

# Central Public Library

Fast Facts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opening Date: 12 November 2005</li><li>• Floor Area: 6,407 square meters</li><li>• Collection Size: 288,000 items</li><li>• Target Community: Residents around Kolam Ayer, Whampoa, Jalan Besar, Kampong Glam and Kreta Ayer-Kim Seng</li></ul>
Key Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Outdoor Gardens</b><p>Open to the public, Central Public Library's gardens include the Bamboo Garden, which houses 5,000 bricks from the former National Library at Stamford Road.</p><p>Also located within the garden are life-size bronze figures by Chong Fah Cheong featuring four children in various reading poses, poised on white marble rocks. The sculpture's fantastical nature illustrates the idea that "Anything can happen when you read". This concept is further reinforced by the garden setting which promotes the experience of being lost in a world of books.</p><p>The library's Arts in the Garden series also supports art programmes in the garden such as musical performances and poetry recitals.</p></li><li>• <b>My Tree House</b><p>The world's first green library for kids, "My Tree House", was officially opened by Minister for Communications and Information Yaacob Ibrahim on 31 May 2013. The project was developed together with City Development Limited and is steered by green principles in all facets from design, infrastructure and use of sustainable materials, to collection, services and programming.</p><p>Features include The Weather Stump, which showcases real-time weather data such as rainfall, temperature, wind speed and direction from the Marina Barrage; The Knowledge Tree, an interactive facility that allows children to learn about environmental issues via shadow play; and 2 e-Book kiosks that allow children to read up to 179 eBook titles and engage in interactive activities.</p><p>A series of programmes on recycling, workshops and camps for children is also hosted at My Tree House.</p></li><li>• <b>Literary Arts</b><p>Being a Literary Arts Library, Central Public Library hosts a series of programmes such as Meet the Author sessions with famous and popular authors.</p><p>The library also is also home to two book clubs: the Book Lovers' Club, which focuses on relationships and inspirational stories, and the</p></li></ul>

# Central Public Library

	<p>Singapore Novelist Book Club.</p> <p>An art gallery wall allows for the exhibition of works by local and international, professional and amateur artists and photographers. The space can also be converted into a 400-seater Programme Zone or a newspaper reading area.</p>
<p>Collection Highlights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>English Fiction:</b> Central Public Library has the largest English fiction collection in the network of public libraries, with more than 30,000 unique titles.</li> <li>• <b>Other Collections:</b> The Literary Arts Collection is one of the library's highlights along with its International Collection which showcases the following countries: Saudi Arabia, Australia, Taiwan, US and France.</li> <li>• <b>Newspapers and Magazines:</b> The library also carries the largest collection of newspapers and magazines, with 77 foreign and 13 local newspaper titles, as well as 692 magazines titles.</li> <li>• <b>Children's Collection:</b> The library has 45,000 children's fiction and non-fiction titles with a distinct focus on the themes such as environment and recycling.</li> </ul>
<p>Services and Facilities</p>	<p><b>a) Facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seating capacity: 250</li> <li>• Multimedia stations</li> <li>• Newspaper Reading Area</li> <li>• 24-hour Bookdrop</li> <li>• Parenting Room</li> <li>• Multi-Purpose Room</li> <li>• Photocopy Room</li> <li>• Water Cooler (available at the public restroom area)</li> </ul> <p><b>b) Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular storytelling and school holiday programmes</li> <li>• User education and Information literacy programmes</li> <li>• Library outreaches</li> <li>• Performances and activities</li> <li>• Talks and workshops</li> <li>• Exhibitions and displays</li> </ul>
<p>Library History</p>	<p>Central Public Library was officially opened on 12 November 2005 by then President of Singapore Mr. S R Nathan. It is located at Basement One of the NLB building at 100 Victoria Street.</p> <p>Central Lending Library was formerly located at the National Library Building at Stamford Road, which officially closed its doors on 1 April 2004. As part of the effort to preserve some memories of the former</p>

## Central Public Library

	National Library, 5,000 red bricks from the old building were brought over to construct a wall in the new library's Bamboo Garden.
Interesting Facts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Central Public Library is the only fully underground public library. It is also the only library to have a conveyor belt system for its bookdrop, as well as a monitor display at each bookdrop.</li><li>• The library is located in the Arts and Heritage precinct, as well as commercial and cultural hub within the Central Business District. This puts it in close proximity to design schools and the shopping belt of Bugis and City Hall. It is also located within a belt of museums, namely the Singapore Art Museum, the National Museum, the Asian Civilizations Museum and the Singapore Philatelic Museum, and other nearby tourist areas such as Little India and Fort Canning.</li><li>• Central Public Library has been visited by many famous personalities such as the former US First Lady Laura Bush, current US Second Lady Jill Biden, His Imperial Majesty The Emperor of Japan Akihito and the Empress Michiko, The Prince of Bhutan, and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.</li></ul>

*Last updated on 1 September 2014*