

UC San Diego's Newly Renovated Arts Library to Host Campus Open House Oct. 28

New facility features state-of-the-art technology to support arts faculty, students, and scholars

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When UC San Diego students and faculty in the arts returned to campus this fall, they were greeted with a newly renovated Arts Library, offering enhanced services for faculty and students in the visual arts, music, film, and theatre and dance. The library, located on the first floor of the Geisel Library building, will hold an Open House for members of the campus community on Oct. 28 from 2 to 4 p.m.

The Open House will include refreshments, tours, and demos, as well as remarks from Brian E. C. Schottlaender, The Audrey Geisel University Librarian, and Leslie Abrams, the head librarian of the UCSD Arts Library. Attendees will be entertained by the Teeny Tiny Pit Orchestra, conducted by Scott Paulson, the Arts Library's outreach coordinator, and will enjoy a variety of artsy give-away items.

The renovated space, which features a continuous wall of vividly colored glass panels, includes a single service desk, small group viewing rooms, a self-serve scanning station, graduate student lockers, wireless connectivity, and welcoming open spaces for study, research, and collaboration as well as exhibits and events. The Arts Library renovations began in winter 2007, spurred by changes in technology and the way patrons were utilizing the library's collections, services, and spaces.

The new library offers enhanced infrastructure for the delivery of digital and analog media, including high-definition viewing, to users. UCSD students and other patrons are also benefiting from an expansion of service hours and access to arts reserves and media collections. The Arts Library is open 97 hours per week, including until midnight Sunday through Thursday during the academic quarter.

The UC San Diego Arts Library, which supports award-winning faculty research and teaching in Music, Theatre and Dance, Visual Arts, and Literature, has been a leader and early adopter in the development and delivery of digital reserves for image, audio, and moving image. As the first major contributor to ARTstor, a digital library developed to support scholarship in the arts and other disciplines, the Arts Library was the first academic library in the nation to digitize their entire slide collection. The Arts Library is also known for its outstanding contemporary music collections, especially its holdings in experimental and 20th century music, and its lively and novel arts events, including toy piano concerts and not-so-silent film festivals.

The UC San Diego Libraries, ranked among the top 25 public academic research libraries in the nation, play an integral role in advancing and supporting the university's research, teaching, patient care, and public service missions. The nine libraries that comprise the UCSD Library system provide access to more than 7 million digital and print volumes, journals, and multimedia materials to meet the knowledge demands of scholars, students, and members of the public. Each day, more than 7,300 people stream through one of the university's nine libraries. The Libraries' vast resources and services are accessed more than 87,500 times each day via the UCSD Libraries' Web site.

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