

## Summer 2014 Mailing...

In past letters, we have talked about the many changes going on throughout the library. Due to your generosity, they are now complete and hopefully you have found time to walk through the library to see the changes.



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With the reconfiguration of the first floor, the former Young Adult area has been turned into a music & reading area with a new mural painted by Peter Lex - the artist that painted the garage door. The colorful, inviting, mural has a music theme. The new TeenScape area is finally complete with a new backlit sign. As teens are finding and utilizing this space, it stays busy from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. It will be interesting to track its use throughout the summer.

Classes are being held many times throughout each week in the new computer lab on the second floor. A number of Makerspace programs have been held and a recent grant allowed the library to put out a call for local artists to come and teach a class in their specialty. The Homework Help room has been busy since it opened and now that school is out it will be overflow space for the Makerspace as well as a quiet reading/work area. The Wellness Corner, started with a grant from Blue Cross/Blue Shield Foundation, has seen much use. Throughout the week, nursing students and others in health and wellness education staff the room.

Even though you helped fund it, you may not have actually gotten into the new Meeting Room C. It is being used primarily by staff and the Library, Foundation, and Friends Boards, and is not in the public eye as much. Our entire facility is heavily used and even with the changes, we still turn away groups requesting space due to our need to expand. Expansion will be the only way to make significant new space.

Vicki Allen was hired as Executive Director for our Foundation in mid-January. She comes to this newly created position with a long history of community service and executive leadership to the Rochester and surrounding communities. We are excited for her new vision and leadership.

You are aware that most of the funding for these changes was made available through the "Where Needed" portion of funds collected with past fundraising letters. The fund is quite slim at the moment but we hope you realize that these beneficial changes would not have been possible without your generosity. As always, stewardship of your dollars is at the top of our priority list. We ask for your continued financial support of our upcoming programs and needs.

Chris Wendland, Foundation President