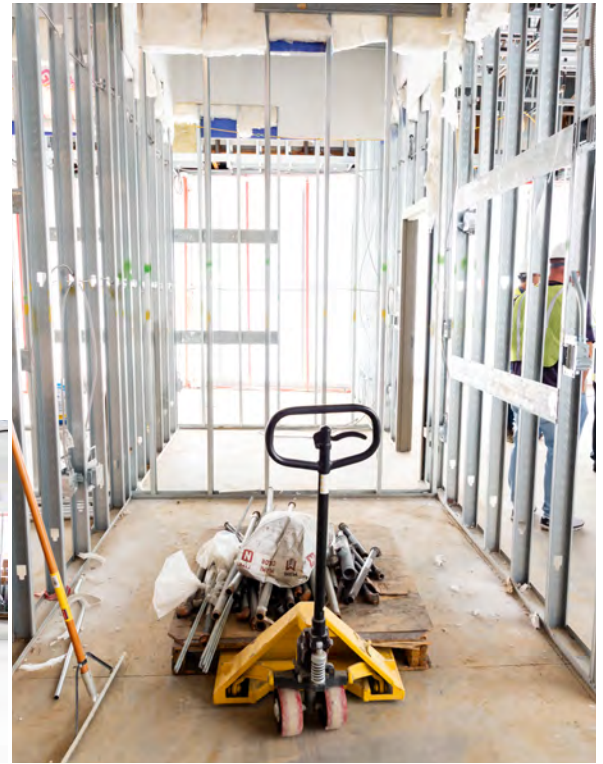
Thanks to our generous supporters:

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MARION-FRANKLIN BRANCH

2800 LOCKBOURNE RD.

After more than a decade providing library services from within a former middle school building, we are bringing this southside neighborhood its first standalone library in 2025. It will feature engaging spaces for children, tweens and teens, plus a Learning Center and public computers. The community can reserve two large meeting rooms, a conference room, and three study rooms.



ARCHITECTS:



ARCHITECTURE. INSPIRED.



ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

- *On the Boards Award* (for interior design), International Interior Design Association/
American Library Association | 2024

Thanks to our generous supporters:

Battelle | Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation



MARTIN LUTHER KING BRANCH

1467 E. LONG ST.



This Near East Side branch opened in 2018 and features dedicated areas for children and teens, a reading porch, public art, and community gathering spaces. Elements inside honor the legacy of Dr. King, for whom the branch is named. In 2024, we added activity tables, a pixel peg wall and gear wall to our Children's area, and new gaming furniture and makers tables to our Teen area.

ARCHITECT:



Moody Nolan

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

- **Merit Award** (for conceptual design), American Institute of Architects Columbus | 2015
- **Honor Award** (for unbuilt projects), American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2018
- **Honor Award**, American Institute of Architects Columbus | 2019
- **Grand Prize**, Architectural Awards, *Learning By Design* | 2020
- **Merit Award**, American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2020
- **Honor Award**, National Organization of Minority Architects | 2020
- **Editors' Pick**, AN Best of Design Awards, *The Architect's Newspaper* | 2020

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NEW ALBANY BRANCH

200 MARKET ST.

New Albany's first standalone branch opened in 2003. In 2021, we completely renovated it with new lighting, furniture, and carpeting, enhanced the Children's and Teen spaces and replaced the customer service desk to create a more welcoming entry.



ARCHITECTS:

THE
COLLABORATIVE
+ACOCK



Moody Nolan

Thanks to our generous supporters:
Battelle



NORTHERN LIGHTS BRANCH

4093 CLEVELAND AVE.

This branch was completely renovated and largely expanded in 2016. In 2024, we enhanced the Children's and Teen areas with new shelving and furniture, as well as makers tables and a teen gaming center.



ARCHITECT:



ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

- *Merit Award*, American Institute of Architects Columbus | 2018
- *Merit Award*, American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2020

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NORTHSIDE BRANCH

1423 N. HIGH ST.

This iconic branch opened in 2017. In 2025, we reinvested with a new customer service desk, computers, and furniture. We added makers tables and interactive toys for children and teens, and reconfigured the layout of the Learning Center.



ARCHITECT:
nbbj

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

- *Honor Award*, American Institute of Architects Columbus | 2017
- *James B. Recchie Design Award* (nominee), Columbus Landmarks Foundation | 2017
- *Library Interior Design Award*, International Interior Design Association/
American Library Association | 2018
- *James B. Recchie Design Award*, Columbus Landmarks Foundation | 2018

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PARSONS BRANCH

1113 PARSONS AVE.



This 21st century library opened in 2016. In 2024, we refreshed the Children's area and completely renovated the teen area, adding makers tables, gaming and more. In 2025, we replaced the customer service desk to create a more welcoming entry.



ARCHITECT:



Moody Nolan

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

- *Design Citation*, National Organization of Minority Architects | 2017
- *James B. Recchie Design Award* (nominee), Columbus Landmarks Foundation | 2017

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REYNOLDSBURG BRANCH

1402 BRICE RD.

The two-story branch opened in 2024 and includes three large meeting rooms, one conference room, 14 study rooms, a Learning Center, and a dynamic Teen area with a recording studio. The large Children's area features an interactive ball wall and projection floor, an Everbright wall and creative playhouse. The Tween area has computers and makers tables.



ARCHITECTS:



JONATHAN BARNES
ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN



GUND PARTNERSHIP



ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

- **Merit Award**, American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2024
- **Best Neighborhood Impact Honoree**, Columbus Business First Building Columbus Awards | 2025

Thanks to our generous supporters:

American Electric Power Foundation | Battelle | Nationwide Foundation



SHEPARD BRANCH

850 N. NELSON RD.

This 21st century library opened in 2016 and features two large meeting rooms, two study rooms, a convenient drive-up window, and interactive Children's and Teen areas.

In 2025, we installed new carpet, brought in new art and added interactive toys to the Children's area, including a train table, pixel peg wall, and more. We reconfigured the Teen area and added computers, gaming, and makers tables.



ARCHITECT:



Moody Nolan

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

- *Merit Award*, American Institute of Architects Columbus | 2017
- *Honor Award*, American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2018

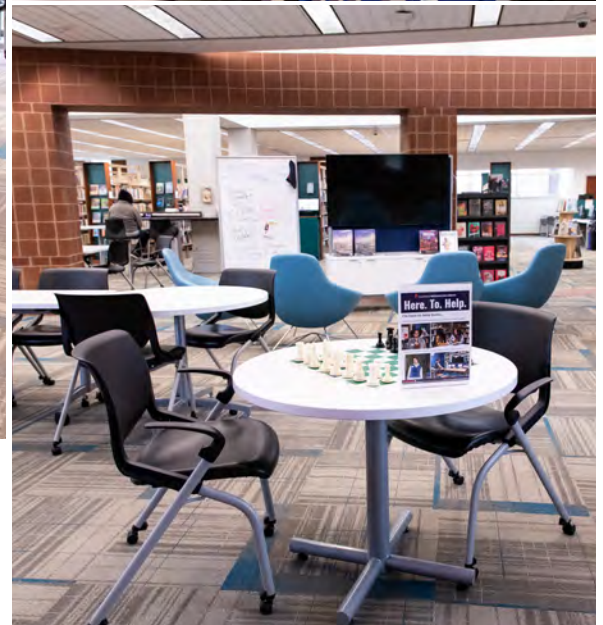
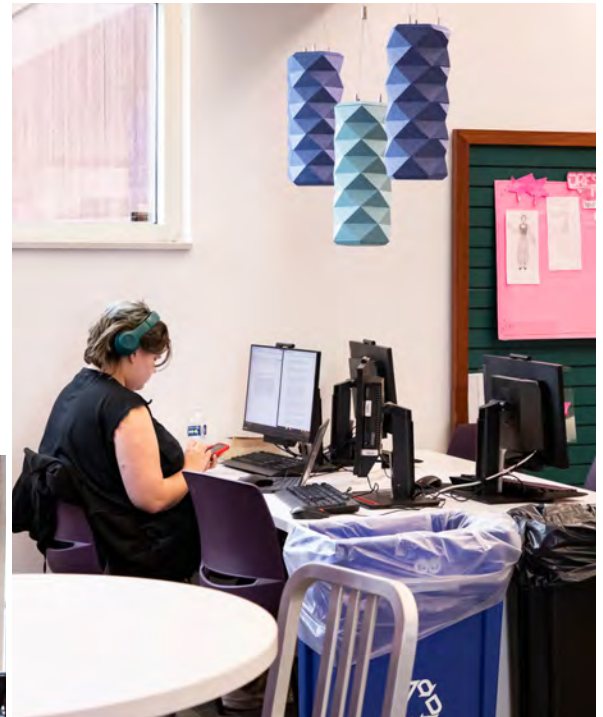
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SOUTH HIGH BRANCH

3540 S. HIGH ST.

This south side branch opened in 1992. We're reinvesting in this branch with a two-phase project that will enhance spaces for children and teens. Phase 1 in 2025 introduced updated computer furniture, makers tables in the Children's area, interactive toys, gross motor play elements, and a dedicated teen gaming zone. Phase 2, with rollout scheduled for 2026, will feature a create space designed for tweens and teens.



ARCHITECT:



Thanks to our generous supporters:
Battelle | Meta





SOUTHEAST BRANCH

3980 S. HAMILTON RD.

This branch opened in 2000. In late 2022, the branch experienced significant flooding and water damage, requiring it to close for a month. Its month-long closure enabled us to replace carpeting and furniture. In 2025, we added new furniture and makers tables to the Tween and Teen areas.



ARCHITECT:



ARCHITECTURE. INSPIRED.

Thanks to our generous supporters:
Battelle

WHETSTONE BRANCH

3909 N. HIGH ST.

This branch opened in 1985. In 2023, we reconfigured our Teen space and expanded it, adding computers, shelving, study pods, and a makers space.



ARCHITECT:



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Battelle | Koehler

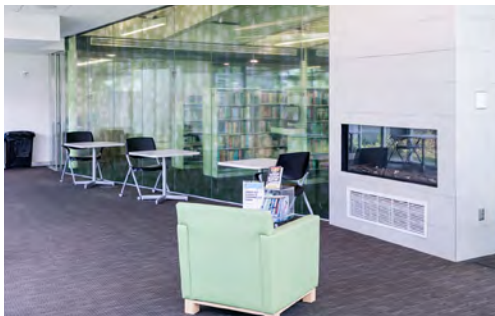


WHITEHALL BRANCH

4445 E. BROAD ST.



We opened this 21st century library in 2015. In 2024, we installed a new customer service desk and refreshed our Children's area with new furniture and shelving, as well as makers tables, a pixel peg wall, LEGO® DUPLO blocks, and more. Additionally, we added a dedicated Tween area with computers, seating, and shelving. The Teen area also received new furniture and shelving. We reconfigured the public computers area and added a business center for printing, scanning, and faxing.



ARCHITECTS:



ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS:

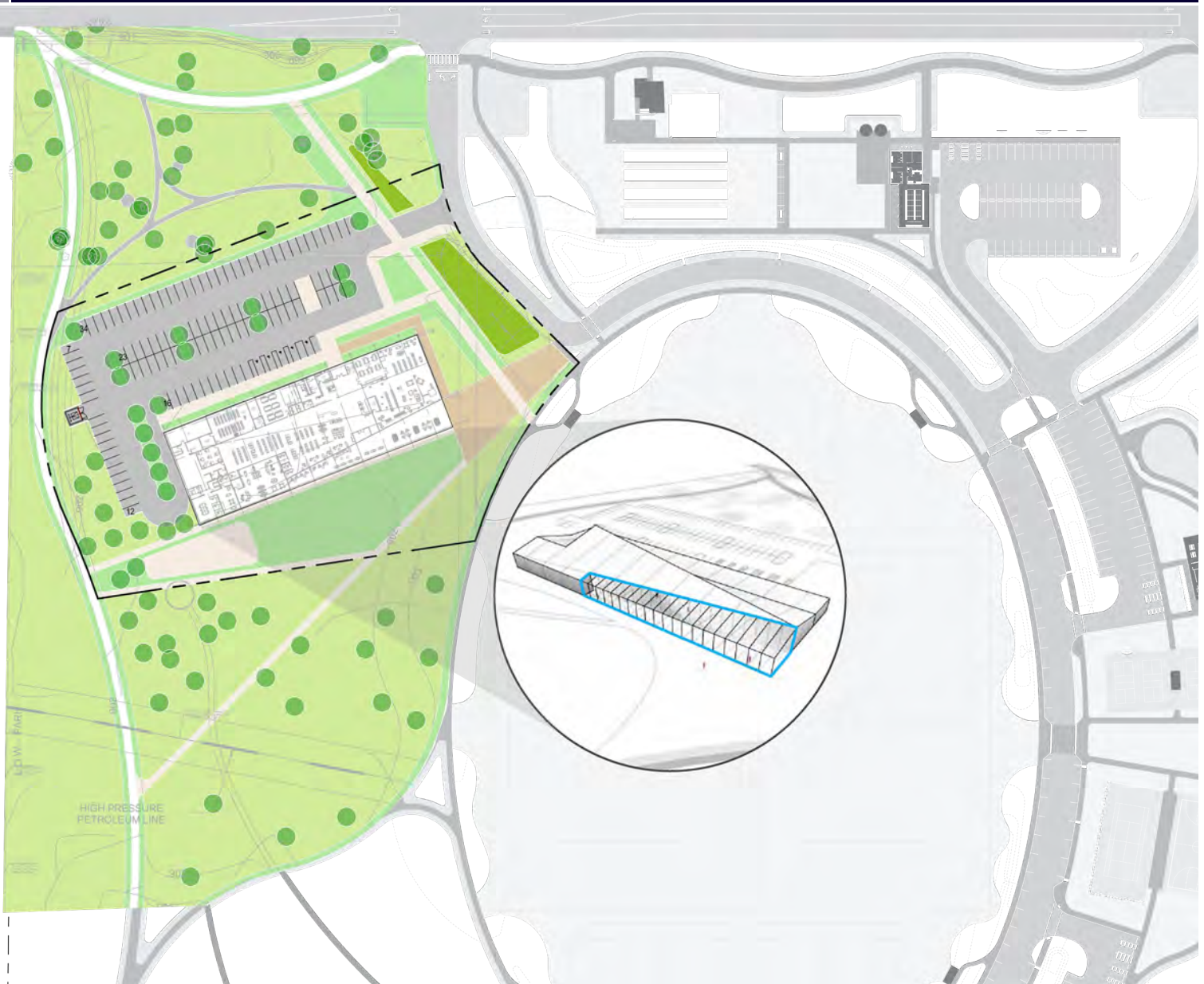
- **Merit Award**, American Institute of Architects Columbus | 2015
- **Building Award**, American Institute of Architects/American Library Association | 2017
- **Honor Award**, American Institute of Architects Ohio | 2017

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Huntington | L Brands Foundation | Nationwide Foundation | PNC | Siemer Family Foundation

WEST CASE BRANCH

WITHIN THE NEWLY PLANNED WEST CASE PARK



We are designing our 24th library location, which will be located on the northwest side within a planned City of Columbus park.

COMING IN 2028

Sq. Ft.: 25,000

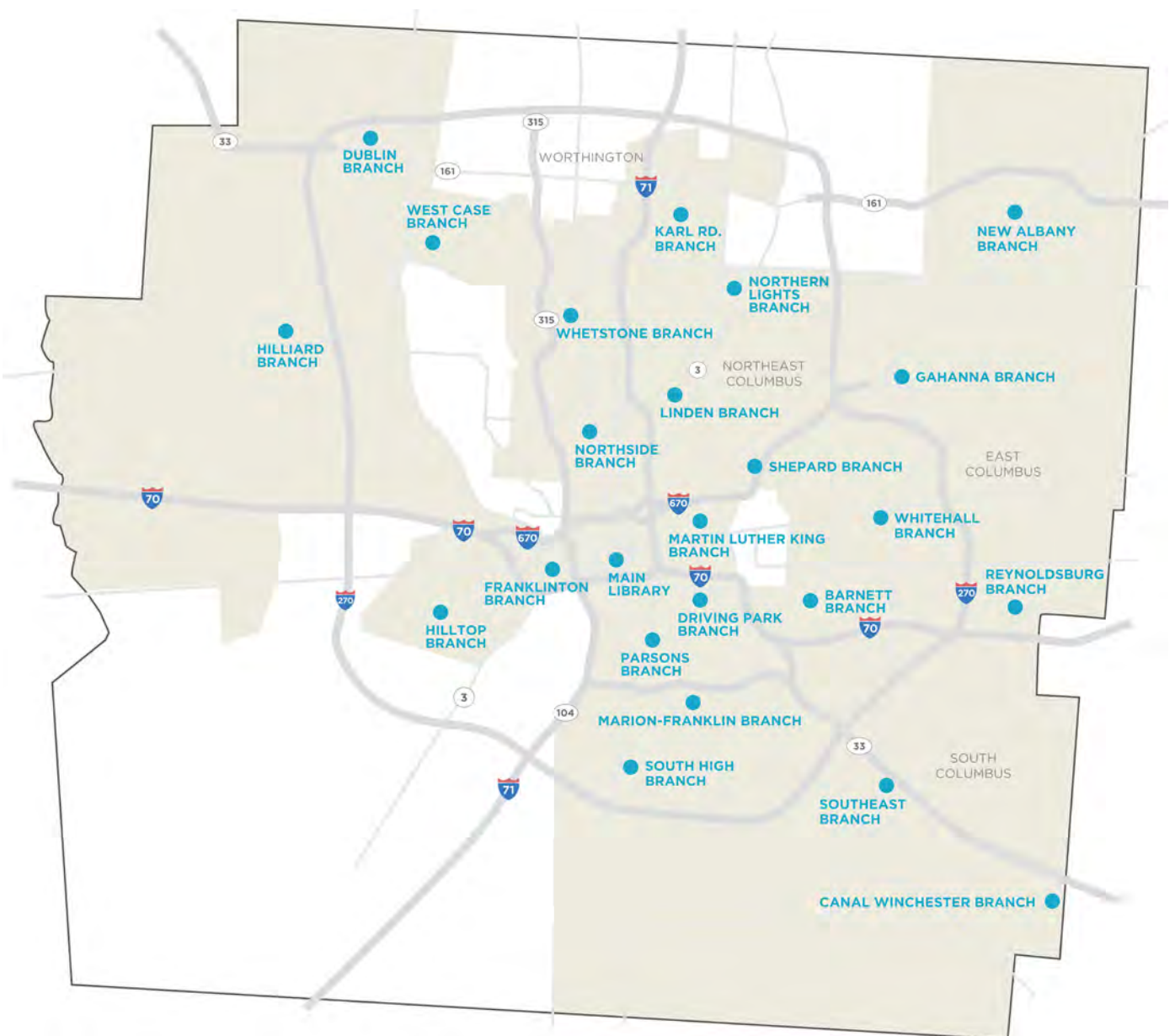
ARCHITECT:

MSRDesign

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Battelle | Koehler

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. We are open to all, removing barriers to access to information and technology, so our customers can learn, grow, and thrive.





columbuslibrary.org