



Contact:  
Suzanne M. Thinnes  
Communications Manager  
4400 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
412.578.2458 (office)  
412.983.9409 (cell)

**For Immediate Release**

## Media Preview

### Tenth Project in *Libraries for LIFE* Capital Improvement Program Nears Completion

*CLP – East Liberty offers community members and media a sneak peek at the renovations*

(PITTSBURGH, PA – July 8, 2010) Before the books move in and the Library officially opens next month, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – East Liberty is hosting a community and media preview of the newly-renovated and expanded library.

The two-story LEED-eligible facility boasts a 9000 square foot addition, with unique external architectural features and expanded internal space. When complete, CLP – East Liberty will hold more than 66,000 items, including books, magazines, DVDs and CDs, host 53 PCs and offer wireless technology.

The preview event will highlight:

- The building's unique "green" features such as a rainscreen wall system, zinc exterior, use of natural light and renewable materials.
- A newly-renovated lower-level, which will be the future space of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Heritage Collection.
- Re-organized interior space with two new main entrances, expanded service areas for children, teens and adults. meeting rooms and high-density book storage.

**WHEN:** Thursday, July 15, 2010  
9 – 11:30 am

**WHERE:** Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – East Liberty  
130 S. Whitfield Street / 15206

**WHO:** Media will have the opportunity to speak with

- Anne Chen, lead architect from EDGE studio,
- Chris Gmitter, department head of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – East Liberty, and
- Dr. Barbara K. Mistick, president and director of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

While Andrew Carnegie provided the seed money to build Pittsburgh's library facilities; he did not leave an endowment for their ongoing operations and maintenance. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh relies on public and private support to fund both capital and operating budgets. With a system of aging facilities the Library embarked upon a capital campaign, the first in its history, to provide technological infrastructure, handicapped accessibility, security systems and climate control, as well as operating efficiency updates throughout the system. Thanks to local, county and state governments, corporations, foundations and individuals, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's *Libraries for LIFE* Capital Campaign reached a \$55 million milestone in 2009. Since the campaign began, the Library has completed a partial renovation of the Main Library, First Floor and renovated or relocated nine neighborhood libraries, including CLP – East Liberty. To date, the Library's efforts have resulted in significant investment in Pittsburgh neighborhoods, providing a range of library services and programs for children, teens and adults and facilities that accommodate new collections and 21st century technology.

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## **About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh**

*Engaging our Community in Literacy and Learning*

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh contributes to the educational attainment, economic development, and cultural enrichment of the region. Through critical services such as early learning programs for children, job search assistance and computer and Internet access, the Library fosters lifelong learning and is a renowned leader among the nation's libraries. With more than 2 million visitors and 3.5 million items borrowed each year, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region's most visited asset and one of the largest public libraries in Pennsylvania. Established in 1895 by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie as a public trust to be funded by the community, the Library derives approximately 90% of its annual operating budget from public or government sources, including the Allegheny County Regional Asset District (RAD), the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City of Pittsburgh.