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Tulsa City-County Library Launches Campaign



LIBRARY CAMPAIGNE: Tulsa city officials, community leaders and employees of the Tulsa Regional Chamber recently gathered at the site of Tulsa Central Library, located in downtown Tulsa, for the announcement of the launch of the "Tulsa Central Library Renewed" fundraising campaign.

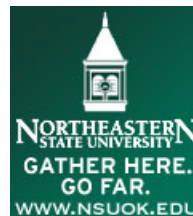
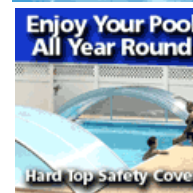
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The Tulsa City-County Library and Tulsa Library Trust announced recently the launch of the public phase of the "Tulsa Central Library Renewed" fundraising campaign, with a goal of raising \$1 million from the Tulsa community. The campaign will renovate Tulsa Central Library into a state-of-the-art, learner-driven, technology-centered facility designed to meet the needs of 21st century visitors.

The overall cost for the renovation of the Central Library will be finalized this summer but is estimated at \$50 million. With a lead gift from The Bezalel Fund/Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, the Tulsa Library Trust has raised \$28 million to date, engaging dozens of corporations, foundations and individuals to help achieve the fundraising goal.

Through prudent stewardship of its funds, Tulsa City-County Library has committed \$15 million toward the capital investment. Additionally, the Tulsa voters approved a capital improvement package that included \$10 million for the Central Library.

"The journey to reconstruct and update Central Library is integral to our community's urban renaissance," says Robert J. LaFortune, Tulsa Central



Library Renewed chairman. "Private donors have generously contributed in a very significant way, but a gap still exists to raise adequate funds needed for construction. Today we ask the citizens of Tulsa to join us in bringing into reality a new Tulsa Central Library."

More than 10,000 people visit Tulsa libraries every day, with 1,100 alone visiting Tulsa Central Library. For the past five decades, Central Library has served as a beacon for the Tulsa City-County Library by providing the support services for the entire system of 25 buildings.

The two-year renovation will enable Central Library to make critical updates to its systems, infrastructure, technology and façade. Once complete, Central Library will be a vibrant, contemporary home in the heart of Tulsa where people can come to access multimedia knowledge and information, first-rate programs, learning and skills-building opportunities, and spaces to convene and collaborate.

The public phase of the fundraising campaign begins now with a goal of raising \$1 million.

There are several ways for Tulsa citizens to contribute to the fundraising campaign.

There will be two fundraising events benefiting "Tulsa Central Library Renewed."

Eat Bread to Raise Dough: June 5, from 4–8 p.m., at two Panera Bread locations (41st and Hudson; 15th and Utica). Bring a flier, available in the library's event guide or printable from www.tulsalibrary.org, and Panera Bread will donate a percentage of its sales to the campaign.

Speakeasy: June 18, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at The Mayo Hotel Penthouse Rooftop Bar and Lounge, 115 W. Fifth St. Provide the password "Library" to enjoy cocktails, canapés, music and dancing. Flappers and lounge lizards are welcome.

Librarium at 11th and Denver will continue to serve library customers during the two-year renovation.

For more information on how you can support the Tulsa Library Trust's "Central Library Renewed Capital Campaign," call Janis Updike Walker, Tulsa Library Trust executive director, 918-398-6644, or email, jwalker@tulsalibrarytrust.org.

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