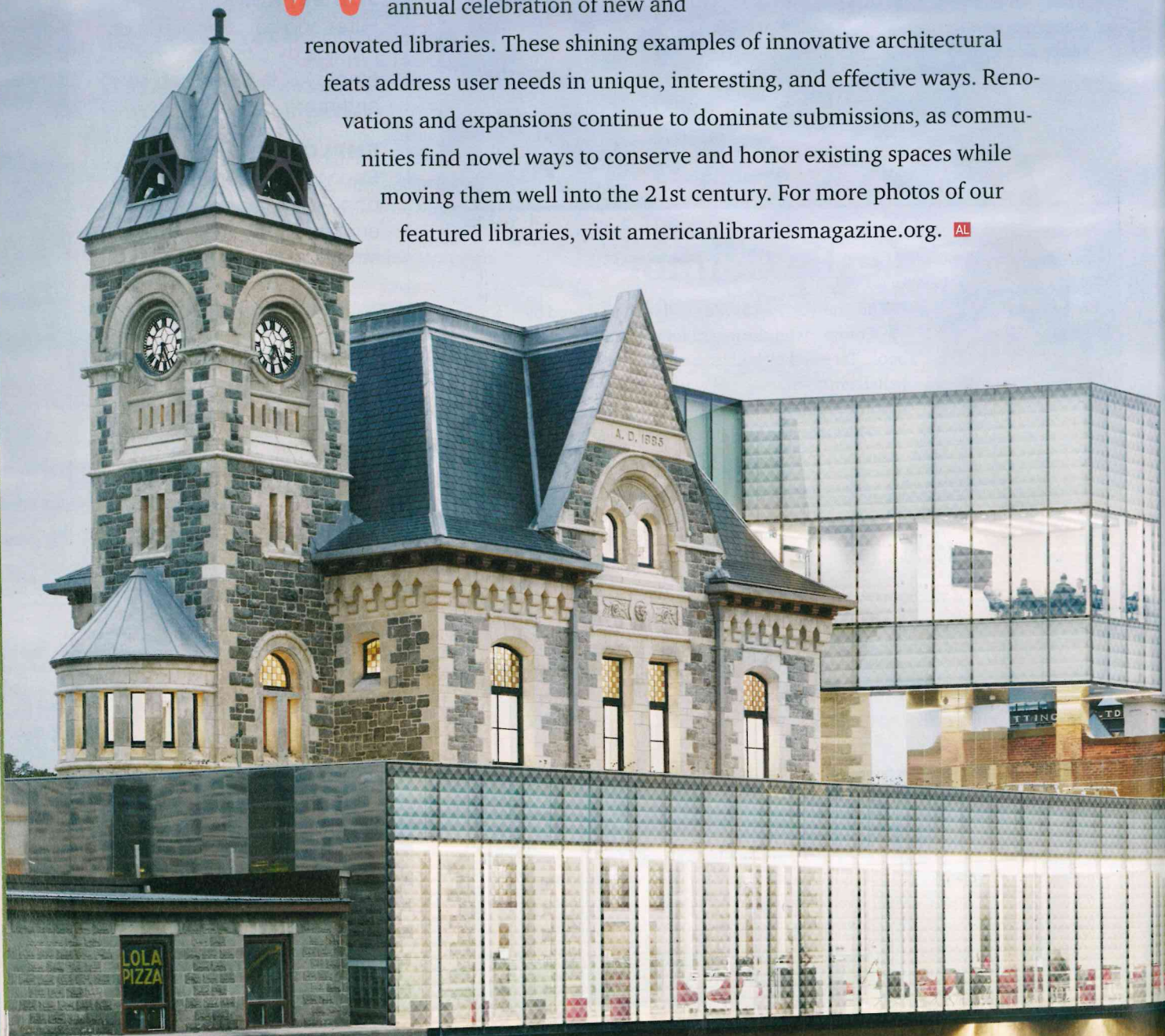


2019

LIBRARY DESIGN

SHOWCASE

Welcome to the 2019 Library Design Showcase, *American Libraries'* annual celebration of new and renovated libraries. These shining examples of innovative architectural feats address user needs in unique, interesting, and effective ways. Renovations and expansions continue to dominate submissions, as communities find novel ways to conserve and honor existing spaces while moving them well into the 21st century. For more photos of our featured libraries, visit americanlibrariesmagazine.org. **AL**





EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN

◀ New Haven (Conn.) Free Public Library

New Haven Free Public Library transformed its first-floor Cass Gilbert Reading Room into Ives Squared, a community commons designed to foster innovation complete with a networking space for nonprofit use, tinker lab, digital switchboard for reference use, and patio. **PROJECT:** Renovation **ARCHITECT:** Margaret Sullivan Studio **SIZE:** 8,000 square feet **COST:** \$1.5 million **PHOTO:** Garrett Rowland

▼ Stoughton (Mass.) Public Library

Finegold Alexander brought this mid-century modern facility built in 1969 into the present day, expanding its footprint and uncluttering its design to create an open, inviting space with bright, natural lighting; an updated color palette; universal accessibility; and improved program spaces. **PROJECT:** Renovation and expansion **ARCHITECT:** Finegold Alexander Architects **SIZE:** 31,000 square feet **COST:** \$14 million **PHOTO:** Raj Das Photography

◀ Idea Exchange Old Post Office, Cambridge, Ontario

The Idea Exchange Old Post Office is a bookless library devoted entirely to makerspaces. Housed in a renovated building completed in 1885, the four-level facility features a theater, film and audio recording suites, a children's discovery center with robot-building kits, and a 9,000-square-foot cantilevered pavilion that extends over the Grand River. **PROJECT:** Renovation and expansion **ARCHITECT:** RDHA **SIZE:** 19,000 square feet **COST:** \$11.1 million Canadian **PHOTO:** Tom Arban



LANDSCAPE VIEWS

▶ Flowing Wells Library, Pima County (Ariz.) Public Library

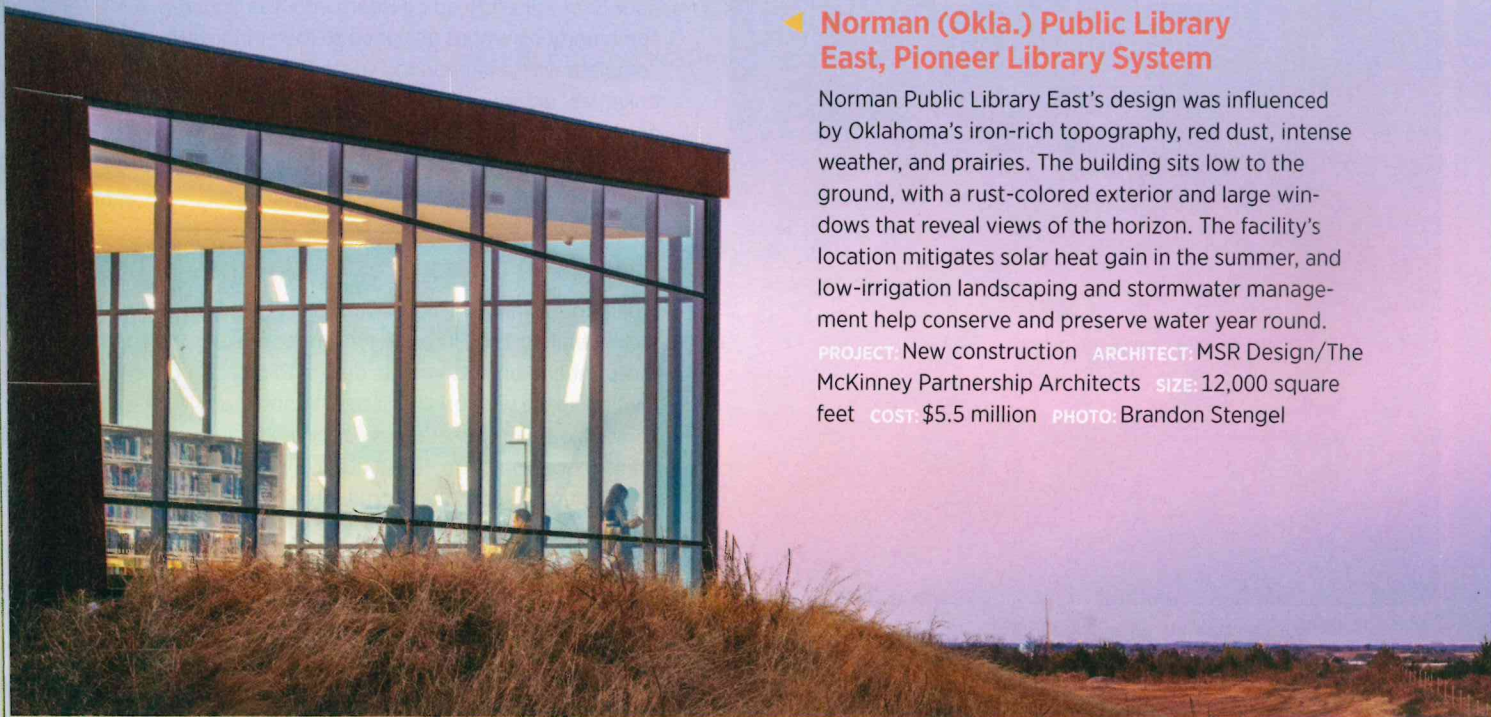
Floor-to-ceiling windows and glass partitions throughout Flowing Wells Library create an open atmosphere and provide unobstructed views of the scenic desert surrounding the library. **PROJECT:** Renovation and expansion **ARCHITECT:** Line and Space Architects **SIZE:** 13,000 square feet **COST:** \$3.4 million **PHOTO:** Bradley Wheeler



◀ Norman (Okla.) Public Library East, Pioneer Library System

Norman Public Library East's design was influenced by Oklahoma's iron-rich topography, red dust, intense weather, and prairies. The building sits low to the ground, with a rust-colored exterior and large windows that reveal views of the horizon. The facility's location mitigates solar heat gain in the summer, and low-irrigation landscaping and stormwater management help conserve and preserve water year round.

PROJECT: New construction **ARCHITECT:** MSR Design/The McKinney Partnership Architects **SIZE:** 12,000 square feet **COST:** \$5.5 million **PHOTO:** Brandon Stengel



REPURPOSED SPACES

◀ Spotsylvania Towne Centre branch, Central Rappahannock Regional Library (CRRL) in Fredericksburg, Virginia

CRRL opened a branch in a local shopping mall with the support of the mall's owner, who offered unused retail space to the library rent free. The modest branch features kids, teen, and adult areas, and computer facilities. Its location has attracted visitors who might not patronize a traditional library. **PROJECT:** Renovation **ARCHITECT:** George K. Somers, Architect **SIZE:** 2,100 square feet **COST:** \$150,000 **PHOTO:** CRRL



MEDITERRANEAN FLAVOR

◀ The Gioconda and Joseph King Library, Palm Beach, Florida

Kirchhoff & Associates used old photos of the Society of the Four Arts library, which also serves as municipal library for Palm Beach, to ensure accurate restoration of the building, originally designed by Mediterranean-influenced architect Maurice Fatio in the 1930s. Renovations included re-creating exterior murals and uncovering, preserving, and replanning the cypress walls, beams, and shelving. **PROJECT:** Renovation and expansion **ARCHITECT:** Kirchhoff & Associates Architects **SIZE:** 9,576 square feet **COST:** \$10 million **PHOTO:** Nickolas Sargent



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THE LIBRARY AS STUDIO

▶ Richland Library Main, Columbia, South Carolina

Located in the center of Columbia's business, university, and entertainment district, Richland Library Main was designed using a "library as studio" model, where ideas and creativity are fostered in public and private spaces. In addition to traditional stacks, the library includes an art gallery, café, performance space, gathering areas, reading nooks, makerspace, coworking and business centers, and garden. **PROJECT:** Renovation **ARCHITECT:** Boudreaux, McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture, and Margaret Sullivan Studio **SIZE:** 242,000 square feet **COST:** \$18 million **PHOTO:** Garrett Rowland

A COMMUNITY SEAT

▼ Five Forks branch, Greenville County (S.C.) Library System

Located in an area that had once been farmland, Five Forks branch was created to be a community-centric "modern barn." Cavernous and column-free, the bright-colored, airy facility features a family area, café, and makerspace, as well as meeting rooms, interactive youth learning areas, a teen space, and a quiet reading room. **PROJECT:** New construction **ARCHITECT:** McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture and Margaret Sullivan Studio **SIZE:** 28,000 square feet **COST:** \$8.5 million **PHOTO:** Firewater Photography





SUPPLEMENTARY DESIGN

◀ Vellore Village Library, Vaughn (Ont.) Public Libraries

Vellore Village Library is an addition to the Vellore Village Joint-Use Complex, which also houses a community center, secondary school, and 35-acre park. The library meshes with the existing building's design, yet stands out with curvilinear and cantilevered features, including an exterior reading terrace that overlooks a skate park. **PROJECT:** New construction **ARCHITECT:** ZAS Architects **SIZE:** 8,500 square feet **COST:** \$4.5 million Canadian **PHOTO:** Michael Muraz



Louisville Free Public Library
South Central Regional Library

Winner of a 2019 AIA/ALA Library Building Award



SCHOOLS OF ALL SIZES

◀ Barbara J. Burger iZone, University of Rochester in New York

The iZone at University of Rochester was created to inspire and realize ideas. The facility was designed with two distinct zones: a back-of-house area for independent and group study and an expansive front-of-house space complete with amphitheater seating, where students can gather and share and display projects. **PROJECT:** Renovation **ARCHITECT:** Holt Architects **SIZE:** 14,500 square feet **COST:** \$1.7 million **PHOTO:** Revette Studio

◀ Wisconsin School of Business Learning Commons, Madison

The Learning Commons links two wings of the existing School of Business building, creating a hub with wired spaces for interactive and collaborative learning, tutoring, and independent study. **PROJECT:** Renovation **ARCHITECT:** Potter Lawson/MSR Design **SIZE:** 35,000 square feet **COST:** \$11 million **PHOTO:** Mike Rebholz

◀ Palo Alto (Calif.) High School

HED gave Palo Alto High School's outdated library a dramatic facelift. Built in the 1970s, the original library was dark, disjointed, and uninviting. HED transformed the space by adding large windows for natural light; a flexible instruction room; silent and group study rooms; a productivity center; reading nooks; and a mezzanine level, accessible via a spiral staircase, to house the library's 125-year-old journalism archive. **PROJECT:** Renovation **ARCHITECT:** HED **SIZE:** 26,600 square feet **COST:** \$10.1 million **PHOTO:** Tim Maloney