

A National Historic Landmark

WINTER 2007-08

The Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall Campaign

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Challenge Grant Announced at Carnegie Birthday Party

The Library & Music Hall had more to celebrate than Andrew Carnegie's 172nd birthday on November 15. An audience of more than 200 had gathered for the program that included a performance by members of Carnegie Mellon University's Pipes and Drums as well as WQED correspondent Tonia



Members of CMU's Pipes and Drums perform in front to the Music Hall Skibo Castle (Carnegie's castle in Scotland) curtain.

Caruso's presentation of her heartwarming *On Q* feature about the Library & Music Hall.

Leon Zionts, the star of Stage 62's production of *Fiddler on the Roof*, made a surprise guest appearance. His rousing rendition of "If I Were a Rich Man" wowed the crowd. It also made the perfect theatrical segue to Campaign Co-Chair Bill Manby's announcement of a \$500,000 challenge grant.

"Andrew Carnegie certainly was a rich man, who gave of his riches very generously," declared Bill Manby. "But the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall has riches of its own."

Manby announced that the campaign to restore the Library &

Music Hall had received its second \$500,000 conditional challenge grant from the same anonymous foundation that launched the campaign four years ago.

See "Challenge Grant", page 11

Civil War Artifact Returned has Powerful Story



A dead soldier, his bloody sword and the Pittsburgh parents who refused it... Artifacts returned to Post. See page 5.

Lynne Rossetto Kasper Captivates

Lynne Rossetto Kasper returned to the Library & Music Hall the weekend of October 20-21—she was here for the campaign's first benefit in 2004—and delighted the 350 people who supported the program.

Lynne charmed an audience of more than 250 on Saturday. Her talk, "Glorious Feasts: A Look at Outrageous Tables and the Food We Put on Them," took her appreciative fans from the banquets of the Borgias to today's fascination with celebrity chefs and the Food Channel. Politics, posturing, fashion and style have long been as critical components at certain tables as sustenance and pleasure.

At the conclusion of Ms. Kasper's presentation the Music Hall curtain went up to reveal the Library & Music Hall's version of its own "splendid table." The stage was a striking set piece created by caterer Michael Lench, which audience members happily

"For People Who Love to Eat!"



Tables heaped with tantalizing hors d'ouevres were to be found at every turn throughout the Library and Music Hall and Reception Hall, including on the stage itself. More on pages 6 and 7.

thronged for some participatory culinary theater of their own.

Ms. Kasper returned Sunday morning for a brunch and book signing in the ACFL&MH's reception hall. Brilliant autumn sunshine streamed through the Library & Music Hall's signature windows, making the glass display provided by Pittsburgh's Glass Center glitter. Guests enjoyed a delicious brunch along with plenty of one on one time with Lynne, and the opportunity to explore the Library & Music Hall.

"Lynne is a force of nature," enthused campaign cochair Charlie Goetz. "Her warmth, knowledge and generosity of spirit weave an irresistible spell—she has an open invitation to return to our Music Hall any time."

Lynne was equally admiring of the Library & Music Hall. "In the short time since my last visit, so many amazing changes have happened. Your glorious old building seems to stand taller, feel spiffier and if possible, even more welcoming. And the Music Hall is still my all time favorite venue. Thank you for the welcome, and for restoring my faith in what community can be all about."

The event raised more than \$65,000 and attracted audience from New York, Maryland, West Virginia, Butler, Beaver, Washington and Westmoreland Counties and all reaches of Allegheny County.

Ms. Kasper is heard locally on WDUQ 90.5 FM.WDUQ served as media sponsor for the event. Alexandria Chaklos acted as emcee, introducing Ms. Kasper at Saturday's program.

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Library Hours

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 (July and August)

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

ACFL&MH Website

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:

These are gratifying times at the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall!

As we announced at Andrew Carnegie's birthday celebration, the campaign has received a second \$500,000 conditional challenge grant. This challenge grant represents a tremendous vote of confidence—a \$1 million vote of confidence— from the same anonymous foundation that helped us launch this campaign four years ago.

And what a difference four years make! If you haven't been to the Library & Music Hall recently—come. The building is structurally sound and looks amazing. The recent work in the Music Hall lobby brings new elegance and functionality to our gem of a Music Hall. We've added a box office and concession stand, new exterior doors and indirect cove lighting that illuminates the newly restored egg and dart molding. We have to wait until it is completely dry before we can paint this fine plasterwork, but the new color scheme will be worth the wait.

Four years ago Carnegie and surrounding communities contributed \$516,000 to secure our first challenge grant. Your generosity is the cornerstone of this campaign—as well as the best indicator of the ACFL&MH's future as a vibrant library & performance venue.

The terms of this challenge require that we raise \$1 million, a two-to-one match, by December 2008 to secure this second \$500,000 grant. We're already well on our way with your help, we'll get there as a milestone along the way to completing this extraordinary project.

Thank you for you continued generosity. All best wishes to you and yours for the holiday season and the New Year to come.

See you here soon.

Charles R. Goetz & Campaign Co-Chair

William E. Manby

Campaign Co-Chair

Ronald L. Moehler

President, ACFL&MH Board of Trustees

New Children's and Youth Librarian Joins Staff

Erin Tipping joined the staff on September 10 as the new Children's and Youth Librarian and has been creating messes and magic ever since!

"I knew we were on the right track when I walked into the Children's Room and the kids were making butter," says Executive Director Maggie Forbes. Tipping read stories about cows and the program also included a mother with a guitar leading kids in a boisterous Old McDonald..."Even the guys painting the windows outside were swaying along to the music," said Forbes.



Erin reads to a table full of children while they create and color along with the story.

The ACFL&MH received a very generous two-year grant from The Grable Foundation in August to upgrade children's programming and services. The most immediate results

of this grant enabled the Library to hire a professional Children's and Youth Services Librarian for the first time in its century-long history and to add Monday hours, a critical after-school time for students. The Library is now open from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. It had been closed on Mondays for 16 years.

Quality children's programming is perhaps the most important service a library can offer its community. "Libraries are a natural partner for parents, caregivers and educators in fostering 'reading readiness' from birth onwards," claims Library Director, Diane Ragan. "Children who grow up with the library as a regular part of their recreational and learning experiences have a huge advantage in the lifelong learning department."

The ACFL&MH's children's programming has always had a devoted following. However, funding issues had cut children's programming hours to no more than 10 to 12 a week. Children's programming will grow significantly over the next two years.

Native Pittsburgher Erin Tipping worked at the Library as an intern this summer while completing her

masters' degree from the University of Pittsburgh's School of Library and Information Science. She did her undergraduate work at Duquesne.

I knew we were on the right track when I walked into the Children's Room and the kids were making butter.

"I am thrilled to be a part of the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall at this time. It is amazing to have the chance to see how the Library & Music Hall have evolved in the past few years, and know that I will have a hand in shaping its image with children for years to come," says Tipping.

In addition to adding hours and professional services, the two-year Grable Foundation Grant enables the ACFL&MH to enrich its children's and youth collection, purchase materials that encourage dramatic play, involve performers, artists and other community members in enriching children's and youth programming, and to increase staff training as well.

Visit www.carnegiecarnegie.com for the latest information on children's and youth programming.

Duquesne University Opera Workshop Back for '07-'08 Season

Opera Workshop director Guenko Guechev is planning an afternoon of light opera highlights on Sunday, December 16 at 2:00 p.m. Taking his inspiration from Johann Strauss' perennial holiday favorite *Die Fledermaus*, Guechev is working on a program drawn from the Viennese canon of operetta. "It will be a frothy confection," says Guechev, "as light and bubbly as the champagne that flows so freely in *Die Fledermaus*."

Duquesne University's outstanding Mary Pappert School of Music's third holiday program at the Library & Music Hall is already a highly anticipated tradition in Carnegie. The program, which is free and open to the public, is followed by a dessert, wassail and coffee in the Reception Hall.

The songs will be sung in both English and German. According to Guechev, it is the beauty of the melodies rather than the lyrics that will captivate. The super title translations will be saved for Duquesne's fully staged production of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* in April. Several of the singers who entranced audiences with last April's *Marriage of Figaro* will perform in this production.

This 90-minute family program will offer beautiful music that can be enjoyed by operetta neophytes or enthusiasts alike.

"Our evolving relationship with Duquesne University's Opera Workshop is a gift to the community," say Executive Director Maggie Forbes. "What a privilege to provide music of this caliber that is accessible to everyone. It so exciting to see what Guenko will come up with next."

What's Happening at the ACFL&MH

Children's and Family Programming

Everybody Feng Shui

January 17, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Reservations required. Reception Hall, Free, Call 412-276-3456, x 2 for reservations.

Winter Twilight Poetry Reading and Art Exhibit

January 24, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

A reception follows the reading. Reception Hall, Free.

Dr. Seuss's Birthday Party

March 1, 2008, 11:00 a.m. Reception Hall, Free,

www.carnegiecarnegie.com or 412/276-3456.

9th Pennsylvania Reserves

March 8, 2008, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Public tours of the Espy Post will be

offered, and as well as some regimental drilling. Reception Hall.

Teen Safety Seminar

March 19, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Reservations required. Reception Hall. Free. For more information **www.allstateteendrive.com**. Call 412/276-3456, x 2 for reservations.

Babies and Books

10:30 a.m., Tuesdays. Ages birth to 24 months with an adult.

Stories with Sammy

4:00 p.m., Tuesdays.

Reservations required. Children's Department. Call 412-276-3456, x2 to reserve a Tuesday reading session.

Homework Help

Available every day from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. September – June.

PALS (People Able to Lend Support) Book Club

1:00 p.m., 3rd Wednesday of every month.

Stories and Crafts

10:30 a.m.; Thursdays

For pre-schoolers through young primary, with an adult.

See "Library Programming", page 11

Music Hall

Civil War Event

members of the 9th

April 25 through 27, 2008.

Evening concert, Civil War

tours of the Espy Post with

exposition, re-enactments and

Pennsylvania Reserves, Keynote

Speaker. See page 5 for details.

Christmas in Vienna

December 16, 2007, 2:00 p.m.

Duquesne University's Opera Workshop performance, followed cookies and coffee in the Reception Hall. Free.

Bigger Than Life: American Tall Tales

February 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 2008; 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2:00 p.m. Sat.-Sun All seats \$5.00, www.stage62.com or 412-429-6262.

DANSAQ String Quartet and Percussive Dance February 28, 2008, 7:30 p.m.

Advance tickets recommended. \$20.00 (\$17 seniors and students), 412-276-3456, x. 6.

Beauty and the Beast—The Charming Fairytale

March 28, 29 and 30, 2008, 8:00 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2:00 p.m. Sun.

\$12.00 (\$10.00 students and seniors),

www.carnegieperformingartscenter.com or 412-279-8887.

Aladdin—The Dramatic Play

April 11, 12, 13, 2008, 8:00 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2:00 p.m. Sun. \$12.00 (\$10.00 students and seniors),

www.carnegieperformingartscenter.com or 412-279-8887

Don Giovanni

April 18 and 20, 2008, 8:00 p.m. Friday, 2:00 p.m. Sunday. \$10.00 suggested donation, **www.duq.edu** or 412-396-6083.

See "Music Hall", page 11

Need to plan out your next year? Make sure you've got the latest Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall Annual Program Book nearby so you don't miss any of the shows, programs, events or activities coming up in 2008 in both the Library and Music Hall plus information about the facility and the resources it offers.

All ACFL&MH programs are subject to change. Visit www.carnegiecarnegie.com for the most up-to-date information.

Make Your Family's Name a Proud Part of Library & Music Hall Restoration

Naming opportunities help the campaign raise critical funding and feature you as part of the inspiring story of the ACFL&MH's restoration.

Main Reading Room: a stately fireplace and Andrew Carnegie's portrait
set the tone
Children's Room: where love of reading takes root
Library Circulation Desk: serving library patrons since 1901 oommitted\$50,000
Reference Room: periodicals, journals, newspapers, atlases, etc
Library Foyer: welcoming first impression sets the tone
Library Multi-purpose Room: Graced with three signature windows,
this space off the Children's Room will accommodate a wide variety of
small group programming
Library Grand Stairway: a testament to bygone graciousness and style \$25,000
Fireplace Seating: a comfortable living room for reading the newspaper or
latest bestseller
Library Doors: opening minds to the world and beyond
Windows (10): signature arched windows are the ACFL&MH's defining
architectural feature
Library Tables (8): lovely oak tables, critical contributors to the Library's
historic character\$1,000 ea
Oak Bookshelves(c. 500): a shelf for each family on the Library's stately 7-foot
oak bookcases
Music Hall: an elegant, acoustically excellent c. 500-seat theater, a true
regional asset\$750,000
Music Hall Foyer: a grand, two-story space for theater audiences to gather,
or small receptions
Box Office: the welcoming hub of all Front of House activities
Music Hall Doors: the entrance to magical nights of theater, opera,
music and more
Green Room: an essential component of any performing arts center \$10,000
Dressing Rooms (2): where acts of transformation begin one committed \$7,500 ea
Back Stage Utility Room: behind the scenes support for the performing arts\$5,000
Music Hall Seats, (c. 300 still available): the foundation of the performing
arts experience\$500 ea.
Reception Hall: a gracious room serving as the centerpiece of Library,
Music Hall and community programming
Studio: the gym where earlier generations played basketball transformed into a
multi-purpose venue for classes, rehearsals and public programming \$100,000
Great Lawn Landscaping: a park-like setting overlooking Carnegie\$100,000
Classrooms (2): to support library, performing arts and community
programming
Kitchen: in support of myriad multi-faceted cultural center activities\$7,500

Please call 412-276-3456, ext. 6 with any questions or to customize your naming opportunity.

Support the Thomas W. Espy Post



Join the Civil War Room "Honor Roll"

The Thomas Espy Post of the Grand Army of the Republic is a national treasure housing invaluable artifacts and memorabilia. Join the

Honor Roll that restores this room. \$500 minimum

Artifacts are being restored as funding is secured, like the chair pictured here.



From Library Director Diane Ragan

The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was founded in Decatur, Illinois less than a year after the Civil War ended and became one of the most powerful veterans' organizations in American history. By the turn of the century there were more than 6,000 posts with close to half a million members nationwide. The Espy Post formed in 1879 and is one of the earliest of the 640 posts chartered in Pennsylvania, and one of only a handful of intact posts left in the country.

The aftermath of the war, compounded by a devastating economic depression, made the transition from wartime to peacetime difficult for our Civil War veterans. As a result, GAR posts became a welcoming place where comrades met to reminisce and debate their war experiences, discuss their need of jobs, and find a helping hand to get back on their feet. The record collection of the Espy Post shows that the veterans gathered on the second and fourth Saturday afternoons of each month in our room upstairs, and their stories, as recorded in the meeting minutes, reflect friendships forged in battle that only today's

Because no national guidelines were formally adopted for the preservation of post records, many were taken home by the last surviving member of the post and more than likely discarded after the veteran died. Fortunately, this was not the case for the Espy Post. In addition to numerous artifacts, the manuscript collection of the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall contains numerous ledgers, rosters, descriptive books, personal war sketches and membership applications. These valuable records provide an abundance of information for family historians, researchers and Civil War enthusiasts.

veterans can understand.

Over the past several years, dedicated members of the 9th Pennsylvania Reserves have compiled a complete inventory of all the papers, books, and artifacts housed in the Espy Room. During the coming months we will be working to analyze, organize and develop finding aids to these historic materials. Once this task is completed, steps will be taken to microfilm the records for preservation and facilitate the dissemination of information on this important element of our Carnegie heritage.

Three Day Civil War Event Planned

The Library & Music Hall's annual Civil War program has grown to a three-day event, scheduled for April 25 to 27. A Friday evening concert in the Music Hall will kick off the event that concludes with a keynote address on Sunday afternoon.



The ACFL&MH received a generous grant from the Massey Charitable Trust in support of this program.

The ACFL&MH is committed to restoring its Civil War Room, the Thomas Espy Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. It's equally committed to developing its Civil War collection and to providing the sort of

programming that fosters understanding and appreciation of this extraordinary chapter in the nation's history.

The *NewLanders* are Pittsburgh area musicians who adapt old songs written by and about the people of Southwestern Pennsylvania. *NewLanders* forges this music into their own contemporary style while honoring and preserving the spirit of the region's rich past.

NewLanders songs about steel, immigration and the rivers complement the period, as do their renditions of Stephen Foster favorites and other music specifically associated with the Civil War. Members of the group are Art Gazdik (violin, octave violin, mandolin and vocal); Paula Purnell (vocal, guitar, bones and Appalachian dulcimer); Gerard Rohlf (vocal, jaw harp and guitar) and Doug Wilkin (vocal, guitar, bass and harmonica).

The *Newlanders* will perform at 8:00 on April 25 in the Music Hall. Tickets are \$10. This concert is part of the *Meet the Challenge Performance Series* (see page 12).

Saturday's free and open to the public program will run from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Details of the program are still being developed. The ACFL&MH will once again work closely with 9th Pennsylvania Reserves, the local living history and reenactment group who steward the Espy Post. Tours of the Espy Post, drills and skirmishes on the grounds, Civil War exhibitors and vendors in the Reception Hall are all confirmed as major components of the program.

A special exhibition, *Looking at Lincoln: Political Cartoons from the Civil War Era*, on loan from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in New York, will be at the ACFL&MH from April 24 through May 21. "We're so excited to be adding new and richer dimensions to our programming," says Library Director Diane Ragan. Ragan, who has written two books on the Civil War and is one of seven certified genealogists in Pennsylvania, is key to adding those richer dimensions.

On Sunday, Stuart McConnell, a history professor at Pitzer College in Claremont, CA and author of *Glorious Contentment* will deliver a talk derived from his book. *Glorious Contentment* focuses on the Grand Army of the Republic from 1866 until 1900, and explores the Civil War's impact on soldiers' later peacetime lives.

Visit **www.carnegiecarnegie.com** for updates on Civil War Weekend programming.

Civil War Artifacts Returned

Not long after 2007's successful and highly publicized Civil War program Executive Director Maggie Forbes received a phone call from someone who had artifacts he thought belonged to the Library & Music Hall.

"That was a Friday evening. I arranged to meet the gentleman Saturday morning at the Library. I was so nervous he might not show up," said Forbes.

Forbes presumes he was a collector who determined the artifacts came from the Espy Post. The man, who wishes to remain anonymous, brought in two swords, a shotgun, and a rifle.

"He wanted to get them back where they belong."

Local veterans of the Civil War met at the Library from 1906 until the mid-1930s. When the Thomas Espy Post of the Grand Army of the Republic ceased operations, the Civil War Room was locked and left undisturbed for 50 years. Members of the Espy Post had compiled a detailed catalogue of artifacts, which they published in 1911. Whether while the Espy Post was operational or when the Civil War Room was first re-opened in the 1980's, catalogued artifacts have disappeared. A security system has been installed, and staff, board and members of the 9th Pennsylvania Reserves consider stewardship of the Espy Post a critical responsibility.

Jim White and Bob Fark, members of the 9th Pennsylvania Reserves, spent considerable time identifying the returned items. One of the swords and the shotgun match up definitively with artifacts in the veterans' 1911 catalogue. The other sword could be one of five swords in the catalog that are missing from the Post. The rifle, "a

trapdoor post-war conversion of 1861 Springfield rifle with Enfield front band and Enfield cleaning rod," was probably acquired by members of the Post after the catalogue was printed.

Forbes was overwhelmed and deeply grateful for the returned items. "We welcome back any and all artifacts. No questions asked." The Espy Post is one of the most intact in the country and its historical significance emanates not so much from the inherent value of individual artifacts, books, portraits and documents as from their being in the room where Civil War veterans met for 30 years.



Jim White gazes at the sword as he tells the story of the sword's travels.

The catalogue description of for No.52 eloquently encapsulates the anguish of the War.

52. Sword. Presented to Lieut. Samuel H. Davis by Company I, 112th Regiment, Pa. Vet. Vols., February, 1863. Lieut. Davis was killed at Cold Harbor, Va., June 1, 1864. The sword was covered with his blood. Lieut. Thos. C. Sharp, while keeping the sword to be shipped to Lieut. Davis's parents at the first opportunity, was killed at Petersburg, Va., June 17, 1864, while wearing the sword, and was covered with his blood. The sword was then shipped to Mr. George Davis, father of Lieutenant Davis, by Adams Express Co. to Pittsburg, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. George Davis being noted rebel sympathizers, refused to pay the express charges of one dollar on the sword of their loyal son who gave his life for his country.

The annotated 1911 catalogue may be viewed at **www.carnegiecarnegie.com**.

it was a weekend G

Thank you to the many generous donors and community supporters who made Lynne Rossetto Kasper's return to the Carnegie Carnegie a weekend to remember.

Anthony Sinatra

Presenting Sponsor

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 Carol Sinatra, center, enjo
 Campaign Co-Chair Charlie Goetz th

so far, sums up progress and urges audien welcomes presenting sponsor Anthony Sina sunbeams: project architect Marty Powe.

6. Lynne opened her program by telling

castle." 7. Elizabeth Swaim, Carolyn Byham and Laurel Hernnewcomer. 8. Food, conversation and ACFL&MH Trustee C. Lynne's program. 9. Reed Smith's (event sponsor) Ann Cahouet cookbook, "The Splendid Table." 10. Blue Ribbon Committee Trustee Isabel Ford. 11. Music Hall's ne.



Drious all over the basts! building!

cees Aloe and her son David at the brunch and book tys the wine and small plates reception with friends. anks those who've made the capital campaign a success the to "help us finish." 4. Maggie Forbes, right, atra and his wife, Beth Tarasi. 5. Caught in the all, Bill Caroselli, Dusty Kirk and Deborah Powell. the audience she was delighted to "come back to the anan all attended Lynne's 2004 program. Dave Crawley is the arran all attended Lynne's 2004 program. Dave Crawley is the arran all attended Kimberly Lipniskis take the stage following and Kimberly Maursberg both take home Lynne's eponymous are member Pat Jennings with Maggie Forbes and ACFL&MH and office makes an auspicious debut.

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The Chartiers Valley Partnership and Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall also extend heartfelt thanks to everyone attending the weekend's programming.

Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music

The Chartiers Valley Partnership and the Library & Music Hall gratefully acknowledge the following individuals, businesses, restore, revitalize and renovate this historic facility. The following list reflects all contributions to the capital campaign since la asterisk (*) reflect multiple gifts to the campaign. The list is con

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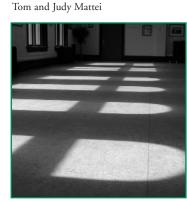
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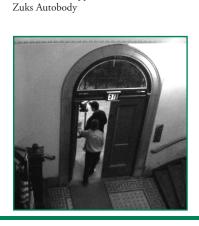
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The Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall gratefully acknowledges the following honorary and memorial contributions, which help support the campaign to restore, revitalize and renovate the historic facility.

IN HONOR OF...

In Honor of Betsy Bell Martin

Her Children:
Paula & Frank Coyle
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In Memory of Donald C. Peters Milan and Sylvia Spanovich

(The Spanovich's memorial to Donald C. Peters was incorrectly listed as Donald C. Peterson in the summer issue of our newsletter.)

The ACFL appreciates memorial donations made to purchase books. These gifts are listed on the Library website: www.carnegiecarnegie.com.

Library Programming, from page 3

Travelogues

7:30 p.m., 1st Tuesday of the month, Feb.-May. Light refreshments. Reception Hall.

Movies for the Senior Set

2:00 p.m., 3rd Wednesday of the month (September to May; no movie Nov. 21) Light refreshments served.

Fairy Tale Fridays

10:00 a.m., 1st Friday of the month, October to June

Need Help With Taxes?

VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) workshops will be scheduled in February 2008.

Farewell Janet



Janet Sharp served the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall and its patrons for 14 years, most recently as Public

Services Manager. She has left to allow more time for family—and herself. Many thanks and best of luck.

Music Hall, from page 3

The Importance of Being Earnest
May 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 2008, 8:00 p.m.
Fri. and Sat., 2:00 p.m. Sun.
\$12.00 (\$10.00 students and seniors),
www.stage62.com or 412-429-6262.

Spring Recital—Dance Showcase
June 7 and 8, 2008, 8:00 p.m. Sat., 2:00 p.m.
Sun

\$12.00 (\$10.00 students and seniors), www.carnegieperformingartscenter.com or 412-279-8887.

Urinetown

July 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 2008, 8:00 p.m. ALL PERFORMANCES. \$15.00 (\$12.00 students and seniors), www.stage62.com or 412-429-6262.

Challenge, from page 1

The stipulation of the 2003 grant was that a dollar for dollar match had to be donated by individuals and businesses from Carnegie and surrounding communities in ten months' time. The extended Carnegie community's generosity is the cornerstone of the campaign success to date. Not only did the community meet and exceed the challenge to contribute \$516,000 but nearly \$60,000 of this came in the two weeks between Carnegie's devastating flood on September 17, 2004 and the challenge's September 30 deadline.

The original challenge grant leveraged more than \$4 million in donations from individuals, businesses, private foundations and federal, state, county and local government support. Improvements have been made to the historic landmark Library & Music Hall as funding was secured.

The new grant is conditional as well. The campaign must raise \$1 million by December 2008 in order to secure the \$500,000.

"Challenge grants are meant to be challenging," says ACFL&MH Executive Director Maggie Forbes. However, she's confident that the campaign will not only meet the challenge, but that this second challenge grant will be the catalyst for the campaign's second \$4 million. "In half the time."



Joanne McGarry (Cloverleaf Estates) and Chris Fischione (Penn Hills) are part of the large crowd that turned out for the Carnegie Birthday celebration.

The restoration of the Library & Music Hall to date inspires appreciation and support in both longtime supporters and first time visitors. "The Library & Music Hall has been transformed," Forbes says proudly. "Not only is the building looking amazing but upgrades in programs and services are keeping pace

with improvements to the facility. The dream of revitalization has become a reality."

Campaign leaders are counting on the community's continued generosity. "That's who we're doing it for," says Bill Manby.

However, doubling the amount the campaign must raise to secure the challenge grant is mitigated by the fact that foundation and corporate donations as well as community support will count towards the match. Government money, while essential to the completion of the campaign, does not count towards the challenge.

Campaign leadership's confidence is warranted. When announcing the challenge grant Bill Manby reported that \$365,000 or 36% of the matching funding had been committed since late October. This includes grants from the Buhl Foundation, the Heinz Endowments, funds raised at the Lynne Rossetto Kasper benefit and \$50,000 from a campaign Blue Ribbon Committee member.

The \$1 million needed to secure the challenge grant is a milestone on the way to finishing the restoration. "I've got my sights set on the 'all done' celebration," says Manby.

Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall Campaign 300 Beechwood Avenue Carnegie, PA 15106

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"Meet the Challenge" Performance Series

Hoping to bring all the Library & Music Hall's considerable assets to bear, the campaign is planning a *Meet the Challenge Performance Series*. This series of four performances will not only raise critically needed funding towards the campaign's \$1 million challenge goal, but it will also bring new audiences to the facility, and model the sort of programming that the restored facility will feature.

"Every time we have a new performance or program in the Music Hall, we make new friends for the ACFL&MH—and for Carnegie," says Executive Director Maggie Forbes. "For the right program, people really do cross tunnels and bridges—and even state lines!"

The first *Meet the Challenge* performance is scheduled for **Thursday**, **February 28, 2008** at 7:30 p.m. Ideas for the series began to percolate



when the *Cuarteto Latinoamericano* offered to do a concert for the campaign, while recording in the Music Hall. The award-winning contemporary quartet has come up with a cutting edge program in which they collaborate with *Tapage*, a duo of dancers, who "tap" percussive accompaniment to the

quartet. Tickets are \$20; \$15 for seniors and students.

Legendary jazz guitarist *Joe Negri* will perform with his quartet on **Saturday, April 5, 2008**. While known to millions of fans of *Mister*



Rogers Neighborhood as "Handyman Negri," Joe began playing guitar when he was eight, and in the decades since has performed with myriad jazz greats. The ACFL&MH hopes to include Carnegie jazz musicians such as bassist Phil Salvato and guitarist Ron Wilson in what may become an evening of Joe Negri and Friends. Tickets to the concert, which begins at 7:30, are \$20.



The third performance by *NewLanders* is part of the Library & Music Hall's annual Civil War weekend. The *NewLanders* are a group of Pittsburgh area musicians and songwriters who have researched and rediscovered songs written by and about the people of southwestern Pennsylvania. The group will perform **Friday**, **April 25**, **2008** at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00.

The culminating event, scheduled for Sunday, June 1, 2008 at



2:00 p.m., features beloved Pittsburgh Symphony pianist *Patricia Prattis Jennings* in a program that will include well known and beloved classics—plus a few surprises. Ms. Jennings was the principal keyboardist with the Pittsburgh Symphony for more than forty years before retiring in 2006. She is a member of the Blue

Ribbon Committee of the campaign to restore the Library & Music Hall. Tickets for *An Afternoon with Patricia Prattis Jennings* are \$50 and include a reception following the performance.

Visit www.carnegiecarnegie.com for updates on all the Meet the Challenge Performance Series.