

Energizing, Stirring, Inspiring

New Sculpture Continues Library's Dedication to Public Art

One of the ways MPPL works to enrich your Library experience is by offering art on permanent display. From the "Peace" sculpture on the corner of Emerson Street and Central Road to the woven copper tiles on the Second Floor, the Library has taken its role as a community gallery very seriously.

"Art is a gift to the community," says Blythe Lee, an art consultant at Corporate Artworks in Arlington Heights who has been working with MPPL for more than ten years on its public art acquisition plan.

Since 2005 the Library has been implementing an art initiative focused on creating an environment that stimulates conversation, stirs the imagination, and inspires all who come across it. The plan, developed and executed by a committee of staff and trustees working in conjunction with Corporate Artworks, was designed to complement the building and the Library's mission.

Public art has been made possible by donations from residents, community groups, the Foundation, and the Friends of the Library. The works reflect a variety of aesthetic expressions across a range of media.

Works in Progress

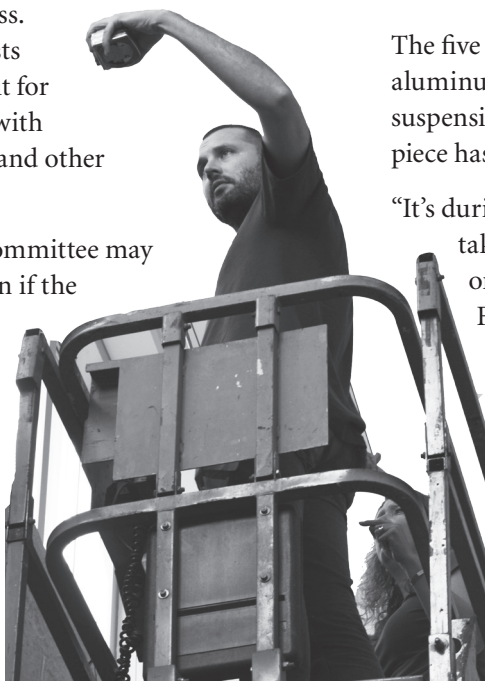
The process for placing art in the building involves studying the space and gathering ideas for what is wanted. The committee worked with Lee to identify specific areas where art would enhance the space.

"We had an overall game plan," she said.

But identifying spaces for art is just the first step in the process. Lee then had to find artists whose work was a good fit for a public space and work with them on price, timeline, and other details.

And while Lee and the committee may revisit the general art plan if the Library undergoes any remodeling, the pieces were selected to have staying power.

"The art work should be timeless," she says.



Taking measurements prior to hanging the sculpture

"Soft Rains"

The latest piece of art to be installed in the Library is Talley Fisher's "Soft Rains," which hangs from the window well over the book return.

Although Talley Fisher became an artist ten years ago, she had always been involved in the art world.

Her father, Rob, was a sculptor, and one of his works was originally chosen in 2005 for the interior window well by the elevator. Unfortunately, Rob Fisher died before this project could begin. However, Talley Fisher had since decided to continue her father's work and agreed to create the

piece when funds became available in 2015.

The art committee chose Fisher's work because it "both blends and contrasts well with the other works in the building." Its silver metallic tone and contemporary feel reflect other spaces and locations and complements the "TetraFoil" mobile near it.

Talley Fisher's goal with the piece is to bring patron attention upward and bring a bit of nature indoors. She has a background in biology and landscape architecture, and these influences can be seen in her work, which includes many natural forms. Fisher's art can be found in a variety of public places, including hospitals and hotels.

Fisher, also has a history of working with architects and installers, a part of the art-making experience that is almost as important as the creation itself. She notes that her artwork "is sort of a blending of all of these disciplines."

The five elements of the piece are made of perforated aluminum, a lightweight material appropriate for suspension, and rolled and shaped stainless steel. The piece has been anodized to give it the metallic finish.

"It's during installation when the final composition takes form," she says, which is why she was on-site in early July for the installation. But Fisher says that going from the creative to the structural is both challenging and rewarding.

To hang a three-story sculpture, the team had to make sure the structural work in the building was solid. The fact that the walls in the window well were made of stone was a big factor in choosing the materials and the installation method.

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Artist Talley Fisher stands in front of "Soft Rains"

Part of Your World

"Soft Rains" joins other pieces that have become part of daily life at MPPL.



After "The Caterpillar" in Youth Services was installed, the committee thought a mural along the wall leading to the Program Room would make Youth Services even more inviting.



Art Consultant Blythe Lee says the company that installed the "TetraFoil" mobile made a scale model of the Library's window well to ensure the piece would work as planned.



The South Branch used a grant from Walmart to purchase pieces from Enrique Suárez's "Music" series.

**SPECIAL PULLOUT
SECTION**
Save for Future
Reference

What You've Missed on Social Media

If you are not following MPPL on Facebook®, Twitter®, or Pinterest®, or MPPL Teens on Instagram®, here's some of what you did not see:



The MPPL Squad Shined as We All *Read for the Win*

Thousands of patrons got in the game this summer, scoring with prizes and teaming up with Library staff to find books that were new to them or familiar favorites.

Teen Librarians developed a program with the goals of promoting a community of teen readers, letting teens create reviews and related lists, and connecting teens with the staff and the new Teen Space, says Teen Librarian Colleen Seisser.

"We definitely succeeded in our goals this year as we had the highest signups in at least the last five years," she says.

One great development involved the Teen Outreach Librarian visiting Lincoln Middle School and River Trails Middle School to register readers.

Teens wrote short reviews of their reads and chose a theme song and an actor to play the book's main character. Many of these creative contributions were shared on Twitter and Instagram. The popular weekly trivia game also returned this year.

"There were lots of smiles and shouts of excitement when teens knew the answer right away, as well as from some of our adult patrons who often checked the questions just as much as the teens did," said Seisser.

Adults rose to the occasion and met the Summer Reading Challenge; we saw participation increase by more than 20 percent. Staff worked hard to provide patrons with a wide variety of book suggestions to choose from, and patrons responded!

"Many patrons took this challenge to heart and tried many new types of books they hadn't experienced before," said Readers' Advisor Joyce Brantner.

One of the more popular topics that patrons explored was "microhistory," or nonfiction devoted to a very specific topic. Themed displays also helped patrons choose books—some of which were outside of their normal interests.



A young patron enjoys making faces during a fun summer program

According to Readers' Advisory Librarian Cathleen Blair, one patron told staff that "the display suggestions kept surprising her in the best ways."

More than 2,300 young readers registered for the Youth Summer Reading Program, and more than one thousand went on to finish at least one round.

The South Branch cheered on 465 total participants, with 143 people reaching the finishing line and receiving a free book. Summer at South Branch also included a *Kickin' It With the Cops* soccer game, which featured a brightly colored book walk for families to enjoy during the program and attracted about 160 children and their parents over three days.

We hope you enjoyed the reading lists, staff picks, programs, prizes, and displays that sparked your interest this summer.



Fancy footwork at the Kickin' It With the Cops event

Just in Time for Back to School



Tutor.com™ keeps your homework or career path sailing along.

Tutor.com is a unique service offered to MPPL cardholders. Tutors are available daily from 2-9 p.m. The Skills Center is there for you 24/7. The service is designed for K-12 students, community college students, and adults or teens working on resumes or cover letters or prepping for the GED.

Before you begin you can watch videos on how tutoring, the Career Center, or the mobile version of the site works. Access the site at mppl.org/tutor with your MPPL card at the Library, at home, or on your mobile device. Sessions are available in English or Spanish. Each valid MPPL cardholder receives up to 5 free tutoring sessions per week.

Ask Library staff to help you get started. This service is funded in part by a generous grant from Bosch Community Fund.



Homebound Delivery Service

Unable to Come to the Library?

Let us bring the Library to you! Mount Prospect Public Library provides free delivery of Library materials to Mount Prospect residents and registered cardholders who are physically unable to come to the building due to disability or long-term illness.

Registration for this service is easy. Complete the form at mppl.org/services/homebound-delivery or contact Diane Davis, Homebound Coordinator, at 847/253-5675, ext 4069, or write to:

Homebound Coordinator
Mount Prospect Public Library
10 South Emerson Street
Mount Prospect, IL 60056

After registering for the service, you will be connected with a staff member to discuss what types of materials interest you. Books (fiction, nonfiction, large print, and audio) and magazines are eligible for homebound checkout. A volunteer will then contact you to make arrangements for delivery. The six-week checkout includes delivery and pickup time.



Reference by Appointment

Have an in-depth research question?

Call the Library at 847/253-5675 and ask for the Reference Desk, they can help you set up an appointment. Or, fill out the reference appointment form, mppl.org/research/reference-by-appointment/

Reference Librarians are available for one-on-one consultations by appointment.

If you are:

- Creating a family tree
- Opening a small business
- Searching for a job

Or want to:

- Use the Library's online resources effectively
- Find out about legislation
- Write a research paper
- Get help with these or other topics of your choice

New Guidelines for FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

There have been some changes made to the filing process for the federal student aid application FAFSA. For the 2016-2017 school year, the application process is open. This application uses data from the 2015 tax return.

The open date for the 2017-2018 school year is October 1, 2016. This application will also use data from the 2015 tax return. Applications for the 2018-2019 school year will open on October 1, 2017. This application will use data from the 2016 tax return.

- A chart showing all this information can be found at studentaid.ed.gov
- It is possible to complete the FAFSA form and file it online at www.fafsa.ed.gov



Artist Talley Fisher orchestrates the installation

Continued from front page.

For Art's Sake

"Soft Rains" joins "The Four Seasons" in Meeting Room A, "Continuity" and the Raku pottery on the Second Floor, and many more public art pieces around the building. Blythe Lee says the Library's commitment to art was apparent to her from her first visit. "I was extremely impressed by the amount of artwork here," she says.

Lee says it's important to offer art in different media that exposes people to the many forms that art can take, such as sculpture, metal and wire, textiles, collage, glass, and pottery. Children, especially, can see what art is made of and that it's much more than painting.

Lee appreciates that MPPL staff value the art collection and offer occasional tours for patrons. Talley Fisher agrees.

"It's fantastic that the community has artwork in the Library," Fisher said.

"Soft Rains" hangs in the East stairwell



Raising the Bar by Raising Funds for MPPL



MPPLF
Mount Prospect
Public Library
Foundation

The Mount Prospect Public Library Foundation (MPPLF) has had a busy year making connections and fostering relationships to help support the Library. After a successful first half of 2016, it shows no sign of slowing

down. "Community outreach is very important to us so we can educate people and share the goals of MPPLF and our contributions to the Library," said longtime President Suzanne Busse.

The Foundation relies on donations from individuals and families, in addition to contributions from the business community. New to the group of Foundation supporters is the Mount Prospect Women's Club. "The Foundation does many great things for Mount Prospect, and we are happy to add [MPPLF] to the list of philanthropies we support," expressed President Jodi Hanson.

These donations go toward the endowment and also to fund special programs and projects at the Library. For a number of years, the Foundation has sponsored the Adult Concert Series, which brings well-known local artists for an evening of lively entertainment for patrons.

"The attendance and positive response to these concerts indicate how successful this series is and how much the community appreciates and enjoys these events," reports Adult Program Coordinator



Marci Buerger. Recently, the Foundation brought The Shakespeare Project of Chicago to Mount Prospect with three presentations of Shakespeare's works, much to the delight of attendees. One patron commented, "Great to see live performance here in Mount Prospect instead of downtown." The next season of Shakespeare programs begins on October 18 with *Henry V*.

Also new this year is the addition of special STEAM programming in Youth Services. The Science Alliance came to the Library this past June and brought a collection of hands-on activities where children were able to participate in demonstrations of physics principles and take turns riding a hoverboard.

For nearly 20 years the Foundation has worked tirelessly for the Library by identifying business partners and organizing fundraisers. In addition

to the raffle baskets that grace the Lobby twice a year, the Foundation teams up with local restaurants for dine-and-share events and also hosts the Mini Golf event.

"We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated group of Foundation volunteers," says Busse. "Their love of the Library and hard work help to make it a vibrant space for our community."

If you are interested in learning more about the Mount Prospect Public Library Foundation, visit mpplfoundation.org or contact Joanne Greenwald at 847/253-5675.

Have Your Webinar, Meeting, or Conference in the Foundation Room

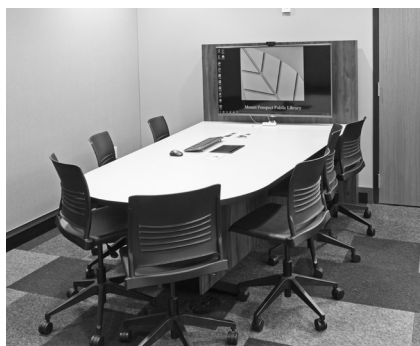
Due to the generosity of the Mount Prospect Public Library Foundation, we have facilities for a meeting, conference, or Webinar in the high-tech Foundation Room on the second floor.

The room seats 10 and is equipped with a Windows 7 computer with a 50" monitor and Webcam. The table includes built-in power and monitor (HDMI) connections for devices.

Business Librarian Joe Collier recently used the room to present a Webinar. "Compared to working from a cubicle, cramped office, meeting room, or noisy coffee shop, the Foundation Room—with its tech-savvy setup and calm, comfortable atmosphere—is the perfect environment for conducting video conferences, Skype interviews, giving Webinars, or simply hosting a professional meeting."

Use of the Foundation Room is limited to an individual, a business, or a group needing to use the equipment available in the room. Permitted usage includes: online conferencing, technology-based collaboration, viewing online Webinars, online interviews, and presentations.

MPPL cardholders can make reservations for the Foundation Room up to a month in advance with no minimum number of people. Non-cardholders can use the room on a walk-in basis. Use of the room is restricted to ages 18 and older.



Time Capsule Opening

Our program on September 14, 7 p.m. will include a display of the contents! See page 1 for more details.



Mount Prospect Public Library
explore the opportunities



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