



CENTRAL LIBRARY

Library Systems Facts

Library System	Portland	Austin
Population Served	692,823	690,252
Branch Libraries	16	20
Pop. Served per location	40,754	29,844
System Collection	1,943,266	1,550,145
Per Capita	2.8	2.2
Full Time Staff	450.25	294.8
Staff per 1000 pop.	.65	0.43

Central Library	Portland	Austin
Year Opened	1913	1979
Cost When Built	\$480,000	\$6 million
Size (sq. ft.)	125,000	100,000
Floors	3 floors	4 floors
Collection Size	818,524	438,000 volumes
Auditorium	No auditorium	No auditorium
Meeting Rooms	(1) U.S. Bank Room 120-person capacity	No public meeting rooms
Youth Area	4,566 sq. ft.	4,150 sq. ft.
Public Computers	130	40
Full Time Staff	151	34.725
Visits	2,700 per day	1,500 per day



PORTLAND

PORTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

What is now the Multnomah County Library dates its existence from 1864, a time when Portland was a frontier town with frame buildings, muddy streets and few sidewalks. A small group of Portland citizens met to establish a subscription library and reading room, organizing under the name "Library Association of Portland."

On March 10, 1902, the library became a tax-supported free public library, open to all residents of Portland. In 1903, services were extended to all residents of Multnomah County and the Multnomah County commissioners became ex officio members of the library board.

Multnomah County Library is the oldest public library west of the Mississippi. Today, Central Library and the 16 libraries that make up the library system house 490 computer search stations for the public and a collection of two million books and other library materials. As Oregon's largest public library, Multnomah County Library serves nearly one-fifth of the state's population with a wide variety of programs and services.

Central Library opened in September 1913. Designed by architect A.E. Doyle, the building took two years to build at a cost of \$480,000. The Central Library building, now on the National Register of Historic Places, continues to be the heart of what has become a system of branch libraries that serves library users all over Multnomah County.

On July 1, 1990, after 126 years of guiding the library to the respected community position it currently enjoys, the Library Association of Portland transferred ownership of the library's buildings, books and other holdings to the people of Multnomah County, to be governed by the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners. In turn, the commissioners appoint citizens to the Library Advisory Board, which oversees library operations.

John Wilson Special Collections

Central Library's John Wilson Special Collections houses the rare book and other special collections of Multnomah County Library in a controlled environment for the preservation of rare and historically significant materials. The original focus was a gift of the private collection of John Wilson, an avid book collector with broad interests. Wilson, born in Ireland, arrived in Oregon in 1849. In subsequent years, other gifts and materials culled from the library's collections have widened the scope and depth of the John Wilson Special Collections' holdings to more than 10,000 volumes.



Six core collections include those devoted to the book arts and the history of the book; children's literature; natural history; Pacific Northwest history; literature, especially Charles Dickens and D. H. Lawrence; and Native American literature.

<http://www.multcolib.org/about/mcl-wilson.html>

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Friends of the Library is a nonprofit advocacy organization founded in 1972 to support Multnomah County Library. With funds raised through membership dues, annual used book sales and the Friends' Library Store at Central Library, the Friends of the Library supports a variety of library programs and promotes public involvement in the library.

<http://www.friends-library.org/>

LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Library Foundation raises and manages funds from individuals, corporations and foundations to support Multnomah County Library's buildings, collections and programs. Since its founding in 1995, this nonprofit organization has raised over \$20 million to complement the quality and reach that public funding provides. The Foundation's current focus is child and family literacy, providing seed funding and long-term support for library programs that reach out to children and families at risk for low literacy.

<http://www.libraryfoundation.org/>



AUSTIN

AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

On November 13, 1925, Grace Delano Clark persuaded the Austin Branch of the American Association of University Women to take on the project of establishing a library for Austin. On February 16, 1926, the Austin Public Library opened in a rented room at 819 Congress with 500 donated volumes. On December 23, the first Austin Public Library building opened, with 1,800 square feet, at a cost of \$4,190.

In 1933, a second 26,000 square-foot structure replaced the building at the original site at a cost of \$145,000 (currently the Austin History Center). There are now 20 branch libraries. In 1979, the current Central Library opened adjacent to the 1933 structure with 110,000 square feet at a cost of \$6 million. In 1995, the City Council voted to rename the Central Library after John Henry Faulk, well-known Austin writer and humorist. In 2001, the Austin Public Library celebrated 75 years of service to the Austin community.

City	Population †	System Collection †	Central Library sq. ft.	Central Library Collection	Materials per Capita†	Number of Branches†
Austin	690,252	1,550,145	110,000	411,703	2.8	20
Cleveland	478,403	3,999,771	592,204	2,231,611	8.4	28
Columbus	807,685	2,955,569	255,400	928,000	3.7	20
Denver	567,526	2,425,281	540,315	1,839,961	4.3	22
Jacksonville	793,898	2,138,547	300,000	1,100,000	2.7	14
Milwaukee	595,508	2,989,081	457,919	1,300,000	5	12
Nashville	565,352	1,495,609	300,000	479,224	2.6	20
Portland	692,823	1,943,266	125,000	818,524	2.8	16
Seattle	571,900	1,847,115	365,000	900,000	3.2	23
Vancouver	568,442	2,490,735	349,830	1,300,000	4.4	21
**Peer Ave.		2,258,258	408,617	1.1 Million	4.2	21
Dallas	1,188,580	5,916,549	646,733	860,000	5	22
Ft. Worth	534,694	1,526,694	285,000	537,285	2.9	14
Houston	2,000,759	4,339,128	380,663	1,869,718	2.2	37
San Antonio	1,530,900	1,852,221	238,000	597,386	1.2	19

† 2004 Public Library Data Service Statistical Report

Does not include non-circulating reference collection of 12,000,000

** Peer averages do not include Austin or other Texas Libraries



November 2006 Bond for New Central Library

As part of the 1998 City of Austin bond deliberations, City staff recommended a \$111 million (in 2002 dollars) 360,000 sq ft Central Library – 60,000 sq ft of which would have been a new city hall. Ultimately, the new Central Library was not included in the bond.

City Council approved a \$90 million bond package for the November 2006 election. Not sufficient for the complete build out of the proposed Central Library, the Citizen's Advisory Committee saw this amount as a baseline which should be leveraged to acquire private matching funds. A new, larger Central Library is anticipated to require an increase in the annual operations and maintenance budget of \$800,000 and 15 FTEs.

Added benefits of a new Central Library include:

- Increased research and circulating collections
- Improved information technology including a high tech center
- Program and exhibition space for community and cultural events
- Dedicated program space for teens and adolescents
- A family center offering programs and services for all ages
- Increased parking and accessibility, including bike and ped facilities
- A business and career center

	Current Central Library	Proposed 170,000 S.F. Facility	Proposed 250,000 S.F. Facility	Average of Peer Libraries
Project Cost		\$90 million	Additional \$41 million	
Sq. Feet	100,00 S.F.	170,000 S.F. (plus 80,000 S.F. unfinished)	250,000 S.F. (with 80,000 S.F. built out)	408,617 S.F.
Volume Capacity	375,000 Vols.	500,000 Vols.	680,000 Vols.	1.2 million Vols.
Volumes Added Opening Day		81,510 Vols.	81,510 Vols.	
Seats	330	495	744	2,082
Computers	40	75	126	146
Meeting Rooms	0	200	275	332
Auditorium Seats	0	200	200	382
Parking Spaces	40 Spaces	250	250	373
Staffing (above current levels)	38.73	53.73 (+15.0)	56.73 (+18.0)	150.5
Operating	\$2.8 Million	\$3.6 Million	\$3.7 Million	\$9.7 Million



If Austin voters ultimately approve the bond proposal for a new central library in the amount of \$90 million, the Library Department intends to actively pursue private donations, grants, and strategic partnerships in order to retain the critical components of the New Central Library Building Program for design and construction.

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/>

AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Austin Public Library Foundation works to increase awareness about the Library and its importance to the community. It also raises funds for programs, equipment and holdings that would otherwise be out of the Library's reach. In 2003-2004, the Austin Public Library Foundation received major project support from Applied Materials, the Austin Community Foundation, The Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, the Dell Foundation, H-E-B, The Junior League of Austin, LeapFrog SchoolHouse, Mervyn's, the SBC Foundation, the Still Water Foundation and Texas Gas Service.

<http://www.austinlibrary.org/site/PageServer>

FRIENDS OF THE AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Friends of the Austin Public Library commit all but a small percentage of its annual income to the local libraries. For the past several years, that has meant \$50,000-\$85,000 annually to support programs and items such as:

- Summer Reading Program
- Adult author programs (authors include Spike Gillespie, Jesse Sublett, Jodie Thomas, Sarah Bird, among others)
- Yarborough Branch Winter Party
- Ruiz Branch Annual Posada
- Children's book bins and graphic novel display cases
- Professional staff development

<http://www.austinlibrary.org/site/PageServer>



MOLLY RAPHAEL

Molly Raphael was appointed director of libraries for Multnomah County in the fall of 2003. Molly joins Multnomah County Library from the District of Columbia Public Library, where she served as director for almost six years. She began her library career at the District of Columbia Public Library in 1970 as an assistant children's librarian and held several leadership positions within that system prior to becoming its director.

A recognized leader in the library field, Molly has been an active member of the American Library Association (ALA) since 1974. In 2003, she completed a term on its Governing Board and is continuing on its legislative body. Molly's professional activities have also included serving as president of the District of Columbia Library Association and as co-founder of the ALA's library service for people with hearing impairments. She is a member of the Urban Libraries Council, the Freedom to Read Foundation, and the Friends of Libraries U.S.A.

Molly holds a bachelor's degree from Oberlin College and a master's degree in library science from Simmons College.