Walnut Creek Library Self-Guided Tour

1st Floor – Crossroads and Marketplace

From the parking lot or the Broadway entrance, enter the main lobby called the Crossroads, in honor of Walnut Creek’s historic status as the crossroads of the County.

- **The Donor Wall** – The library was a public-private partnership with $34M of City funds and over $5.5M of private funds, and this wall honors the major donors. The 42,000 square-foot building was designed by Group 4 Architecture Research + Planning, built by West Bay Builders and Gilbane Building Company, and includes 600 seats and 94 computers. A raised flooring system provides efficient heating and cooling and data and electrical flexibility.

- **Christian Moeller’s artwork *Portrait in 12 Volumes of Grey*** uses 4,000 blank books on a large steel bookshelf to create a pixilated image of a stereotypical librarian. View with a camera for best results. There are 39 pieces of public art on display in the library and docent guided tours may be booked by calling 925.295.1423.

- **Holds Room and Automated Book Return System** – Place holds from home, pick them up here, check them out on a nearby express checkout machine, and return them here. A return slot with porthole allows visitors to watch the automated return system, which sorts items into 9 categories using RFID (radio frequency ID) tags.

- **Elevator to Second Floor and Garage** – 120 spaces in the Library’s underground garage and 20 surface lot spaces are available for visits of four hours or less at a rate of $1 per hour from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Pay immediately after you leave your vehicle at any pay station. It is recommended that you display your receipt. Parking is free for vehicles with disabled placards, at ten 30-minute surface spaces, and after 6 pm.

- **New Materials & Browsing area** – Bookstore-like space with new books, DVDs, audio books, and music CDs. Digital signage in lobby, including a kiosk sponsored by PG&E that features the building’s LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) elements. The library has been awarded a LEED Gold rating.

- **Community Art Gallery** – Local artists can apply to display their work here at bedfordgallery.org/librarygallery.htm.

- **Friends of the Library Bookstore** – The Walnut Creek Friends of the Library donated $100,000 to supplement the library’s Opening Day collection. Support the Friends by pur-
chasing donated books and Walnut Creek Library gift items here, and visit wclibrary-friends.org for more information about the Friends.

- **Coffee Bar** – Snacks and beverages can be enjoyed here. Beverage containers with secure tops may be taken into carpeted areas.

1st Floor – Main Boulevard

- **Library Catalogs** – Fill out a library card application, book a computer, pay a fine with your credit card, or search for a book, DVD or CD here.

- **Information Desk** – Ask about holds, library cards, library accounts and services here. All service desks are equipped with T-coil loop hearing assistance systems.

- **Copy Center** – Make copies and pick up community event fliers here.

- **Adult Fiction and Large Print Collections** – Custom tables and shelf ends were designed to evoke the idea of a meandering creek, a theme throughout the building.

- **Etched Glass Art Wall** – A private citizen donated this piece, which depicts an oak tree, to honor longtime City Council member Gwen Regalia.

- **Braces for Seismic Support** – Designed to absorb shock and allow the building to move safely in a major earthquake without fracturing or collapsing.

- **Walnut Creek Library Foundation Office** – The Foundation raises private funds to support the Walnut Creek and Ygnacio Valley libraries and sponsors Live! From the Library, Authors Under the Stars, and other programs. Visit wclibrary.org for details.

- **Digital Donor Wall** – Features the name of every donor to the Walnut Creek Library.

- **Grand Staircase** – Marta Thoma’s hanging sculpture of recycled glass, *Journey of a Bottle*.

1st Floor - Children’s Wing

Sponsored by the Lesher Foundation

- **Children’s Study Area at north side** – Booths for group study and tutoring and single mobile desks for doing homework.

- **Storybook Room** – The entrance evokes huge colorful books and leads to wonderful reading nooks and spaces to explore. Stroller parking is available on the red wall just outside the Storybook Room. A giant insect artwork by Joyce Hsu called *Backpack Wing Series* complements the insect theme of caterpillar tables and stools, and tiny chairs with butterfly designs.

- **Children’s Garden** – A decorative fence, sponsored by a group of current and former City commissioners, features images of local animals and provides a safe enclosure.

2nd Floor – North

- **Adult Nonfiction** - Quiet area of the library with a great view of the park. The curved wooden slat ceiling is designed to absorb noise. This space includes the Russian Language Collection, started with donations from the local Russian community.
Community Living Room – Gas-operated fireplace provides much of the heat for this area during colder months. A Walnut Creek Historical Society display case highlights local history with artifacts, photographs and documents, and Historical Society docents are available at posted hours or by appointment to help interested parties use the archives.

Reference and Biography Collections and Information Desk – This area was sponsored by John Muir Health. A closed circuit TV here magnifies newspapers and other printed text and was sponsored by the Walnut Creek Lions clubs. Also here is one of the four assistive technology computers in the library, which are equipped with ZoomText to magnify digital screens and a screen reader which provides feedback with synthetic speech and Braille.

Business and Career Center – The media wall highlights electronic resources, workshops for small business owners, nonprofits, and job seekers. Job listings and volunteer opportunities are located in the adjacent copy center. Computers can be booked for two hours for working on resumes, job applications or for searching the Foundation Center database.

Black Oak, Blue Oak and Live Oak Group Study Rooms – Book a Group Study Room for 2-6 people at the 2nd Floor Information Desk with your library card or picture ID.

2nd Floor – Teen Zone

Hanging sculpture – The Trap by Gina Telacocci, 12’ x 8’ x8’ but weighs only 25 lbs.

Teen Zone – The Walnut Creek Youth Council helped to design this 2,000 square-foot space and picked the furniture, with separate areas for quiet reading and study, or for socializing and collaborating. Both the wavy technology bar and the counter bar on the boulevard offer computers that can be shared by two for tutoring or collaborating. Study carrels line the windows and two booths provide a great space for collaborating on projects or socializing. The teen media wall can be used for group gaming, student-produced videos, or to highlight teen art, photos, poetry, or book and movie reviews.

2nd Floor – Learning and Conference Center

This south section can be open when the rest of the library is closed and rented at www.walnut-creek.org/rentals or by calling 925.256.3575.

Las Trampas Conference Room – The conference room seats 16-18 and is equipped with a large video screen for presentations. $25/hour with a minimum rental of 2 hours.

Technology Center – The Technology Center is a computer training lab with 20 workstations and an instructor’s workstation and is open to the public when it is not being used for a class or for training. Technology Center computers may be booked for 2 hours.

The Oak View Room – Equipped with a lectern, a projection device and screen, a sound system, and assistive listening devices for people with hearing difficulties, the room seats 150 in a lecture format, and has a maximum assembly of 266. Private/commercial rate is $100/hour and the non-profit rate is $65/hour with a minimum rental of 2 hours.
Walnut Creek Library
Collections – First Floor

Juvenile Fiction
J Audio Books
J Holiday
J Spanish Language

Juvenile Nonfiction (001-999)
J Biography

Juvenile Picture Books
Easy Readers
Board Books

Collections- Second Floor

Foreign Language
Adult Nonfiction (001-999)

Business Reference
Business Magazines and Newspapers
Career and College

Young Adult Books
YA Audio Books
YA Magazines

Magazines
Newspapers

Biography
Reference

Music CDs
Audio Books
DVDs
New Books

Fiction/Short Stories
Mysteries
Westerns
Large Print
Paperback Classics