

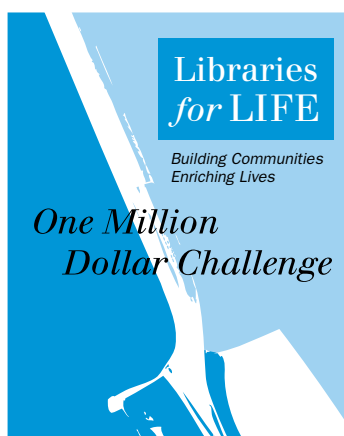
# New Chapter



Summer 2008

## We're Up To The Challenge!

Foundation Issues \$1 Million Capital Campaign Challenge



Responding to a request from Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, the Richard King Mellon Foundation approved a one million dollar challenge grant that will match contributions to the Libraries for LIFE Capital Campaign. *From this point on, almost every campaign gift will count twice as much!*

Known for its philanthropic efforts in support of literacy, the Richard King Mellon Foundation agreed to the challenge grant in order to encourage community members to donate to the capital campaign and support

the libraries that are so vital to Pittsburgh's neighborhoods. Current Libraries for LIFE projects include two new library buildings in the Hill District and North Side and an expansion and renovation of CLP – East Liberty. Opening this October, the library's new Hill District location is the first library to be built in Pittsburgh since 1980.

"The challenge comes at a critical moment in our campaign efforts as we reach out to the entire community," says Dr. Barbara K. Mistick, President and Director, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. "While the campaign has raised nearly \$52 million of our \$55 million goal, raising the last few million is always the hardest hurdle." The Library

aims to reach the \$55 million goal by the end of 2008. Now, the Library is asking everyone in the community to make first or even second gifts to the campaign, joining forces with the region's corporate and foundation community to meet this ambitious challenge.

Members of the Friends of CLP – Main, represented by President David Vinsky, were among the first to respond. Their gift of \$40,000 will be doubled, helping CLP build and sustain neighborhoods.

To learn how your gift to Libraries for LIFE can go twice as far please visit [www.carnegielibrary.org/challenge](http://www.carnegielibrary.org/challenge).



See story on page 14.

### Celebration Weekend

October 24 and 25, 2008

CLP - Hill District: Pittsburgh's first new library building in 28 years!

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

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# President's Corner

Greetings!

It is always difficult to discuss the impact a slowing economy has on a nonprofit organization such as Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. The cost of energy, an uneasy housing market and the anticipation of continued rising prices has made all of us reexamine our finances. Unfortunately, this "perfect storm" of increased costs and sluggish budgets is occurring at a critical time for the Library. As we work to wrap up our \$55 million capital campaign, we also are faced with the higher costs of doing business.

Historically, the demand for library services grows as the economy slows. Looking at our mid-year statistics, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is on pace to serve a record number of customers. With free family events, books, magazines, DVDs, CDs, video games, highspeed Internet and downloadable video, the Library is busier than ever! This increase in the number of customers we provide with free services ironically means that we need additional funding to satisfy the demand. While the Richard King Mellon Foundation challenge grant provides a boost for our capital campaign, we learned that state funding to meet basic daily operational needs will remain stagnant for libraries in 2009.

Over the next few months the Allegheny Regional Asset District (RAD) will meet to evaluate the budgetary needs of our region's assets and allocate funds for 2009. In 2007, RAD provided 64% of the Library's operating revenue. Our current funding agreement with RAD expires in 2009 and the District also will decide on any changes to our future funding structure.

With RAD's assistance the Library has been able to gradually increase hours of operation, provide much needed literacy programs and repair outdated systems for greater productivity. In order for the Library to succeed during these uncertain times we need continued reliable funding from RAD and the support of individual donors. Your advocacy and financial support demonstrate that Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is a vital asset to this region.



**Dr. Barbara K. Mistick**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara K. Mistick". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr. Barbara K. Mistick  
President and Director, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh



**Dr. Howard  
Diamond  
and his  
sister,  
Lois Bron.**



**Diamond's 5 and 10.**

## Diamond's 5 and 10

For seventy years, Benny Diamond's 5 and 10 was a landmark in the Hill District. Selling everything from window shades to linoleum, Benny would frequently stay late to accommodate the last-minute shopper. For the Hill District community, the store provided not only a convenient place to shop, but also a popular destination to meet and socialize. Benny was such a community icon that playwright August Wilson referenced him and his store in his award winning play, *The Piano Lesson*.

"Our wonderful Dad was a vital part of the history of the Hill District," said daughter, Lois Bron. "He loved his

customers and they loved him. He would be so happy to know that the new Carnegie Library, being built right across the street from the site of his business, will revitalize the neighborhood to which he devoted so much of his life."

Thanks to a generous donation to the Libraries for LIFE campaign from his daughter Lois and son, Dr. Howard Diamond, Benny's legacy will continue

in the Hill District. A mounted copy of *The Piano Lesson* will be prominently displayed in the new Hill District library's Reading Room along with an engraved quote about Diamond's 5 and 10 business taken from the play.



**Benny  
Diamond  
in his home  
away from  
home –  
Diamond's  
5 and 10.**

---

**"He would be so happy to know that the new Carnegie Library, being built right across the street from the site of his business, will revitalize the neighborhood to which he devoted so much of his life."**

– Lois Bron

# News Briefs

## CLP by the Numbers



**72** Customers registered or renewed their library card on June 8 during the Summer Reading Extravaganza at CLP – Main. Customer Service staff averaged one customer every 4 minutes, making their Extravaganza booth one of the busiest!

**1** BigBot named *Shelter* invaded CLP – Main in July as part of Pittsburgh’s *Robot 250* exhibition. Visitors to the International Poetry and Quiet Reading Room were captivated by the robotic sculpture’s two moving, concentric tent-like silk forms.

**360** Dollars per year is the average amount each CLP customer saves just by borrowing DVDs from the Library! Move over Netflix. Movie buffs can reserve titles online and have the ability to save big by checking out more than one DVD a week. (Downloadable videos are also an option from the CLP Web site!)



*M. Clare Zales, Deputy Secretary of Education and Commissioner of Libraries, Pennsylvania Department of Education with LBPH Manager Kathi Kappel and CLP Deputy Director Mary Frances Cooper.*

**128** Libraries competed for the title *Network Library of the Year*, an honor presented by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, a department of the Library of Congress. In 2008, CLP’s Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) became the fourth library in the US to receive the honor.



**13,459** Steps or 6.73 miles were averaged per volunteer at the Library’s 2008 Summer Reading Extravaganza. In the spirit of Pittsburgh’s 250 & Fit initiative, volunteers tracked the distance they traveled during the event on pedometers donated by the Allegheny Conference on Community Development.

# Donor Spotlight

## The Hand of Giving United Way Workplace Campaign Supports Literacy

Just think ...

If you skipped your Grande Latte just once a week for a year you could save \$182 to improve people's lives... or... something as small as bringing your lunch to work every workday for a year, rather than eating out could benefit the region with \$2,431 worth of services.

In Allegheny County approximately 750 worksites, ranging from Fortune 500 corporations to professional and entrepreneurial firms, provide employees with an easy way to donate to Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and CLP's Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH). As designated United Way fund recipients, both CLP and LBPH are recognized as organizations that are working to improve the community. Donations made through the United Way are pooled with others and invested in a network of programs and institutions that address community-wide health and human service needs. Whether it is a one-time donation to the campaign or a series of payroll deductions, money raised from the United Way of Allegheny County stays in the region as an investment in the community.

*Please remember Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped when you pledge to your company's next United Way Workplace Campaign.*

*Use code 0816 to direct your donation to benefit Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and code 3705 for the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.*

## CLP Receives Prestigious Laura Bush 21st Century Grant

The federal Institute of Museum and Library Services has selected CLP as a recipient of a 2008 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Grant, making it the **only public library in Pennsylvania** to earn the prestigious honor. The Library will receive \$391,400 to establish a three-year comprehensive professional development program geared toward professional librarians and management staff.



## Local Broadcasting History Preserved at CLP

Radio station KDKA Radio made history when it debuted in November 2, 1920, placing Pittsburgh on the broadcasting map as home to the world's first commercial radio station. Thanks to a generous donation by the station, customers can learn about the history of broadcasting and major news events since the station's inception. Copies of KDKA Radio's 50th, 65th and 80th Anniversary Specials are available for checkout at each CLP location.

# Thank You to Our Donors

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April 1 - June 30, 2008

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(Gifts of \$50,000 and up)

The Heinz Endowments

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(Gifts of \$5,000 - \$9,999)

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Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's 2008 advertising campaign is hitting the streets and airways this fall with outdoor, print, Web and radio advertising. Look for messages about the Library on billboards, buses, local newspapers, magazines and radio! See the campaign and listen to our latest radio spots at [www.carnegielibrary.org/support](http://www.carnegielibrary.org/support).



[www.carnegielibrary.org/support](http://www.carnegielibrary.org/support)

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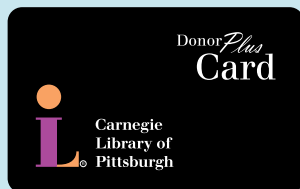
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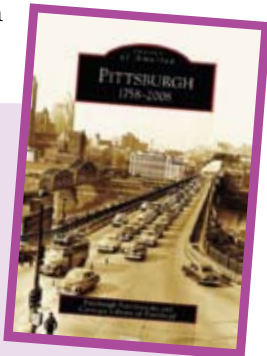
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Mix in a little creative vision, a heap of community support and plenty of hard work.

The result?

**Pittsburgh's first new library building in more than 28 years!**

### **Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Hill District**

2177 Centre Avenue at Kirkpatrick Street

*This event is so big – we need **two days** to celebrate!*

### **Champagne Luncheon Fundraiser**

**Friday, October 24** | 11:30 am – 2 pm

Individual Lunch Tickets – \$250 · Table of Ten – \$2,500

*You may make your reservation by calling 412.622.6276.*

*Reserve your seats early as space is limited.*

### **Free Community Celebration**

**Saturday, October 25** | 9:30 am – 1 pm

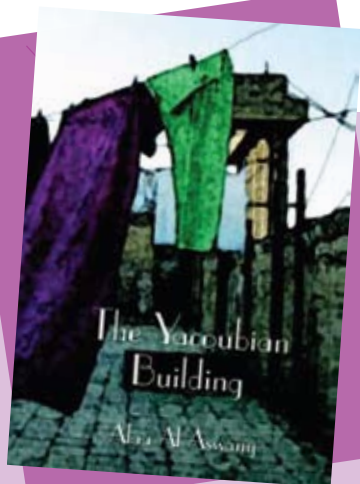
*Check out the new Library during a city-wide celebration that includes free entertainment, tours, activities and fun!*



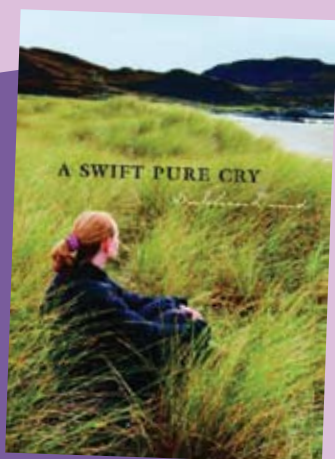
Carnegie  
Library of  
Pittsburgh

HILL DISTRICT

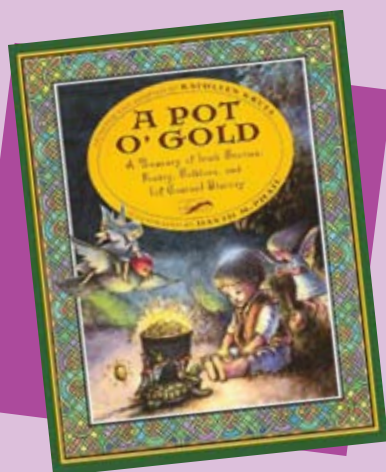
# Staff Picks



## Adult Fiction



## Teen Scene Fiction



## Children's Corner

## Words Have No Borders

### Adult Fiction

Aswany, Alaa Al | *The Yacoubian Building: A Novel*

Yan, Mo | *Life and Death are Wearing Me Out: A Novel*

Saramago, José | *Seeing*

Schlink, Bernard | *Homecoming: A Novel*

Vargas, Fred | *This Night's Foul Work*

### Adult Nonfiction

Bunimovich, Evgeny and J. Kates, eds. | *Contemporary Russian Poetry: An Anthology*

Barks, Coleman, trans. | *The Essential Rumi*

Chang, Tina, Nathalie Handal, and Ravi Shankar, eds. | *Language for a New Century: Contemporary Poetry from the Middle East, Asia and Beyond*

Tram, Dang Thuy | *Last Night I Dreamed of Peace: The Diary of Dang Thuy Tram*

Murakami, Haruki | *What I Talk About When I Talk About Running*

– Compiled by Kaarin Van Ausdal, Department Head and Bonnie McCloskey, Senior Librarian, CLP – Main; First Floor, New & Featured

### Teen Scene Fiction

Dowd, Siobhan | *A Swift Pure Cry*

Nanji, Shenaaz | *Child of Dandelions*

### Teen Scene Fiction continued

Nilsson, Per | *You & You & You*

Ruby, Lois | *Shanghai Shadows*

Stratton, Allan | *Chanda's Wars*

### Teen Scene Nonfiction

Akbar, Said Hydar | *Come Back to Afghanistan: A California Teenager's Story*

Barakat, Ibtisam | *Tasting the Sky: A Palestinian Childhood*

Hensel, Jana | *After the Wall: Confessions From an East German Childhood and the Life That Came Next*

Steinberger, Aimee Major | *Japan Ai: A Tall Girl's Adventures in Japan*

Zenatti, Valerie | *When I Was A Soldier*

– Compiled by Karen Brooks Reese, Teen Services Coordinator, CLP and Holly Anderton, Manager, Teen at Main

### Children's Corner

Chen, Zhiyuan | *On My Way to Buy Eggs*

Kobayashi, Issa | *Today and Today*

Ada, Alma Flor & F. Isabel Campoy, Selected by | *Pio Peep!: Traditional Spanish Nursery Rhymes*

Krull, Kathleen, Selected and adapted by | *A Pot o' Gold: A Treasury of Irish Stories, Poetry, Folklore and (of course) Blarney*

Williams, Karen Lynn and Khadra Mohammed | *Four Feet, Two Sandals*

– Compiled by Lisa Dennis, Coordinator of Children's Collections, CLP

# Coming Attractions!

Check out [www.carnegielibrary.org](http://www.carnegielibrary.org) for more information and to find events at your favorite CLP location.



## Your Right to Read:

### Banned Books Readings

Join the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of the ACLU, WYEP 91.3 FM and Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh in celebrating the First Amendment and the fight against censorship! Local celebrities and personalities will read from their favorite banned or challenged books.

**Thursday, October 2, 7 pm**

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Lecture Hall  
4400 Forbes Avenue  
FREE!

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### A Taste of the South Side: Gourmet Sampler

*Help us kick off our celebration of 100 years in the South Side!*

Sample delicious hors d'oeuvres, wines and signature drinks from the trendiest South Side restaurants and caterers.

**Friday, October 3, 7 pm**

CLP – South Side  
2205 East Carson Street

\$18 donation and silent auction benefits the Friends of CLP – South Side.



*Tickets available CLP – South Side or from the Friends group before Wednesday, October 1. Call 412.431.0505 or visit [www.carnegielibrary.org](http://www.carnegielibrary.org) for details.*

**Reserve early. Space is limited.**

## PITTSBURGH KIDS

A Pittsburgh 250 Event

**Saturday, November 8  
1:30 - 4:30 pm**

CLP – Main; Children's Room  
4400 Forbes Avenue  
FREE!

### ***What was it like to be a kid in 1790?***

Learn how Pittsburgh kids lived, dressed and played. Wear a costume so you can look the part and bring a historical photo, toy or outfit for a special share and tell.



**Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh  
Main**

4400 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-4080

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