

## Carnegie Center turns 100, unveils new exhibit, Speaker Series



Photo by Taylor Arrazola

The historic Carnegie Library located just east of the State Capitol (1101 W. Washington) turned 100 years old on Feb. 14, 2008. The Carnegie Library was the first permanent library building in Phoenix. To commemorate its influence on Phoenix and Arizona, an exhibit about its history, *The Carnegie: Behind Every Library There Is a Story*, was unveiled on Statehood Day. Over 100 guests attended the exhibit opening.

To continue the commemoration of the Carnegie's 100 years in Phoenix, the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records presented a monthly lunchtime speaker series on topics relating to the Carnegie Library and to the history of Phoenix and Arizona. All presentations were free and open to the public. Over three hundred people attended the speaker series.



Photo by Sarah Weber

The Carnegie Public Library building, now known as the Carnegie Center, is one of thousands of public library buildings throughout the United States, funded by industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie in the early 1900's. Once called the "Pride of Phoenix," the Carnegie Library opened its doors on February 14, 1908, four years before Arizona became a state. The Carnegie Library building served as the Phoenix Public Library from 1908 until 1952.



Today, the Carnegie Center is managed by the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records as a multiuse library facility, with programs and services that continue to evolve. It offers meeting and training space to state agencies and non-profit community groups, professional development workshops for Arizona librarians, and public computer access. The Carnegie Center hosts public programs such as author readings, book signings, speaker series, conferences and festivals. It also serves as the home for the Arizona Center for the Book and the Center houses an exhibit featuring those honored in the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame.