

*Stories of  
the library*

THE CAMPAIGN *for*  
LANCASTER PUBLIC LIBRARY'S  
NEXT CHAPTER

ABOUT LANCASTER  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Few institutions have been an integral part of Lancaster’s story for as long as the Lancaster Public Library. Founded in 1759, it was first based in a home at 37 North Queen Street. While its location and the ways people use libraries have changed over the past 260 years, the Library’s commitment to being the community’s center for learning and information has never wavered.

The Library moved into its current home at 125 North Duke Street in 1953. The institution has installed computers, a business center, extensive databases, and wireless Internet access to evolve with how people access information. The building, however, has not kept pace. Staff spend excessive time dealing with facilities issues (flooding, mold, HVAC problems, broken elevators) instead of answering questions, and the cost of repairs keeps growing.

But now a fabulous opportunity has arisen to move the Library back to the center of Lancaster on North Queen Street. It’s time to write the next chapter in the story of Lancaster Public Library.

OUR MISSION

Lancaster Public Library inspires, empowers, and strengthens our community by connecting people with information, ideas, and enriching experiences.

Current Impact

700,000+

books, audiobooks, DVDs,  
and other materials  
borrowed annually

350,000+

visitors yearly, averaging  
about 1,000 per day

53,000

active library card holders

60,000

public computer and Wi-Fi  
sessions annually

26,000+

reference questions  
answered annually

6

portable Wi-Fi hotspots  
which are in constant demand

3 MILLION

electronic retrievals of  
information through free  
access to subscription-based  
databases annually

DEAR FRIEND  
OF THE LANCASTER  
PUBLIC LIBRARY,

LANCASTER FABULAS.

Inspired by Latin and Spanish words, Lancaster Fabulas translates as Lancaster Stories. Our community is rich with stories. Every person, organization, building, or place has one. All of these stories can be found at the institution dedicated to providing free local access to the entire world’s stories: Lancaster Public Library.

Our Library’s story started with William Penn’s daughter-in-law in 1759. Today it involves striving to be a 21st-century library in a 20th-century building. The Library does an excellent job providing programs and resources for modern library users, but it struggles constantly with an aging building that demands far too much attention and money.

That was the story in recent years...until a completely unexpected plot twist occurred.

The Library now has the incredible opportunity to move to a brand-new building in a better, more accessible location. Meeder Development Corporation, Benchmark Construction, Hammel Associates Architects, and the Lancaster Parking Authority have invited the Library to occupy the first two floors of a new nine-story



structure facing the former Lancaster Square. These visionary partners are even providing the building’s shell. All the Library must do is finish, equip, and furnish the space.

We have the rare opportunity to create a world-class library in a world-class city—right on the square where our community regularly gathers! Imagine the new stories in a new public library, designed to meet this community’s specific needs, incorporating 21st-century technology! A place for people to gather, learn, and inspire will be a true gift from the community for the community.

On the following pages, you will discover stories of Lancastrians and their library. The stories illustrate how vital a public library is for its community—and how a new library will benefit all of Lancaster. We hope the stories will inspire you to help make the new Lancaster Public Library more than words and pictures on paper.

Together we can make Lancaster—its library and this community—fabulous.

With thanks,

Henrietta Heisler  
Campaign Chair  
President, Henrietta Heisler  
Interiors, Inc.



*Storyteller*

**BETH JONES**

Mom, Social Worker, Library Patron

#### IN HER WORDS

“I ABSOLUTELY LOVE WHEN IMA BRINGS A PILE OF BOOKS AND WE START READING. THERE ARE ALWAYS AT LEAST ONE OR TWO KIDS THAT COME UP AND SIT RIGHT NEXT TO ME AND WANT TO LISTEN TO THAT BOOK. KIDS JUST HAVE THAT INHERENT LOVE OF READING.

*Corey was not even weeks old when I started bringing him to lap-sit story time. Ever since, we've been hanging out at the children's department. We come in at least once a week—going to all the story times, the playtimes, the summer arts stuff. We love coming to the library. We always feel welcome.*

*As soon as you walk into the children's section, you see that circle. You see all the kids engaging and playing together. All the parents are sitting around talking to each other. I love the diversity of all the different kinds of people coming in together to use this community resource. It's a very rich environment for me and my kids."*



## FABULOUS NEW LOCATION

A new location at 151 North Queen Street will place Lancaster Public Library right in the center of our community: facing the plaza named after local 1948 Olympic champion Barney Ewell (formerly Lancaster Square), across from the county government center, next to the exciting redevelopment at 101 North Queen. Being an integral part of our community's most important gathering space will make the Library dramatically more visible. It will be at the center of the city's center.

Public libraries exist to ensure everyone has free and equal access to information and lifelong learning opportunities regardless of who they are or what they have. Freedom of information and inquiry are essential to democracy. No other organization provides these rights like a public library.

Moving our public library to such a prominent location paints a flattering picture of Lancaster's community values.

## TWO STORIES OF MORE SPACE

The new location's two floors will provide more usable space than the Duke Street building's three floors (43,000 versus 40,000 square feet). The layout will be tailored to the needs of today's library users, reflecting best practices of the library field. A modern climate control system will keep patrons and staff comfortable while ensuring the long-term preservation of the Library's valuable collections.

## A MORE ACCESSIBLE PLACE

Multiple features will demonstrate that all are welcome here. More parking will be available in the seven-story garage atop the Library, and garage elevators will transport visitors directly to the Library's first floor. The new location will place the Library just one block from RRTA's Queen Street Station, a shorter walk for most users of public transportation. The entire facility will be ADA accessible and stroller friendly.

## LINKING THE LIBRARY TO THE SQUARE

Lancaster Square was recently renamed Ewell Plaza and is being redeveloped through a city-led process. The Library's presence will open the possibility for the design to logically include spaces for outdoor reading or community programs. An elevated outdoor terrace overlooking the Plaza will provide a signature space for Library events or income-generating rentals.



# A 21ST CENTURY LIBRARY IN THE HEART OF LANCASTER





IN HER WORDS

“WHEN THEY WENT OVER THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE OLD LANCASTER SQUARE AT A DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT DISTRICT MEETING, I SAW THAT THE LIBRARY WAS PART OF THE PLAN. I’M EXCITED ABOUT THAT. IT’S A BRILLIANT IDEA!

*The Library helped me hire my first employee: a single mom who was homeless. She never had a job in her life and nobody would hire her. She had taken classes for web development, which was what I needed, so I hired her. I thought, ‘Okay, I need to set up my business as an employer.’*

*I didn’t have the funding available for an outside company to do that work for me. I had to learn it myself. That’s when I started getting even more involved with the Duke Street Business Center.”*



*Storyteller*

**VIOLET BALDWIN**

Artist Representative, Gallery Owner, Library Volunteer





The new Lancaster Public Library will be designed for how people work, learn, and interact today, incorporating features requested by focus groups participants. Patrons will be able to work in collaboration rooms for groups of 2 to 8. Users will have greater access to information through technology (up-to-date computers and equipment and reliable wireless access)—and to librarians to help guide their search. Patrons will find better, more accessible areas to browse for books and more comfortable places to read than the current building offers.

A 3D architectural rendering of a modern library interior. The space features a large wooden reception desk with a 'HELLO' sign, a 'SERVICE' pillar, and a staircase. People are shown interacting with staff and using the facilities. A glass-walled study area is visible on the right.



Most of the second floor will be devoted to areas for children and youth. Glass walls will frame the children's library on one side and a separate space for "twens" and teens on the other. The dynamic and engaging children's space will encourage reading and family time, hands-on learning, and group play and will include flexible open spaces for educational programs. Designed for how children and young people interact with one another, this space enables lively learning and activity in a dedicated area.





*Storytellers*

**ANDREA SULLIVAN & DAVID KURZMAN**

*Retired to Lancaster, Library Volunteers*

## IN THEIR WORDS

“NO MATTER WHERE WE LIVE,  
WE ALWAYS GET HOOKED INTO  
A LIBRARY. YOU’RE NOT GOING  
TO FIND ONE THAT’S MORE  
EMBRACING OF ALL PEOPLE.

*The doors are open for elderly people, for people in transition,  
for children, for teenagers, for people looking for jobs. It doesn't  
matter where you're at. When you're in the library, you're all equal.  
It really tells you that we care about everybody, which is perfect.  
It tells you who's who, what's what, and how they think of their  
community by what a library does. And this library does a lot.*

*We're very proud of being associated with this library."*

GOOGLE CAN  
BRING YOU BACK  
1,000,000 ANSWERS.

A LIBRARIAN CAN  
BRING YOU BACK  
THE RIGHT ONE.



IN HIS WORDS

“I SEND EVERY SINGLE SCORE CLIENT TO THE DUKE STREET BUSINESS CENTER. THE LIBRARY PROVIDES FREE ACCESS TO AUTHORITATIVE AND VITAL DATABASES THAT ARE VERY POWERFUL.

*Through databases, they can understand the market, the client demographics, the competitors that might already be in the market, where the competitors are located. They might, based on revenue of the competition, be able to size up the market and determine what they need to do to help them succeed. In some cases, they decide not to go into business because there's too much competition or the market isn't right for their product. That's just as good news for us because we don't want them to fail. We want them to succeed at their dream.”*



*Storyteller*

**KEVIN ST. CYR**

SCORE Mentor



# MORE RESOURCES FOR THE COMMUNITY



People come to the Library for multiple reasons beyond finding a book: borrowing a hotspot, applying for a job or a passport, checking out a musical instrument or a game, encouraging their children's interest in math and science, learning English or new computer skills, attending a U.S. citizenship class, researching family history, discussing a community issue. The intent of the new library is to provide better physical spaces and technological resources to meet all of these community needs and more.

Anyone will be able to reserve a large community room or a smaller, flexible space for a meeting or a program for a nominal fee. Small, enclosed collaboration spaces will be available for groups of 2 to 8 to meet without disturbing others. High quality computer workstations will be provided, and high-speed wireless Internet access will be installed throughout the building so that users can access the Web on their own electronic devices. The staff plans to select new online resources to meet patrons' wide-ranging needs, adding to the Library's ever-growing list of technological resources.

The public library is a community hub, a place where all are welcome, a space owned by everyone. The new Lancaster Public Library will embody the spirit of our community. It will be, in a word, fabulous.

## SERVICES FOR BUSINESSES

Many of Lancaster's thriving local businesses got their start at the Library's Duke Street Business Center (DSBC). The Center helps budding entrepreneurs vet their ideas and established businesses acquire the data they need to grow. Businesspeople, nonprofit staff, and jobseekers get free access to incredible databases and the research assistance of a business librarian. An impressive collection (electronic and print) and access to professional librarians funded by the campaign will enable DSBC to continue to play a vital role in nurturing Lancaster's economic prosperity.

## EXPANDED SERVICES AND ENHANCED SUSTAINABILITY

A successful campaign will enable the Library to modify hours of service lost in recent years to financial stresses and limited government funding. Most important, the move to Queen Street will enhance the Library's long-term sustainability. Freed from the upkeep of an aging building, the Library will be able to devote time and resources to programs and services instead of costly facility repairs. An extremely beneficial lease agreement will enable the Library to occupy the space at a very low cost for years to come.

A better location. A larger, more accessible facility. A beautiful, modern environment designed for today's library users. Improved experiences and more resources for patrons. Enhanced sustainability for the institution. The litany of benefits makes a compelling case. Once completed, this project will write an exciting next chapter in the 260-year-old story of Lancaster Public Library.





*Storyteller*

**NELLY TORRES**

Lancaster City Resident, Library Patron

## IN HER WORDS

“I LOVE SEEING HOW DIVERSE EVERYBODY IS. THERE ARE SO MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE THAT COME THROUGH THOSE DOORS: BLACK, WHITE, LATINO, ASIAN, INDIAN, OF ALL DIFFERENT WALKS OF FAITH, OF DIFFERENT AGES. THAT'S BEAUTIFUL TO ME BECAUSE THAT IS LANCASTER.

*I think about how many people use the computer, whether it's for business or for leisure. They have a space to go to for that. That is what makes the Library so unique and important in our community. It's accessible to everybody.*

*A lot of people don't have a place they can belong to or connect with. The Library offers personal connections and interactions through groups and clubs. I'm in the knitting club, the Chronicles of Yarnia, and we sit and talk and learn an older skill, but it's composed of different people from different walks of life. With these clubs and groups, you're integrating the world of education with social skills. In this day and age where we're very tech-heavy—and that's very isolating—socialization is so important.”*

# PROJECT BUDGET

Relocating the Library to the heart of downtown Lancaster will cost \$10,000,000. While this represents a considerable investment, it's far less than the cost of fully renovating the existing building or constructing a new one. By providing the funds to transform the first two floors of downtown's newest parking garage into a modern library, this campaign represents a real gift from the community for the community.



## BECOME A PART OF THE STORY

Donors of \$25,000 or more will be offered permanent space naming opportunities in the new Lancaster Public Library. Donors of \$10,000 or more will be featured on a special “Major Donor Recognition Wall.” Donors of \$1,000 or more will be honored on an attractive recognition panel permanently installed in the new library.

## CAMPAIGN PLAN

Here is how the project will become a reality:

Capital Campaign Effort	\$6,500,000*
<i>*Includes new cash gifts &amp; multi-year pledges, gifts-in-kind, qualifying estate (planned) gifts for endowment and public funding</i>	
Existing Library Resources	\$3,500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>

## GIFTS AND GRANTS NEEDED

### ENSURE THE FUTURE

You can help ensure that the new facility will serve the community for decades to come by including Lancaster Public Library in your estate plans. Many donors will choose to make a combination of outright and planned (estate) gifts to maximize their giving. Planned gifts may be able to be counted toward the campaign, depending on your specific circumstances.

Number of gifts needed	Amount of gift (in range of)	Amount in category	Cumulative total
1	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
1	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$3,250,000
1	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$3,750,000
2	\$250,000	\$500,000	\$4,250,000
4	\$100,000	\$400,000	\$4,650,000
10	\$50,000	\$500,000	\$5,150,000
20	\$25,000	\$500,000	\$5,650,000
30	\$10,000	\$300,000	\$5,950,000
40	\$5,000	\$200,000	\$6,150,000
50	\$2,500	\$125,000	\$6,275,000
100	\$1,000	\$100,000	\$6,375,000
Many	<\$1,000	125,000	\$6,500,000
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GOAL</b>			<b>\$6,500,000</b>



IN HER WORDS

“FOR ME, THE LIBRARY IS A PLACE FOR BRINGING OUR FAMILY TOGETHER AND BRINGING JOY THROUGH STORYTELLING. I HAVE ALWAYS FOUND THAT OUR KIDS AND I LEARN BEST THROUGH STORIES. IT’S A GATEWAY TO GIVING THEM FREEDOM TO FIGURE OUT WHO THEY ARE.

*They are each allowed to get their age in books, up to ten. Once you hit ten, that's the limit. We go home with close to sixty books every other Wednesday.*

*The Teacher Book Bundles are a wonderful, wonderful resource. With homeschooling, I can get so many books for whatever topics we're teaching and use all of those. The librarians are also very wonderful, and they tend to be pretty avid readers. They find picture books, educational books, chapter books to pull ahead of time. Then you can pick and choose. I love the fact that they'll renew it for you until you finish because there are times when a unit is a little bit longer. We've been using the book bundles seven to ten times a year."*



*Storyteller*

**MARY OLENIK**

Homeschooling Mom of Five

JOIN US TO WRITE  
AN AMAZING NEXT  
CHAPTER IN THE STORY  
OF THE LANCASTER  
PUBLIC LIBRARY.  
TOGETHER WE CAN  
MAKE THE KEEPER OF  
LANCASTER'S FABULAS  
JUST THAT:

*Fabulous*

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT



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