

# ANDREW CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY & MUSIC HALL CAMPAIGN NEWSLETTER



A National Historic Landmark

WINTER 2009

## The Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall Campaign

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## A New Day for the Music Hall

### Leave Your Pillows at Home!

Aficionados have long known that the Music Hall has superb acoustics. Audiences have always appreciated the historic character of the Hall's architecture. Memories of performing on the stage in school plays, band concerts or – for a few, giving a valedictory address – run fond and deep. But no one has ever spoken appreciatively about the Music Hall's comfort.

Until now! The October 10 performance of *All Judy, All Heart* was a world premiere performance (see pages 6 and 7). Contralto Daphne Alderson captivated her audience. So too did the long-anticipated debut of new seats in the Music Hall. The new seats are beautiful, comfortable, in keeping with the Hall's character and accommodating of 21st century height and girth. Performers will always have to give their all to engage their audiences, but they will no longer be undermined by the almost legendary discomfort of the old seats.

There is a "neck down" transformation of the venue: new seats and plush new carpet in a rich russet with gold scrolling that echoes the palette of the original tiles in the lobby. There is a new sound and lighting booth, and in-the-row spaces for wheel chairs.

There is a wonderful view looking out at the Hall from the stage or the foot of the stage. Brass plaques adorn 180 of the 314 orchestra level seats. They are a lovely embellishment, but they also tell a story. "It is heartwarming to see how many people wanted their family's name or their organization's name to be part of the Library & Music Hall

forever," says Maggie Forbes, executive director and campaign manager. "We still have seats available for naming opportunities."

Historic preservationists will be pleased to know the Music Hall still has its original seats, complete with beloved hat racks, on the balcony level and as incidental seating in the lobby. The stadium style flooring in the balcony will not accommodate larger seats than the originals. "We have the best of both worlds," boasts Forbes. "Comfort and elegance on the orchestra level and history in the balcony!"

The Music Hall is far from finished. Air conditioning, plaster restoration, painting and theatrical sound and light upgrades await further funding. However, Carnegie Carnegie Hall's acoustics, character and comfort will position the Hall as one of the region's outstanding performance venues. "People need to get used to buying their tickets in advance," warns Forbes. "Sell outs are going to become the norm."



## Daphne Does It Again

Read about All Judy, All Heart, including a special guest and a special gift, plus more about those wonderful new seats, pages 6 and 7.



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**Monday**  
2 p.m.—8 p.m.  
**Tues., Wed., Thurs.**  
10 a.m.—8 p.m.  
**Friday**  
10 a.m.—5 p.m.  
**Saturday**  
9 a.m.—5 p.m.  
**Sunday**  
Closed

## SUMMER HOURS

(Memorial Day to Labor Day)

**Monday**  
2 p.m.—7 p.m.  
**Tues., Wed., Thurs.**  
10 a.m.—7 p.m.  
**Friday**  
10 a.m.—5 p.m.  
**Saturday**  
9 a.m.—1 p.m.  
**Sunday**  
Closed

## Contacts

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**ACFL&MH Executive Director**  
Maggie Forbes, x6

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[www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com)

The official registration and financial information of the Chartiers Valley Partnership may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll-free within PA 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

# A Message to Library & Music Hall Supporters

Dear Friends:

You do not have to read the *Wall Street Journal* or subscribe to *the Economist* to know that these are challenging times. We are *all* living the challenge as families, businesses and indeed as libraries and music halls.

Yet extraordinary things continue to happen at the Carnegie Carnegie. In October we unveiled beautiful new seats in the Music Hall. We've always had wonderful performances here – since the days when one of us was singing with the Carnegie High School's Double Quartet. But now audiences can enjoy an amazing variety of top caliber performances *in comfort*. Buy your tickets in advance...Music Hall performances *will* sell out!

And it's hard to underestimate the impact of re-opening the Espy Post this February after its painstaking restoration. Our extraordinary Civil War room will put the Library & Music Hall – and Carnegie – on the national map.

We thank you for your ongoing generosity. Please continue to help us complete this extraordinary project.

And please do not take our fine public Library for granted. With your help we are fixing our historic facility. Our programming is once again rich, vibrant and valued. We need stable and appropriate *public* funding – municipal, county and state – to continue providing outstanding library services. Please speak to your elected officials on behalf of the Andrew Carnegie Free Library.

Happy holidays to you and yours,

Charles R. Goetz  
Campaign Co-Chair

William E. Manby  
Campaign Co-Chair

Isabel Ford  
President, ACFL&MH Board of Trustees

## Changing of the Guard

The Chartiers Valley Partnership officially launched the capital campaign to restore the Library & Music Hall in fall 2003. By any measure the campaign has prospered under its leadership team: Bill Manby and Charlie Goetz as campaign co-chairs and Bob Gordon as the honorary campaign chair. So when Gordon decided it was time to pass the baton, “our initial response was chagrin,” admits Manby. “But then in typical Bob Gordon fashion, he not only assured us he’d remain active in completing the campaign, but he suggested a terrific successor.”

Fortunately, the person he suggested agreed to

accept the challenge to step up as the new honorary campaign chair. Dana Craig, ACFL&MH trustee and stalwart campaign supporter, lives in nearby Nevillewood and discovered the Library & Music Hall only three years ago. But in his short

association with the ACFL&MH he’s already demonstrated his exceptional leadership skills and commitment to the Library & Music Hall.

“How could I say no,” laughs Craig, “The Library & Music Hall is a magnificent, historic facility that provides fabulous services and programming. Bob Gordon not only paved the way, but he’s promised to watch my back...”

The campaign remains in excellent hands!



Bob Gordon, left, and Dana Craig, right, with Maggie Forbes, center, at “Black Tie, Bubbly and Bingo”, which Dana hosted at the Nevillewood Club House in November, 2008.

## Carnegie Carnegie Hall

### An Opera House of Distinction

The ACFL&MH and Duquesne University's Opera Workshop are collaborating on their fifth holiday concert. *Songs for the Season* features students from the Mary Pappert School of Music in short scenes from the opera cannon in a concert taking place Saturday, December 12 at 2:00 p.m.

The concert is the perfect afternoon for opera enthusiasts and neophytes alike as it features arias sung as solos, duets and ensemble work. "Our relationship with Guenko Guechev (director of the Opera Workshop) and Duquesne is such a gift," says executive director Maggie Forbes. "Duquesne loves the venue...our audience loves the performance!" Forbes encourages people not sure about opera to come to this concert. "I've seen young children entranced by the music – and the promise of the dessert reception following the performance!"

The December concert is great preparation for one of the season's highlights in the Music Hall: the Opera Workshop's performance of Mozart's beloved masterpiece *Die Zauberflöte* (*The Magic Flute*) on April 23 and 25. This will be Duquesne's fourth fully-staged – complete with super titles – Mozart opera in the Music Hall.

*Songs for the Season* is free and open to the public; tickets for *Die Zauberflöte* are \$15 (\$10 for seniors/students) at [www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com) or 412-276-3456.

*(Opera enthusiasts save the date! Internationally acclaimed mezzo soprano and Duquesne alumna Marianne Cornetti returns to the Music Hall for its annual benefit performance on October 2, 2010.)*



## Alchemy for Three

Don't miss Chatham Baroque at its Carnegie Carnegie Hall debut, Sunday, January 31 at 2:00 p.m. This local ensemble, recognized nationally as elite interpreters of 17th and 18th century music, performs on period instruments. Chatham Baroque's artists are Andrew Fouts (baroque violin), Patricia Halverson (viola da gamba) and Scott Pauley (theorbo, lute and baroque guitar).

*Alchemy for Three* features music that shows the three instrumentalists of Chatham Baroque in different roles: as soloists, accompanists, and equal partners in duos and trios. The program includes gems by well-known baroque masters such as J.S. Bach and Arcangelo Corelli, and with the addition of extraordinary works by Kapsperger, Biber and Schmelzer, it also ventures into wonderful terrain unknown to many music enthusiasts.

It's appropriate that Chatham Baroque's program title references *alchemy*. "There is a magical chemistry between our Music Hall and acoustic musicians of this caliber...it's what our Hall was built for," says executive director Maggie Forbes. The Chatham Baroque trio obviously agrees. After a careful search of possible recording venues they chose the Music Hall to record the works of Giovanni Girolamo Kapsberger last spring (release date not determined.)

Tickets are \$25.00 and available on [www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com) or at the Library circulation desk. A reception follows the performance.



# The Carnegie Carnegie: Where D

It was a command performance. Following her unqualified success with last year's *Songs that Oscar Taught Me*, contralto Daphne Alderson returned to Carnegie Carnegie Hall on October 10. She delighted an audience of over 200 people with her tribute to beloved American icon Judy Garland, *All Judy, All Heart*. Daphne's final song, an off-mike rendition of "Over the Rainbow" accompanied only by guitarist John Marcinizyn, earned the highest audience compliment: a moment of total silence.

The world premiere performance also marked the debut of beautiful new seats in the Music Hall.

"We couldn't lose!" said executive director Maggie Forbes. "Judy Garland, Daphne Alderson and our gorgeous new seats." The event raised \$35,000 for the campaign to restore the Library & Music Hall.

"These are tough times," said campaign co-chair Bill Manby. "We are so grateful to all our generous sponsors and to everyone who supported or attended the performance." His co-chair Charlie Goetz was equally enthusiastic. "All these good people were part of an evening that marks a turning point for the Music Hall. They will go forth as ambassadors for this venue."

The performance began with a surprise cameo by acclaimed Pittsburgh stage actor Larry John Meyers. As other members of the band took the stage, Meyers sat down at the piano wearing a seedy lion suit and plucked out "If I Only Had a Brain." He had the audience in stitches as he scoffed Alderson's attempt to do "another Judy Garland." That said, everyone was delighted when musical director and arranger Douglas Levine took over at the piano and Daphne began to sing.

And can Daphne sing! Judy Garland is inextricably identified with songs that she sang; Alderson's challenge was not to mimic or channel Garland but to honor her with a beautiful performance in her own style. She succeeded admirably with songs ranging from the anticipated – though not as a tango – "The Boy Next Door" to the more esoteric "I Could Go on Singing (Till the Cows Come Home)." The two showstoppers were "I Love a Piano" from *Easter Parade* and Edith Piaf's "Milord," sung in French. In introducing the latter Daphne told the audience that Garland had been negotiating to star in a film on Piaf's life at the time of her death. Both iconic singers died at age 47.

Daphne had the audience in a warm and wonderful place throughout the evening. She was greatly aided by her band. Douglas Levine and John Marcinizyn (Daphne's husband), both veterans from the Oscar Hammerstein concert, were joined by Jeff Mangone on bass and Al Wrublesky on percussion. "Daphne is rightly the star, but the arrangements and the band earned equal accolades from the audience," said Forbes.

The concert was followed by an elegant reception throughout the Library & Music Hall facility. The circulation desk makes a great bar! As at previous benefits, Michael Lench Catering made that after party a gustatory delight.



# Dreams Really Are Coming True!

## Frank Meiser

### *A Night to Remember*



Life long Carnegie resident Frank Meiser ("born and raised in Irishtown") is also a life long Judy Garland fan. When his friends and neighbors at the Honus Wagner Apartments learned about the upcoming Judy Garland concert they wanted to surprise him with a ticket. Though the \$125 price tag for the benefit concert initially gave them pause, Honus Wagner residents passed the hat and bought him a ticket to the October 10 performance. As Site Manager Rosalyn Joesten explained, "It's hard to describe how much Frank does for the spirits of everyone who lives and works here – he's loved."

Asked how he felt about the gift Meiser was reflective. "You go through life wondering who you are and what you are doing...Then all of a sudden you discover that you have real friends when they spring something like this on you."

Asked about Daphne Alderson's performance, Meiser was enthusiastic. "I knew she wouldn't be Judy, but what a gorgeous voice Daphne has! You can tell she's classically trained – it's all from the diaphragm. She sang so many songs that mean so much to me, she was so unrushed and giving... And I loved the Piaf song." Apparently the eclectic Meiser has all of Edit Piaf's albums as well. Alderson dedicated her final song, "Over the Rainbow," to Frank.

Summing up the evening Meiser said, "From start to finish, I was on a cloud!"



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*\$500 puts your family name or your business name on one of the Music Hall's new seats.*

*A very limited number of historic seats are still available for \$250 a pair.*

*Call 412-276-3456, x. 6*



**NEW SEATS**



**HISTORIC SEATS**



## Espy Post Re-Opens

### *National Treasure Restored*

February 12, 2010 marks the 201st anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth. It also marks an auspicious occasion for the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall: the reopening of the Captain Thomas Espy Post No. 153 of the Grand Army of the Republic after a painstaking restoration.

The Espy Post is truly a national treasure. In the late 19th century, there were nearly 7,000 posts from Portland, ME to Portland, OR. The Espy Post has been documented by Stuart McConnell as one of the half dozen most intact Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) posts in the country.

The "time capsule" aspect of the Library & Music Hall's Civil War Room is well known. The Espy Post received its charter in 1879 and met in various rented spaces in the Carnegie area. The stately and beautiful Library opened in 1901. In 1906 members of the Espy Post forged an agreement with the Library. They custom-furnished a second floor room to reflect the Library's grand character, Civil War motifs and GAR convention. Members of the Espy Post met at the Library until the last member died in the 1930s. Then the Library essentially locked the door and ignored the room for 50 years.

The Espy Post room and its contents were deeply compromised by decades of neglect. However, being forgotten but left more or less intact gives the room its deep historic resonance.

Library & Music Hall staff and board, as well as capital campaign leadership have long been aware of the importance of the Civil War Room, but when work on the building began, the restoration of the room had to take a back burner. The ACFL&MH's entire historic landmark facility was imperiled. The ambitious below and above grade weatherproofing had to be completed before any significant interior work could begin.

And as executive director/campaign manager Maggie Forbes readily admits, "We could only focus on stabilization of the Espy Post until we secured funding for the room." While confident that the campaign would find that funding, Forbes notes that structural work to the building as a whole took precedence.

Then in December the campaign received an unexpected and major gift to restore its Civil War Room. New friends and neighbors from nearby Nevillewood, Bill and Denise Brown, made a gift to restore the Espy Post. Long time believers in supporting their community, they had only recently been introduced to the ACFL&MH by Honorary Campaign Chair and Library Trustee Dana Craig. "They were adventuresome enough to accompany Susan and me to a show called *Urinetown*," remembers Craig.

"We were blown away by their generosity," says Forbes, "generosity that could not come at a better time." The Browns' December 2008 donation played a major role in the campaign's remarkable rally last year to secure its second \$500,000 challenge grant. The Brown's gift has unexpected human interest appeal as well: Bill Brown was born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama. Asked about this, he said, "This room helps us understand *America's* story." (See *A Union Soldier*, page 7)

## Hidden in Plain Sight

Several decades of water damage, fluctuations in temperature and humidity, age and neglect severely compromised the Espy Post. The initial restoration process focuses on the room itself, rather than on individual artifacts, documents and records. The intent of the restoration is two-fold: to bring back the room as much as feasible (and knowable) to its original state; and to provide a safe environment for the Espy Post's artifacts and furnishings.

Members of the Espy Post left behind an invaluable record to guide the design team. A catalogue produced in 1911 not only describes the artifacts collected by the veterans, but includes photo documentation of all four walls of the custom furnished room.

Key elements of the restoration include:

- A separate HVAC system with humidity controls dedicated to the room;
- Protective coatings on the windows to block ultraviolet light;
- Restoring plaster and woodwork;
- Restoring wall sconces, replicating chandeliers – the wall and ceiling fixtures were appointed for both gas and electric;
- Replica carpet replaces the completely dry-rotted original;
- Painting the room, including stencils above and below the crown molding.

Core samples of the paint were taken from behind a radiator and sent to a lab in Bryn Mawr to determine the original color. "I am so glad it wasn't beige!" says executive director Maggie Forbes.

The Espy Post continues to reveal its treasures. While working in the emptied room, project superintendent Wayne Rabbitt of Landau Building Company noticed "1906" – the year the veterans came to the Library – painted into the faux grain painting on the lintel above the door.

## A Union Soldier

A native of Birmingham, Alabama, Bill Brown had many relatives on his mother's side who served as both officers and enlisted men in the Confederate States of America. His paternal great grandfather, however, was born in Oswego County, New York in 1844. The following excerpt is taken from an article in a Utica newspaper, on the occasion of William Marshel Brown's 90th birthday.

**... War Vet, 90, Discusses Days of '61 with Comrade at Party**

*In his 19th year he, with five other youths, went to Mexico, Oswego County and enlisted in the New York Light Artillery. They were transferred to Fort Morton, Va, a short distance from Petersburg and he fought in a number of battles, the most fierce and grim of which was the Battle of the Wilderness, a three-day fight when 35,000 men were lost."*

*According to his application for a military pension, William M. Brown enlisted as a private in Battery G, 1<sup>st</sup> New York Light Artillery Volunteers, and was honorably discharged in Elmira, N.Y. in June 1865. In his later years the Civil War veteran lived with his son's family in Utica, NY. Bill Brown's father, Chester, shared many of his grandfather's war stories with his own son, certainly encouraging Bill's lifelong love of history.*

## Civil War Programming

The ACFL&MH is developing a schedule of weekly hours when the Espy Post will be open to the public; special arrangements may be made for groups. Programming at the time of publication includes:

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 5:30 P.M.** Opening

Reception, hosted by former Governor Dick Thornburgh. Tickets, \$50 to benefit Espy Post programming.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 10 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.**

Ongoing tours of the Espy Post, free and open to the public.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 8:00 P.M.** *An*

*Evening with Mark Twain*, Stage 62 presents Dr. Alan Solter in a one man show on the American master, Samuel Clemens. \$20, \$15 seniors and students. [www.stage62/reservations](http://www.stage62/reservations)

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13 – SATURDAY,**

**MARCH 27:** 100 Portraits of Lincoln: 100 photographs on loan from photographer Norman Schumm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Reception Hall, free and open to the public during Library hours.

**APRIL:** *Abraham Lincoln: A Man of His Time, a*

*Man for All Times*. A national traveling exhibit developed by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Reception Hall, free and open to the public during Library hours.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.**

Ongoing tours of the Espy Post, featured speakers, re-enactor drills and skirmishes, genealogical research and more.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2:00 P.M.** a Civil War

concert featuring Aaron Copland's *A Lincoln Portrait* with actor David Conrad and Duquesne University's Wind Symphony under the direction of guest conductor H. Robert Reynolds. Tickets, \$20.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 7:00 P.M.** *Voices from the*

*Civil War in Poetry, Story and Song*, Music Hall, Pittsburgh Poetry Society reads original works, and works from the period, free and open to the public.

**FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH,**

**OCTOBER – MAY:** Blue & Gray Civil War Book Club, 6:00 p.m. Library Conference Room.

## An Artifact's Story



As we approach the 146th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address, I recall that Lincoln once worried that people might forget what had happened there. He need not have worried. There has been (on average) a book published nearly every day since the Civil War ended, with more releases each month. That's over 50,000 books. Why the continued interest in the war? My belief is that beyond the research and discussion over military tactics, in-depth biographies and war strategies there lies a human interest factor.

Nearly every family had someone who served during the war – a husband, father, brother, an uncle, or cousin. These veterans survived well into the 20th century and lived to tell stories that have been passed down in families for generations. So, too, do the artifacts housed in the Espy Post room – each one has a story to tell.

Surely one of the most unusual artifacts from the room is No. 130 “Hornets’ Nest and Canteen.” The Union canteen was found by S.A. Satterwhite, who had served with the 6th Louisiana Tigers. After the war he lived not far from where General Lee’s headquarters were located during the Battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia. It seems that Mr. Satterwhite and his sons

cut it from a tree in 1900, where it was found some 30 feet above the ground. Hornets had built a nest around the canteen...

*An unseasonable blizzard followed by freezing rain had preceded the Battle of Fredericksburg in December 1862. Imagine a lone Union soldier, cold and wet, poised precariously in the tree, scouting enemy movement on Marye’s Heights across the Rappahannock River. One can only speculate on what he saw through his binoculars, but possibly something urgent. In his haste to descend the tree and report his findings, he forgot to retrieve his canteen.*

This is only one of a hundred stories the Espy Post artifacts have to tell. Please join us in February as we celebrate the return of the artifacts to the newly restored room.

## Sharing a Treasure

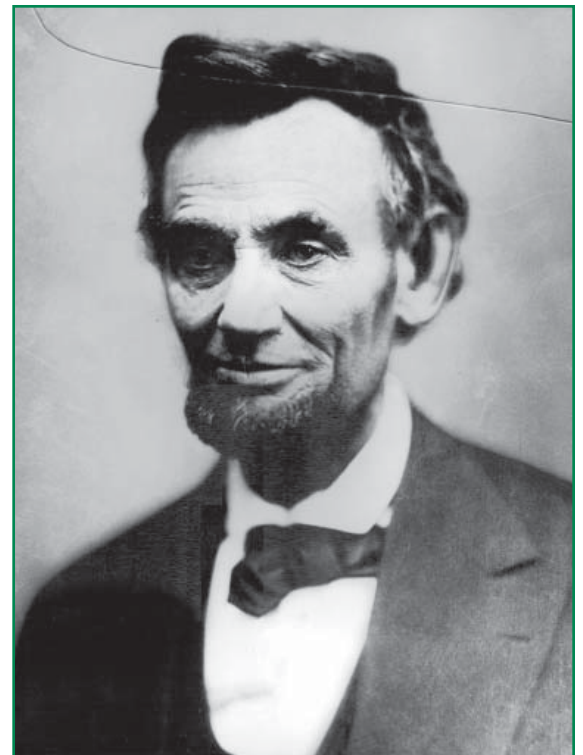
When the Espy Post re-opens on the 201st anniversary of Lincoln’s birth, it will have a compelling complement: an exhibition of 100 photographic portraits of Abraham Lincoln. These photographs range from an 1847 daguerrotype to the only photograph of Lincoln in his coffin, obviously taken in 1865.

Mt. Lebanon resident Norman Schumm is lending his photographs to the Library & Music Hall. A fine arts photographer by avocation, Schumm was a Navy pilot, then a corporate pilot for PNC. He had worked with Stefan Lorant in his photographer capacity on three editions (1975, 1980 and 1999) of his landmark book, *Pittsburgh: The Story of an All American City*. Not too long before Lorant’s death in 1997, he had contacted Schumm to develop photographs from his collection of copy negatives from his book *Lincoln: A Picture Story of his Life*. Lorant intended these photographs for an exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

As part of the compensation for his work (three weeks in the darkroom), Schumm negotiated permission to develop a full set of the 100 Lincoln portraits for himself. Schumm describes these photographs as “one of a few of a kind.” When he learned of the re-opening of the Espy Post he was “excited by the opportunity to show the Lincoln portraits as a treasure of photographs.” Heretofore his photographs have been exhibited for one day last February at the Photograph Section of The Academy of Science and Art of Pittsburgh.

According to executive director Maggie Forbes, Schumm’s generosity marks a turning point for the Library & Music Hall. “Norm recognized what a treasure the Espy Post is that he decided to share his treasure with us.” Forbes looks forward to more such collaborations inspired not just by the Civil War Room, but by the facility as a whole.

The portraits of Lincoln will be on display in the Reception Hall during regular Library hours adjacent to the Espy Post from February 12 through March 27.



*1865 photoograph by Alexander Gardner, taken four days before Lincoln’s assassination.*

## An Allegheny County First!

### Children's Room Re-Organized

Helping your toddler or pre-schooler pick out a book has become much easier at the Library. The ACFL is the first library in Allegheny County to organize its picture book collection by category. Previously, picture books were organized by author just as the adult collection is. An author's last name is not the most direct route to a three-year old finding a book about fire trucks.

Now not only can an adult and child head for the *Things that Go!* section, but the topical organization actually fosters more browsing and more adventuresome selection. Children and Youth Services Librarian Erin Tipping has already noted an increase in circulation. "The new system encourages children to branch out without forcing them to move outside their comfort level." For example, while looking for a book on fire trucks, a child sees a book on ships that catches his or her eye, and checks that out as well.

In addition to *Things that Go!*, other categories include *Animals, Bedtime, Community, Dinosaurs, Fairy Tales, Family, Growing Up, I Spy, Language, Math, Nature/Science, Pets, Rhymes and Sports/Activities*. Tipping notes that some of the categories were chosen to help parents, caregivers and educators with school-readiness, and that the categories are not cast in stone. "The Library is a living place, responsive to our community's needs."



## Help Tell Their Story!

### Become a Docent at the Espy Post.

The ACFL&MH needs volunteers, aged 16 and older, to staff the Espy Post and help visitors understand the rich stories the room and its contents tell. Training required. Please contact Diane Klinefelter at 412-276-3456, x. 6.



*Aspects of Lincoln, from page 12*

piece. Asked about his feelings for Lincoln, Conrad said, "The Civil War wasn't fought to end slavery.....until Lincoln said it was. Coming after Antietam, the Emancipation Proclamation literally altered the course of American history. His words re-stitched the fabric of a nation. Not right away, not in a decade but that's how we see it and now, that's how it was."

Conrad went on to speak about libraries. "Ken Burns said 'when the American Empire is long gone what they'll remember us for are: the Constitution, Jazz, and Baseball.' I'd put our Public Libraries ahead of all three. They're the best evidence that democracy works and that the state gives a damn about you. You cut funding for them you tear another page out of the social contract."

"We are so fortunate to have David Conrad," says executive director Maggie Forbes, who has seen him perform poetry readings, Stoppard and Shakespeare in Pittsburgh. At the time she contacted him, Forbes had no idea that he was a star of CBS' hit series, *Ghost Whisperer*. "I don't think we'll have a problem selling tickets!"

Certainly not with Duquesne University's Wind Symphony, recognized as one of the most elite ensembles of its kind in the country, sharing the bill! Brainstorming a year ago with Ed Kocher, Dean of the School of Music, he suggested adapting Copland's piece for the wind ensemble. Recently he reported that Duquesne will be working with a luminous guest conductor on April 11. According to Kocher, "The opportunity to

perform under the baton of the legendary H. Robert Reynolds in a space as wonderful as Carnegie Carnegie Hall is an educational opportunity that will forge a lifelong memory for our students." Now at the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music, Reynolds had been at the University of Michigan's School of Music for 26 years before retiring. He served there as Director of University Bands and Director of Instrumental Music.

The program will be expanded beyond the Copland piece by both Mr. Conrad and the Wind Symphony. Tickets are \$20. Visit [www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com) to purchase tickets or call 412-276-3456, ext. 6. A reception and the opportunity to see the Lincoln exhibit follows the concert.

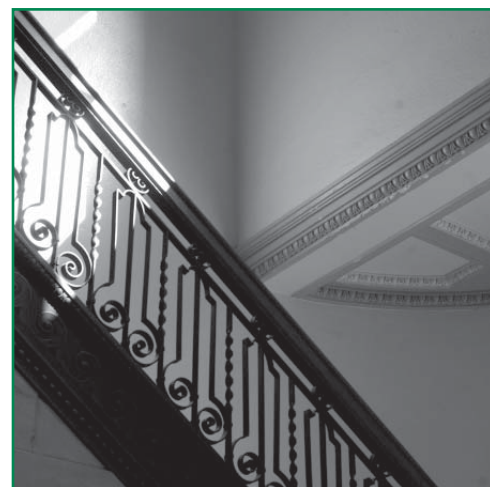
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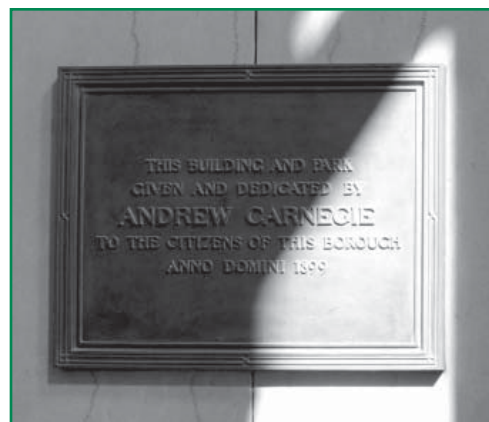
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## Teen Volunteer and Published Author



Rebecca Seeger, a Junior at Oakland Catholic High School, has been a volunteer at the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall for two years, beginning as a summer reading helper and continuing her volunteer work throughout the school year, helping in the children's department with parties and story times.

Rebecca is also an active participant in her school's drama and chorus organizations, and is about to become a published author! She is among the select few whose writings will be published in the upcoming *Ralph Munn Creative Writing Anthology*, a book created through a county-wide library contest. She says her favorite part about volunteering at the Library is decorating the Children's Department bulletin boards. Obviously, Rebecca is also a budding artist!

## Aspects of Lincoln

The Lincoln bicentennial celebration will have ended when the ACFL&MH re-opens the Captain Thomas Espy Post on February 12, 2010. However, the 201st anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth seems the most fitting date for this Library & Music Hall milestone.

The Civil War is widely acknowledged as the defining moment in American history. Its searing lessons shape the nation's understanding of who we are as a people. For many Americans – not only those born north of the Mason Dixon line, not only Civil War scholars or enthusiasts – their interest in the Civil War radiates from their interest in and appreciation of the sixteenth President of the United States.

The re-opening of the Espy Post will be complemented by a rare exhibit of 100 photographs of Lincoln. (See *A Treasure Shared*, p. 8) In April, the month when the Civil War both began and ended, and when Lincoln was assassinated, the ACFL&MH will be one of 40 sites around the country hosting a national traveling exhibit. "Abraham Lincoln: A Man of His Time, a Man for All Times" was developed by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, and funded through a

major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Making extensive use of his own words, the exhibit explores how Lincoln transcended his age to leave a constitutional legacy for all Americans. The panel exhibit draws on documents, broadsides and ephemera from the Gilder Lehrman Collection, and was

curated by Steven Mintz, Professor of History at the University of Houston, and Richard Carwardine, Rhodes Professor of American History at Oxford University.

The exhibit is free and open to the public during regular Library Hours during the month of April. The exact opening and closing dates are contingent upon shipping arrangements not yet determined.

The Library & Music Hall's annual Civil War program takes place on Saturday, April 10. Details are still being developed for a program that will feature the restored Espy Post and the Lincoln exhibit as its focal point. A performance of Aaron Copland's *A Lincoln Portrait* will be presented the following day, Sunday, April 11 at 2:00 p.m.

Actor David Conrad, a Pittsburgh native and self-described "Lincoln and Library lover", will narrate the stirring Copland



*Actor David Conrad will narrate Aaron Copland's A Lincoln Portrait in April.*