

Reading into the Future: New Liberty Library Branch Opens



The layout of the Makers Studio at the Liberty Branch of the Delaware Library County District. This is a space where students can explore their creative side. “This is a really cool space that I would like to check out,” said Elizabeth Aguirre.

On Sunday March 26th 2023, the Liberty Library Branch, the newest addition to Delaware Library County District (DCLD), opened. It is the closest library to Olentangy Liberty High School, and offers many benefits to students.

Other branches are located in Powell, Orange, Delaware, and Ostrander. The Liberty Branch is located just up the road from Liberty High school, making the location accessible for students who can drive.

The Liberty Branch is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m to 7 p.m, with hours being adjusted on Friday and Saturday, with the hours being 10 a.m to 5 p.m. The Liberty Library has activities for all parts of the community.

“Right now we are just doing some of our very basic programs which libraries, traditionally have (like) adult book discussion groups going on, we have story times once we start summer after memorial weekend we’ll start our story times again but they will be broken by age groups, and one of the things we are doing at Liberty is Saturday storytimes, an all age story time,” said Head Librarian Shari Bowers. “We also run more passive programs like scavenger hunts, we have board games, things that you can do with friends. We occasionally have author visits and other things our

friends group gives us a lot of support with other activities. There will be some programs coming up too.”

To the left of the entry is the business center where students will meet some of the librarians on staff, going to the right they will find the large print as well as tween book sections. Students might believe that they will not be able to tell the tween books from the large print books apart, fear not as the entire library is color coded. With the large print being blue and tweens being yellow-green. Behind the large print section is a courtyard, students can study, do homework or just hangout outside in this space. Next to the tween section is the children section. All books and areas associated with this area will be colored yellow. Bathrooms will be located in the hallway behind the courtyard. The learning stairs, which lead to the basement are another area teens can hang out at the library.

In the basement there are the community meeting rooms and the Maker Studio. Some things students can find in the Maker Studio are 3d printers, Audio/ Visual Digitizing, Dye Sublimation Printing, Wide Format printing (Poster printing), Grommet Press (how holes in posters are created), heated Laminator, or creating binders for notes. It is closed on Wednesdays, but open every other day of the week,

with hours the same as the library.

The upstairs area of the library is home to a quiet room (light blue), adult fiction (navy blue), adult non-fiction (orange), the study rooms (red-orange), DVDs (maroon), and the teen section (olive green). If students would like to book study rooms for finals or upcoming AP exams, they just have to use their library cards and the Delaware County Library App, to book them. Each study room has a TV which students can screen mirror devices to. The teen section has books and lounging areas for students to either hang out, or read.

If students are looking for service hours over the summer, the Library has the perfect opportunity. Over the summer the Library is having a Summer Reading program from May 30th to August 12th. Responsibilities will include handing out prizes, preparing material, and cleaning and organizing. If students ages 13-17 are interested they can send an email to volunteens@delawarelibrary.org.

“You would email volunteens@delawarelibrary.org, and it would go to the person who kinda coordinates the volunteers and depending on what the needs are that would be discussed with the volunteers because we need so many people at different locations,” said Bowers.