

“Insider Update”

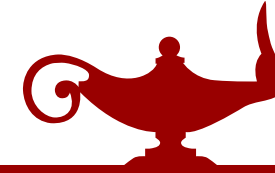
December 2008



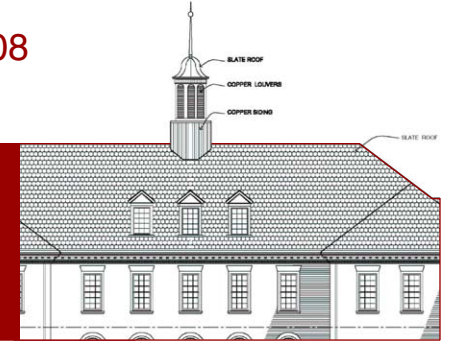
DCPL FOUNDATION
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The Georgetown Recovery and Restoration Fund is administered by the District of Columbia Public Library Foundation. Visit us on the web at www.dcpfoundation.org
The DC Public Library Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization working exclusively for the betterment of the District of Columbia Public Library. Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

“It gives me a sense of happiness to know that the Peabody house files are now fully accessible to the public.” — Jerry McCoy, Peabody Room Archive Librarian



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Georgetown Library Recovery and Restoration Fund



Interim Library

Opens!

In a flurry of holiday cheer the Georgetown Interim Library will open to the public on December 15, with an Open House Saturday, December 20. Located at 3307 M Street, NW (in the former Staples storefront), the interim library features 20 public access computers, a whimsical children’s section with a large tree feature, and an entirely new collection of books, CDs, DVDs and other library materials. The Open House will feature interactive events from 10 am to 3 pm including music, crafts, story time at 11am, and a poetry reading at 2 pm.

Many thanks to our Whole Foods Market partner! The Whole Foods Market on Wisconsin Avenue offered a day where 5% of all proceeds were donated to provide enhanced furnishings for the Children’s Space in the Interim Library. Thanks to their generosity we were able to provide upgraded wood cutout furniture, area rugs, graphics, and additional games and learning resources. Many thanks to Whole Foods!



What’s happening at the original library?

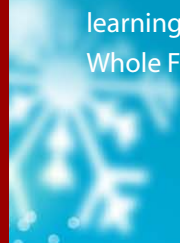


While the library may appear dormant from the outside, much has been going on behind the scenes to finalize the design for the permanent library and prepare the site for construction. This fall three contracts were issued: one for hazardous waste removal, to remove asbestos and lead paint; a second for historic salvage, to protect architectural details within the building and remove and safely store some details until needed later in construction; and the third for general site preparation including security, a dumpster and a trailer. Within the next three weeks you can expect to see work begin on the hazardous waste removal phase of the project.

Landscape remediation has been completed. This entails removing debris, clearing the site and preparing it for new construction and planting.

Four community design meetings have been conducted and Library staff have met several times with the Old Georgetown Board and received concept approval for the project.

Over 300 donors nationwide have given to the DC Public Library Foundation’s Georgetown Library Recovery and Restoration Fund. The Fund now stands just shy of \$120,000 with donations arriving regularly. Won’t you consider a gift to help us reach the \$200,000 mark?





Building a new roof and developing the lower floor will create a much larger library even though the exterior will retain its Georgian elements and profile. There are many exciting design elements:

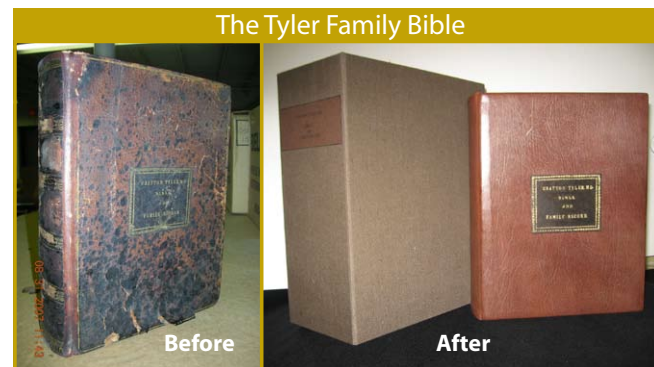
- 🌿 Continuous green space will extend from the library, linking it to Book Hill Park
- 🌿 An outdoor "Reading Terrace" will be added to the first floor overlooking terraced lawns leading to Book Hill Park. This terrace would replace one that originally existed in this location but had been subsequently removed. It will now be fully restored.
- 🌿 The lower floor will be developed to include a Children's Suite with a windowed wall facing south onto the terraced lawn
- 🌿 The lower floor will also contain a meeting room with seating for 100
- 🌿 The Peabody Room will become the Peabody Suite with state-of-the-art archival storage spaces and an airy reading room
- 🌿 A "Wall of Honor" for all donors of \$1,000 or more will be prominently displayed

The Peabody Suite: The new Peabody Suite will occupy the entire top floor of the new library. It will be twice the size of the original Peabody Room and provide state-of-the-art individual climate control for the historic archives. It will offer one of the finest collection repositories in the District, on par with facilities of the National Archives or the Smithsonian.

You can now donate your historic memorabilia knowing that it will be truly professionally curated and housed, preserving your legacy – and Georgetown's – for generations to come.

Restoration Update:

Historic Books: Your private donations have funded the restoration of 11 Georgetown imprint books and the Tyler Family Bible. The imprint collection consists of books printed in Georgetown dating to the 19th Century, as early as 1809, including titles such as "The Parent's Assistant" and two volumes by David Hume. They are part of the original Peabody Library collection. These 12 were selected first as they were the most damaged. A second set of volumes is being sent for restoration currently.



Restore a Book: It costs \$600 to restore a historic book. Approximately 100 books remain to be restored and this will be funded primarily through private contributions. If you would like to fund the restoration of a historic book, please contact Anna Velazco at 202-727-4943.

The House Files: The House Files are complete and fully available to the public. They are currently housed in the Washingtoniana Division at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library at 901 G Street NW, 3rd floor.

Artwork Restoration: Private donations are funding the restoration of 3 of the Peabody's 44 artworks. Page Conservation has nearly completed the work, including the portrait of Old Yarrow, a freed Muslim slave. We will shortly have before and after photos. If you are interested in adopting a painting, please call Anna Velazco at 202-727-4943.

Innovation in the Peabody Collection: For the first time in the 141 year history of the collection, the House and Biographical collections are being digitally linked. That means, for instance, if you search for a house address you can also find out who lived there (without having to know the names first) ... and vice versa.

Yet Another Historic Find:

In cataloguing the Peabody Collection, archivist Jerry McCoy found a handwritten slave contract – leasing out a slave to another gentleman dated December 12, 1808. "It gave me chills," states McCoy, "That 200 years ago on this very day someone hand wrote this document transferring one human being to another. And I am holding this in my hand as our Inauguration draws near."

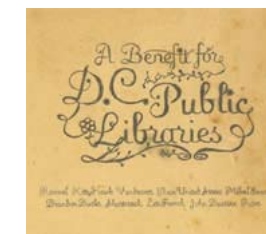


Georgetown Family Saturdays!

Many thanks to Shannon Pryor and the team of volunteers who are providing Saturday morning family fun and entertainment for five months during the cold season. Two events have already been held with three more coming on January 10, February 7, and March 7. Tickets are \$25 per family. Many thanks to St. John's Church (Georgetown) for providing Blake Hall! Details on performers and venue can be accessed on the Foundation website: www.dcpfoundation.org. Tickets can be ordered at: georgetownprojects@gmail.com. Proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to the Georgetown Library Children's Room.

And Citywide...ISO Young Literati:

Georgetown resident Anna Fuhrman (owner of Proper Topper boutiques & Foundation Board Member) has joined forces with Diane Lebson (United Way executive and Mrs. District of Columbia International 2009) and Jamie Hechinger (Foundation Board Member & Russell Reynolds associate) to begin a Young Literati* group, aiming to make the Library Foundation THE hot philanthropy in a city of readers and thinkers. The group would bring together smart, savvy folks who care deeply about literature and literacy, create events that are both intellectually and socially stimulating, and develop private funding for the Library in the process. *Note: the name is still a working title, and "young" is going to be defined verrrry broadly – a matter of fresh point of view and piquant ideas, not driver's license stats! – so stay tuned ... and by all means let us know if you are interested in learning more!



Perfect for the Holidays!

A benefit music CD beautifully wrapped with a library card application form! Gypsy Eyes artists and friends (including

Vandaveer, Revival, These United States, Brandon Butler, Shortstack, Mikal Evans, and Rose) created this CD to benefit the DC Public Library. 100% of the \$10 cost will be donated to the Library Foundation. To purchase, visit a Proper Topper store or purchase online: www.properopper.com



For further information or to make a donation, please contact Anna Velazco, Executive Director, at: 202-727-4943 or visit us at: www.dcpfoundation.org