

GROUP 3 PLANNERS LLC

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3 more tidbits....

- San Jose Public Library... "some" of what they discovered:
 - ⇒ Less is more
 - ⇒ Keep it concise for reading while moving
 - ⇒ Merchandise materials face out to minimize signage need
 - ⇒ Pictures and graphics speak volumes
- Check out (!) the Ottawa Library Kiosk pilot at <http://bibliooottawalibrary.ca/en/main/about/library/renos/all/kiosk>
- See the Auburn Learning Commons in action: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/aulibraries/>

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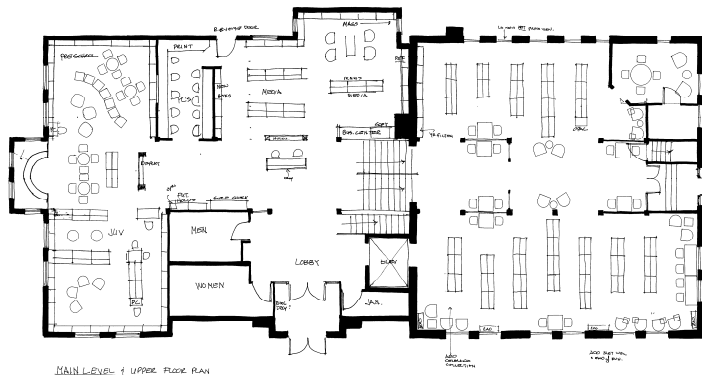
just 3 things...

1— Imagine, Imprint, Impact...the POWER of a design charette!

It was one of those beautiful days in Salida: a lovely setting, a lovely day and friendly people. Mary and I headed for the library for a full day of creative thinking. We set up the slide show, posted large sheets of paper and prepared to welcome staff, management and board members to about 90 minutes of playing "imagine". We loved talking about what libraries are doing in the world today. We loved feeling the excitement build for a vision of what their library might be. We loved seeing a plan come together....and that is exactly what we had at the end of the day. We identified elements needed to **imprint** the library with our "imagine" ideas and then proposed solutions to **impact** the library's customers with its new, exciting image.

Working with library staff, we were able to....

- Open up the entry space to create a more social, lively and interactive space for customers to be drawn into the library
- Incorporate more seating, study and computer spaces within the Carnegie areas
- Enliven children's library areas and contain their naturally-expressed noisy and delighted response...somewhat
- Accommodate staff requirements, but in a different location within the library...at garden level!
- Respect code, safety and access issues in the solution



The measure of success for this design charette was the level of excited chatter amongst the staff and board members when they were presented the solution at the end of the day. We heard enthusiasm for and agreement with the solution. There were suggestions about how the solution could work even better in the details. There were smiles all-around.

"The charette was great. We had the conversation we could not seem to have on our own. Staff and board had discussed the need for expansion and change, but the topic is multi-faceted and full of endless possibilities so that conversations became blurry rather than focused on real solutions. Group 3's very real experience with what has and has not worked kept us from going down impractical roads. They filtered our suggestions through their construction experience, knowledge of building codes, and years of experience with how libraries work for patrons and staff. We ended up considering changes we would never have proposed on our own, and we have a much better idea of both our needs and our constraints."

- Jeffrey Donlan, Director, Salida Regional Library

Sharon Rowlen, Principal & Planner



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Talk to Us!

Please let us know of any topics you are especially interested in, or if you would like to contribute an article.

We hope that you will view this newsletter as another way to share information with the library community.

Your comments are always welcome and appreciated!

Look for G3P at the

CAL Conference

(Colorado Association of Libraries)

October 7-9, 2010

Embassy Suites

Loveland, Colorado

Booth #2



Find out about
"I-Cubed!"

2—Auburn University Learning Commons... a NEW venture!

just 3 goals...

1. Create an inviting space for students, 24/7
2. Provide formal and informal study areas
3. Increase the number and access to electrical outlets

just 3 obstacles...

1. Stacks and stacks and stacks
2. No hard construction allowed
3. Limited electrical access

Group 3 Planners found the solutions. The library assisted us by relocating the collection that previously occupied the space. We created study rooms and study areas by using modular furniture...no construction or permits required! Almost full height walls created several closed study rooms, complete with marker walls, electrical, privacy and glass walls for safety and supervision.

Half walls provided for more informal study areas as well as accommodating increased electrical distribution. Students are encouraged to move the tables, chairs, lounge chairs and mobile marker boards to suit their needs. Every day the Learning Commons is different and new.

For additional electrical supply—no core drilling allowed—we added a low-profile on-slab electrical distribution system. Now every table and chair can be close to an outlet to keep those laptops and iPods running. And with the stacks removed, the students now have access to the windows and prime study spots.



just 3 stats...

- Added 300 outlets
- Created 10 group study area
- Provided 415 seats



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Some of G3P's New Projects!

Commerce City Branch
Perl Mack Branch
Thornton Branch
Anythink Libraries

Sterling Public Library
Sterling, CO

Salida Regional Library
Salida, CO

Libraries by G3P Open or Opening Soon!

Wright Farms Branch
Anythink Libraries
Thornton, CO—7/10

High Plains
Pikes Peak Library District
Colorado Springs CO—10/10

Green Valley Ranch
Denver Public Libraries
Denver, CO—2/11

Erratum

The April 2010 issue (#12) should have stated that the Kremmling Library is part of the Grand County Library District, not the Grandby County Library District.

What WERE we thinking?!!

3—Custom...when you absolutely MUST have it!

Can't find what you want? Not all solutions can be found in a catalog. Here are a few of the custom items that we have designed for our library clients.



Staff is very approachable in this small work desk. The legs conceal the cords to the floor, small drawer for the necessities.



This mobile, modern, 3 tier display table may be moved to where it is needed for maximum impact.



To maintain flexibility, this free-standing OPAC station may be moved leaving an undamaged end panel. It has a concealed wire chase in the back along with a book shelf and foot rest.



This slotted bin is a fun way to store all of the floor pillows and cushions.



Interiors & Photographs by Mary Gulash, G3P Professional Member