



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A CELEBRATION 125 YEARS IN THE MAKING!

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh celebrate shared anniversary with two-day “Crash the Carnegies” event

Pittsburgh, Pa. — Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh invite the community to “crash” their historic Oakland campus for a free weekend celebration marking their shared 125th anniversary. Attendees will enjoy free admission to Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History, live performances, historic tours, a building-wide scavenger hunt, hands-on artmaking, special storytimes, science demonstrations, and more.

Carnegie Library and the four Carnegie Museums will be joined by cultural organizations from across the city to fill the historic Oakland campus with entertainment and activities. A growing list of participating groups includes: The Andy Warhol Museum, Attack Theatre, August Wilson African American Cultural Center, Buzzword Pittsburgh, Carnegie Heroes Fund, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Carnegie Mellon University Pipes and Drum Band, Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, Haley Clancey – A Poem’s Purpose, Jumping Jack Theater, Kelly Strayhorn Theater, Kidsburgh, Pittsburgh Arts & Lectures, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust - Trust Arts Education, Pittsburgh Festival Opera, Pittsburgh Glass Center, Pittsburgh Opera, Pittsburgh Youth Chorus, Protohaven, Queen's Gambit Chess Institute, RAD, Saturday Light Brigade, Steel City Lego Users Group, Write Pittsburgh, Yoga Motif.

“This is a special opportunity to not only celebrate the continued impact the library and museums have on communities in Pittsburgh, but also the strength of our partnerships with other cultural organizations and institutions for learning,” said Mary Frances Cooper, president and director of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. “It’s always powerful to be reminded of the interconnectedness of literature, art, science, and other fields, and how they work together to enrich and strengthen individuals, families, and entire communities.”

“Andrew Carnegie regarded these institutions as his signature gift to the people of Pittsburgh, but it’s a gift that Pittsburghers have repaid in countless ways across the many decades since,” said Steven Knapp, president and CEO of Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh. “For 125 years, they have graced our library

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spaces and museum galleries, and their generous support ensures that others will follow them for *at least* the next 125! Inviting Pittsburgh to ‘Crash the Carnegies’ is one small way to celebrate that legacy.”

The two-day event will include a sensory-friendly area, as well as spaces and activities for teens. Patrons are asked to RSVP by reserving a timed ticket on the crashthecarnegies.org website so that COVID-19 capacity limits can be maintained throughout the day. Appropriate COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed, with masks required of all visitors age 2 and above as well as for all staff members and volunteers.

History of the Historic Oakland Campus

On November 5, 1895, philanthropist Andrew Carnegie dedicated “Carnegie Institute,” his gift of a library, an art and natural history museum, a lecture hall, and a grand music hall (the first home of the Pittsburgh Symphony)—all in one building—to the people of Pittsburgh. More than 2,000 people attended the dedication. Carnegie’s dream of a cultural hub for Pittsburgh had sparked the largest architectural design competition held in America up to that time: 97 firms competed, and the winning group was Longfellow, Alden & Harlow. Years later, Carnegie would profess: “The success of Library, Art Gallery, Museum, and Music Hall—a noble quartet in an immense building—is one of the chief satisfactions of my life.”

About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is supporting individual achievement and strengthening the power of community. Through the community’s investment, the Library is enhancing the lives of people in the greater Pittsburgh region with dynamic and diverse resources such as creative learning programs for children and teens, job and career assistance for our community’s workforce, and free computer and internet access for all. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh builds community, enables learning, provides access and values people. carnegielibrary.org

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1895, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a family of four dynamic, distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. The museums reach more than 1.4 million people a year through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events. carnegiemuseums.org.

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