



**PARKWAY
CENTRAL
LIBRARY**
welcomes you

free
**LIBRARY OF
PHILADELPHIA**

Use this guide
to explore one of
the world's finest
public libraries on
your own.

Parkway Central Library

Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Friday
9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Saturday
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

1901 Vine St
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-686-5322

*Hours of individual departments
and collections vary. Consult the
website for details.*

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Welcome to the **PARKWAY CENTRAL LIBRARY!**



Stone carvers from the John Donnelly Company completing Corinthian capitals, c. 1924–1925

DESIGNED BY JULIAN ABELE, a prominent African American architect from Philadelphia who worked in Horace Trumbauer's firm, the Parkway Central Library first opened its doors on June 2, 1927. As an anchor cultural and educational institution on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, we welcome over 1 million visitors each year from the city, its countryside, and around the world. Our visitors come to learn from our public events, to consult our special collections, and to tap into the expertise of our librarians and curators in each of the subject departments and special collections. On most days, volunteer docents offer architectural walks through the building.

By appointment: Our librarians offer orientations to the intellectual arrangement of the building, as well as organized lessons and activities for schools, universities, and other communities of learning.

Ground Floor

Public restrooms for adults and a separate facility for young children are located on the Ground Floor.

Follow the little footprints to begin your explorations where most Philadelphians begin their experience of the Parkway Central Library: in the **CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT**. Programming varies from storytimes for our littlest learners to homework help for adolescents. From board books to graphic novels, children of all ages will find books guaranteed to captivate. Adults and children alike will enjoy our collection of vintage Children's Book Week posters lining the hallways as well as the original N.C. Wyeth paintings hanging throughout the department that illustrate famous children's books.

MONTGOMERY AUDITORIUM is a 378-seat lecture hall and performance stage hosting our award winning Author Event Series, our Teen Author Series, and numerous ad hoc performances, lectures, film screenings, and more, organized by our subject department librarians.

By appointment: Individual researchers or classes with an interest in the history, study, or development of children's literature will find the **CHILDREN'S LITERATURE RESEARCH COLLECTION (CLRC)** an invaluable resource. The CLRC houses over 85,000 non-circulating items from the 1830s through the present in several distinct collections.

COMING SOON: Renovations over the coming years will bring an expanded **TEEN DEPARTMENT**. Our current **TEEN CENTER** is located on the First Floor within Philbrick Hall. Our Business Resource and Innovation Center (BRIC) will also have a new home on this level.

Behind the scenes: Administrative offices for our Information Technology unit and our citywide Youth Services and Programming Division are also located on this level.

First Floor

PHILBRICK HALL is our beautifully restored fiction and popular culture library and central circulation department. Thousands of Philadelphians every year sign up for their first library cards here. Philbrick Hall is home to our **TEEN CENTER**, which not only provides a robust library of young adult fiction and nonfiction but also organizes numerous activities for

teenagers. Library users can also access the **INTERLIBRARY LOAN DEPARTMENT (ILL)** at the information desk. ILL helps Philadelphians borrow library materials and research articles not owned by the Free Library from cooperating libraries across the continental United States.

The **MUSIC DEPARTMENT** is a conservatory-quality music library serving musicians and music fans of all ages and

skill levels. It lends chamber music part-sets and musical instruments, and has a sheet-music collection spanning the entire history of music publishing in North America. The department's listening



Music Department

stations may be used to enjoy any of the tens of thousands of reference recordings on CD and LP, spanning the entire history of music. Its **DRINKER COLLECTION** is a library of over 900 works of sacred and secular music for choral performances, which circulate to member ensembles around the globe. To become a member, contact drinker@freelibrary.org.

The **GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT (GPD)** is the largest depository of federal, state, and municipal publications in the metropolitan area. As renovations proceed in the GPD's First Floor space, researchers can tap the collection and the expertise of librarians from the Social Science and History Department on the Second Floor. A selection of the department's extensive holdings of publications are stored in this room.

CENTRAL SENIOR SERVICES organizes a rich menu of compelling and intellectually challenging programs for older adults, as well as offers a comfortable lounge for seniors to access computers and leisure reading. One-on-one computer tutoring for those 50+ is available by appointment.

Appointments recommended: The **EDWIN A. FLEISHER COLLECTION OF ORCHESTRAL MUSIC**—the world's largest lending library of orchestral performance part sets—offers more than 21,000 titles and is a significant center for research into the professional lives of composers and conductors of the 19th and 20th centuries.

COMING SOON: Renovations will bring a new public lounge space—The Common—for noisier collaborative work.

Behind the scenes: The main administrative offices for the Free Library system and Parkway Central line the western end of the building.



Philbrick Hall

Second Floor

The **SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HISTORY DEPARTMENT (SSH)** achieves what the name implies: a library dedicated to linking all of the social science disciplines with the study of history and geography. It also holds significant collections of books on sports, games, travel, and true crime. Researchers can also access the expertise of the **GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS** librarians and the **NEWSPAPER RESEARCH** librarians from this reference desk.

By appointment: The **MAP COLLECTION** houses the most comprehensive collection of maps and geographically related reference sources in the Philadelphia area. Within the collection can be found over 130,000 current and historical maps covering every area of the world; hundreds of reference sources in the fields of cartography, cartobibliography, geography, and place names; and a collection of international city plans. The collection is especially strong in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania maps and atlases.

The **BUSINESS RESOURCE AND INNOVATION CENTER (BRIC)** offers an extensive collection of print resources and databases for entrepreneurs, small-business owners, and nonprofits, as well as business workshops and networking events. Students and researchers can also access information on health, the natural sciences, home economics, labor, and the trades via our business center at any time. The BRIC contains numerous specialized library services and collections. The **PATENT AND TRADEMARK RESOURCE CENTER (PTRC)** within the BRIC is one of three in the state of Pennsylvania designated by the United States Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO) to support the public with trademarks and patents. Librarians in the PTRC can demonstrate search techniques, direct users to information, and explain the application process. The **REGIONAL FOUNDATION CENTER** provides local nonprofit organizations with free access to information and workshops on management, grant seeking, fund development, and proposal writing. Appointments are highly recommended.



Business Resource and Innovation Center (BRIC)

The **EDUCATION, PHILOSOPHY, AND RELIGION DEPARTMENT (EPR)** collects print and electronic information on a broad spectrum of education, philosophy, religion, psychology, and librarianship topics. College financial-aid information, test-preparation material, and vocational-technical information are all available here. The **WORKPLACE**, a project of EPR, assists job seekers in gaining the tools necessary to find work.



The Workplace, a project of EPR

The **LITERATURE DEPARTMENT** contains over 100,000 volumes, including literary theory, literary criticism, poetry, drama, essays, biographies of writers, folklore, journalism, dictionaries, and works on language and linguistics, as well as foreign literature in translation. It also has the largest Shakespeare collection in Pennsylvania, as well as an extensive collection of modern drama.

The **ART DEPARTMENT** maintains a comprehensive collection of over 60,000 books on the fine arts, architecture, garden design, interior design, fashion, graphic arts, crafts, collectibles, and photography. Librarians maintain a rich set of files on artists, architects, designers, and collectors, as well as the art and architecture of Philadelphia. Exhibitions of work by local artist groups or material from our collections are always on display in the hallway galleries.

By appointment: Our **PRINT AND PICTURE COLLECTION** is home to diverse collections of fine art prints, photographs, drawings, and artists' books, as well as extensive research collections of Philadelphia images, both historical and modern.

The **NEWSPAPERS AND MICROFILM CENTER** is our region's largest collection of newspapers from the Philadelphia metropolitan area. Over 400 Philadelphia newspapers, dating back to 1720, are on microfilm. Our collection includes newspapers from major cities around the world and local community papers, as well as micro-filmed versions of academic, underground, and trade periodicals collected by the subject departments. Students and the curious should begin their research process by inquiring within the Social Science and History Department.

Third Floor

The **RARE BOOK DEPARTMENT** offers free access to rotating exhibitions of historically important books, manuscripts, and works of art from 3,000 BCE to today. Among its collections are illuminated medieval manuscripts and cuttings; first editions, letters, and manuscripts of important writers, including some of the largest collections of Charles Dickens and Edgar Allan Poe; nearly 50,000 early American children's books; original artwork by Beatrix Potter, Robert Lawson, and other illustrators; Mughal court paintings; and Pennsylvania German fraktur, manuscripts, and printed books. For a deeper look at these extraordinary collections, take the 11:00 a.m. tour, offered Monday through Saturday.

The **THEATRE COLLECTION** contains information on theater, motion pictures, television, radio, variety shows, the circus, and other forms of popular entertainment. A major focus is Philadelphia's theatrical history. It holds over 1 million books, magazines, playbills, photographs, posters, film and stage stills, reviews, clipping files, and memorabilia. Some material dates back to the 19th century.

By appointment: Researchers interested in consulting works held in the Rare Book Department or the Theatre Collection should contact the department to schedule an appointment. Educators interested in class visits should contact the department at erefrbd@freelibrary.org.

Fourth Floor

The Fourth Floor primarily consists of event spaces and meeting rooms open to the public for scheduled library programs. Our Skyline Terrace incorporates one of the first municipal green roofs in Philadelphia. The Fourth Floor is also the home of the **CULINARY LITERACY CENTER (CLC)**, a commercial-grade kitchen that services as a classroom and educational dining space. The first of its kind in any library in the country, the CLC has a mission to advance literacy through food and cooking around a communal table.

The Fourth Floor also has spaces available for private-event rental.



Culinary Literacy Center (CLC)

Number Guide to the Parkway Central Library

Information, Computing, Metainformation, Generalities

001-002 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2) | Literature (FLOOR 2) | Business Resource and Innovation Center (FLOOR 2)

003-006 Business Resource and Innovation Center (FLOOR 2)

007-015 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

016 most departments | *speaking with a librarian for assistance*

017-019 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

020-027 Education, Philosophy, and Religion (FLOOR 2)

028-059 Literature (FLOOR 2)

060-069 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

070-089 Literature (FLOOR 2)

090-099 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

Philosophy, the Mind, the Occult

100-199 Education, Philosophy, and Religion (FLOOR 2)

Religions, Theology, Mythology

200-299 Education, Philosophy, and Religion (FLOOR 2)

Social Sciences

statistics, politics, economics, law, military science, social problems and services, education, commerce and communications, customs and folklore

300-329 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

330-339 Business Resource and Innovation Center (FLOOR 2)

340-349 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2) | Music Department (FLOOR 1)

350-362 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

362.1 Business Resource and Innovation Center (FLOOR 2)

362.2-367 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

368 Business Resource and Innovation Center (FLOOR 2)

369 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

370-379 Education, Philosophy, and Religion (FLOOR 2)

380-389 Business Resource and Innovation Center (FLOOR 2)

390 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

391 Art (FLOOR 2)

392-397 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

398 Literature (FLOOR 2)

399 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

Languages and Linguistics

400-499 Literature (FLOOR 2)

The Natural Sciences

math, astronomy, physics, chemistry, ecology, paleontology, biology, botany, zoology

500-599 Business Resource and Innovation Center (FLOOR 2)

Applied Sciences

technology, medicine and health, engineering, agriculture and gardening, home economics, office management, building trades

600-699 Business Resource and Innovation Center (FLOOR 2); see also Music (FLOOR 1); see also *résumé and career guidance in the Education, Philosophy, and Religion Department (FLOOR 2)*

Arts and Leisure

700-779 Art (FLOOR 2)

780-789 Music (FLOOR 1)

790 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

791-792 Literature (FLOOR 2)

793 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

793.3 Music (FLOOR 1)

793.4-799 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

Literature

poetry, theater, literary theory, analysis, humor, and more

800-899 Literature (FLOOR 2), PHILBRICK HALL (FLOOR 1) *if book is in a foreign language*

History, Geography, Biography

900-926 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

927 older biographies | *ask a librarian for help accessing*

928 Literature (FLOOR 2)

929-999 Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)

Fiction, DVD, Graphic Novels, Audiobooks, Bestsellers

Philbrick Hall (FLOOR 1)

Alternative Call Letters or Numbers

Ax:xx-Zx:xx are often Government Documents | see *Social Science and History (FLOOR 2)*

B older biographies | *ask librarian for help*

J Juvenile | Children's Department (GROUND FLOOR)

JE Juvenile Easy | Children's Department (GROUND FLOOR)

FICTION Philbrick Hall (FLOOR 1)

M Music | Music Department (FLOOR 1)

MCH Chamber Music part sets | Music and Dance (FLOOR 1)

MCN McNaughton Bestsellers | Philbrick Hall (FLOOR 1)

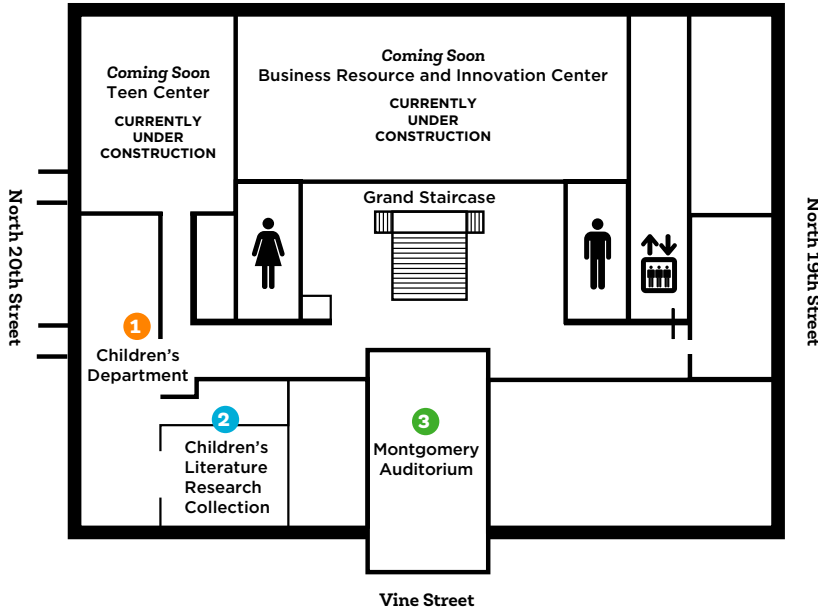
RBD Rare Book Department (FLOOR 3) | *by appointment only*

SHEET MUSIC COLLECTION Single sheets | Music Department (FLOOR 1)

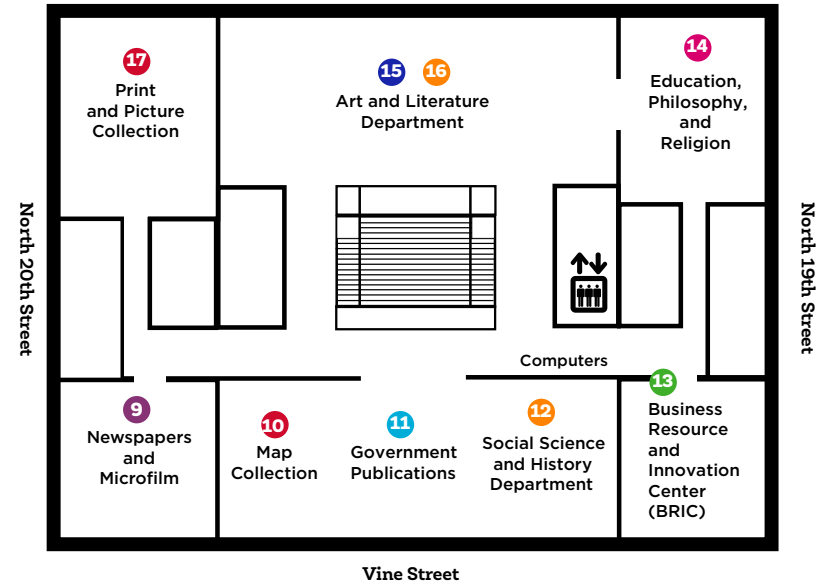
U 1xxx-U 9xxx orchestral part sets | Fleisher Collection (FLOOR 1)

1 ENTIRE WORK-9999 ENTIRE WORK orchestral part sets | Fleisher Collection (FLOOR 1)

Ground Floor



Second Floor



First Floor



GROUND FLOOR

- 1 Children's Department
- 2 Children's Literature Research Collection (CLRC)
- 3 Montgomery Auditorium

FIRST FLOOR

- 4 Central Senior Services
- 5 Fleisher Collection
- 6 Music Department
- 7 Philbrick Hall
- 8 Teen Center

SECOND FLOOR

- 9 Newspapers and Microfilm Center
- 10 Map Collection
- 11 Government Publications
- 12 Social Science and History Department (SSH)
- 13 Business Resource Innovation Center (BRIC)
- 14 Education, Philosophy, and Religion Department (EPR)
- 15 Literature Department
- 16 Art Department
- 17 Print and Picture Collection

Rare and Special Collections

NAME OF COLLECTION	ACCESS LOCATION	HOURS	CONTACT
Chamber Music Collection	Music Department (FLOOR 1)	All public hours***	215-686-5316 chambermusic@freelibrary.org
Children's Literature Research Collection	Children's Department (GROUND FLOOR)	Mon-Fri* 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.	215-686-5382 clrc@freelibrary.org
Drinker Choral Music Library	Music Department (FLOOR 1)	Mon-Fri*** 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.	215-686-5364 drinkerlibrary@freelibrary.org
Fleisher Orchestral Lending Library	Music Department (FLOOR 1)	Mon-Fri* 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.	215-686-5313 fleisher@freelibrary.org
Map Collection	FLOOR 2	Mon-Fri* 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.	215-686-5397 erefmap@freelibrary.org
Patent and Trademark Resource Center	Business Resource and Innovation Center (FLOOR 2)	All public hours**	215-686-5394 erefBSI@freelibrary.org
Print and Picture Collection	FLOOR 2	Mon-Fri* 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.	215-686-5405 erefpix@freelibrary.org
Rare Book Department <i>Galleries open to public Reading room (Mon-Fri) by appointment only</i>	FLOOR 3	Mon-Sat 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.	215-686-5416 erefrbd@freelibrary.org
Regional Foundation Center	Business Resource and Innovation Center (FLOOR 2)	All public hours**	215-686-5423 erefrfc@freelibrary.org
Sheet Music Collection	Music Department (FLOOR 1)	All public hours***	215-686-5316 erefmus@freelibrary.org
Theatre Collection	FLOOR 3	Mon-Fri* 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.	215-686-5427 erefthc@freelibrary.org

* by appointment only

** appointment recommended

*** ask Music Department librarians for assistance

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