

University Branch

Residents and staff love this 101-year old classic Carnegie building. The branch serves an eclectic mix of people, including university professors, families with young children, autistic artists, Russian immigrants and homeless people. Many visitors do not own computers, and rely heavily on the public Internet access to conduct personal and professional business. In addition to hosting author programs in collaboration with the University Book Store, the branch offers a popular bedtime story time for families and has an active adult book discussion group.

Needs: To expand access to this diverse neighborhood of readers, the levy will open the University Branch on Sundays. The extra hours will increase access to library resources, staff and educational classes. It will increase the ability by patrons to pickup holds from this branch. Computers and printers essential to support students, job seekers and others will be upgraded and the collection of books and materials and online services improved. Funding for regular building maintenance also is included.

What this means for patrons:

- Add books, electronic books, movies and music and reduce wait times, especially for popular titles
- Expand children's collection of books systemwide to support early literacy and early learning
- Eliminate one-week systemwide closure
- Upgrade technology services, including computers, software, printers, copiers, online services and infrastructure
- Increase maintenance, including specialized cleaning and furniture care, periodic restroom updates, major maintenance

Programs:

Story time, book groups

Currently open:

Five days a week

Special Features:

Patrons are able to reserve the meeting room to play the piano. Branch staff members collaborate with local groups that work with homeless teens to provide educational and cultural resources.

In 2011, the University Branch's 20 public computers had almost 30,000 individual sessions.



At a Glance 2011

- 166,425 patron visits
- 267,575 materials checked out
- 772 story time participants
- 20 public computers
- 126 community meetings

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