



Contact:
Suzanne M. Thinnes
Communications Manager
4400 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412.578.2458 (office)
412.491.6889 (cell)

For Immediate Release

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Adds Hours to Main Library

(PITTSBURGH, PA – December 20, 2007) Effective January 6, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (CLP) is extending hours of operation at the Main Library in Oakland. Library customers will gain an additional 156 hours a year of service thanks to increased funding from the Allegheny Regional Asset District. The additional hours will affect weekend service. CLP – Main will open one hour earlier on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

A decrease in state funding caused library hours to be cut in 2002. Even with reduced hours of operation an economic impact study conducted by Carnegie Mellon University's Center for Economic Development touts Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh as the region's most visited asset. To date, more than 676,000 people visited CLP - Main this year, a 16% increase over last year's numbers.

“Our customers continue to identify longer hours and more materials as the primary ways we can enhance their library experience,” said Dr. Barbara K. Mistick, President and Director, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. “The added hours will bring us closer to our goal of 65 hours a week. As the County Library we wanted to add hours during days where customers tend to use CLP – Main the most. Our 2008 budget also reflects an increase for materials to keep up with the demand for resources.”

Since 1895 CLP – Main has been a tradition for Pittsburgh families. The Library was the first to offer Children's and Science & Technology departments among U.S. public libraries. CLP – Main is home to the Library's departments – Pennsylvania, Reference Services, Music, First Floor – New and Featured, Teen, Children's, Film & Audio, Job & Career Education Center, and the William R. Oliver Special Collections Room.

The Allegheny Regional Asset District was created in 1994. The District Board is tasked with distributing one half of the Allegheny County 1% sales tax to libraries, parks, cultural and civic entities and sports facilities. The other half goes directly to Allegheny County and the municipal governments for tax reform, support of intergovernmental cooperation programs and general government operations.

Customers may visit www.carnegielibrary.org for hours of operation for all Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh locations.

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Main Hours of Operation

Effective: January 6, 2007

| | |
|-----------|--------------------|
| Sunday | 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm |
| Monday | 10:00 am - 8:00 pm |
| Tuesday | 10:00 am - 8:00 pm |
| Wednesday | 10:00 am - 8:00 pm |
| Thursday | 10:00 am - 8:00 pm |
| Friday | 9:00 am - 5:30 pm |
| Saturday | 9:00 am - 5:30 pm |

####

About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

“Free to the People” since 1895

Established as a public trust in 1895, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh serves the citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County with a distinguished history of leadership among the country’s great public libraries. Through its 19 neighborhood locations, including Main Library and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region’s most visited asset. Each year the Library provides more than 8,000 free programs, classes and other learning and training opportunities that are tailored to meet the dynamic and diverse needs of people living in Western Pennsylvania.