



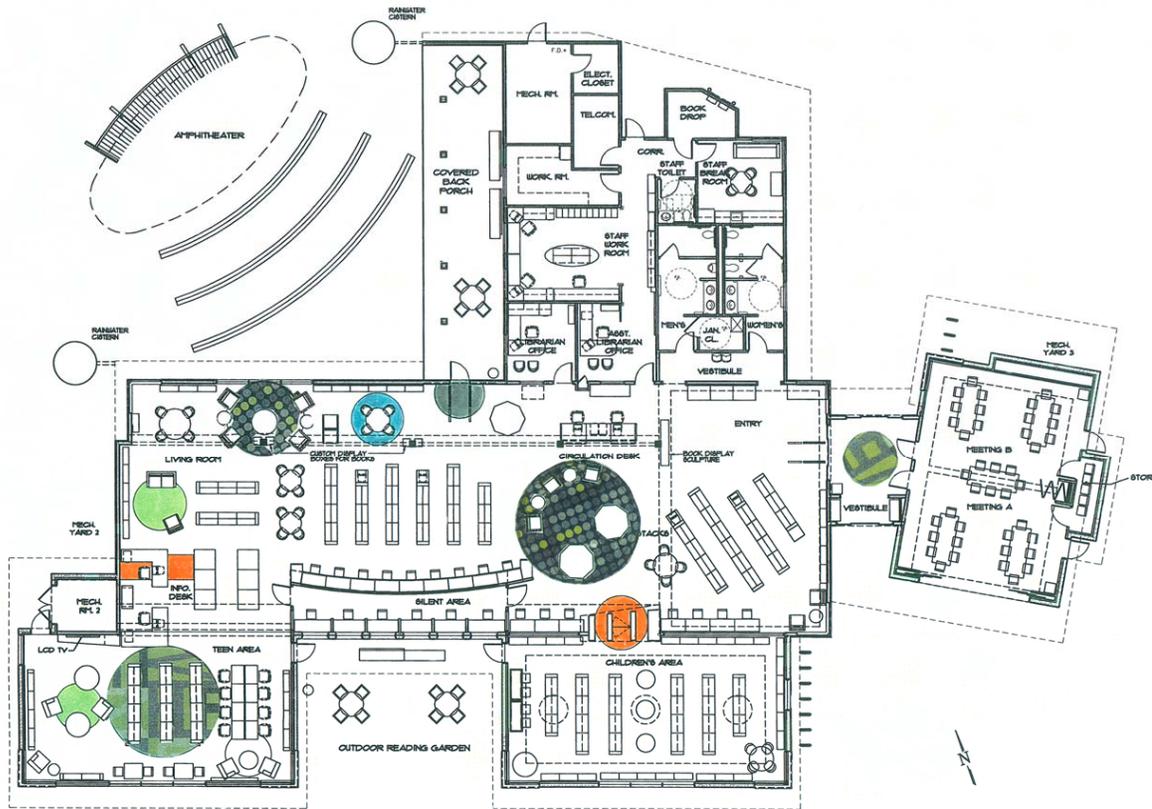
This 10,000 sf City of Austin library (\$3M budget) was designed to replace a strip center facility (5,000 sf) that had been serving a diverse neighborhood with a lot of children and nearby schools. The overall approach was to create something of a bookstore atmosphere & community gathering place: one that merged the vibrant colors and diverse design aesthetic that defines South Austin with the functional needs of an accessible, sustainably-designed modern library for the community.

The reinvented library occupies the site of a former Post office (bricks were re-used), and offers everything from walls of computers and a sound-insulated silent study area to indoor and outdoor community spaces (accessible even when the library is closed). The interior features reclaimed Douglas Fir trusses, a custom sculptural book display & a large circular furr-down that draws patrons through the entry area. The building uses extensive daylighting, employs window shades to lower heat gain and has a sophisticated control system that dims ceiling fixtures when there is sufficient daylight.

A 'kid-scaled', whimsical 'crooked-house' entrance with custom-colored translucent panels frames a separate Children's Area which shares an outdoor Reading Garden with a Teen area that has separate computer terminals, comfy furniture and a large screen TV. A quiet "Living Room" study area features colorful custom book display cubbies and looks out over an outdoor Amphitheater and Back Porch.

The project was designed based on a LEED template and has applied for LEED existing Building certification. Recycled-content / recyclable carpeting & furniture fabrics were utilized in the project as was low-VOC paint and linoleum.

The project won a "First Place Design Excellence Award" for "Sustainable Design." from the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) – Austin Chapter. It also just received a regional "First Place Design Excellence Award" from the Texas-Oklahoma chapter of the International Interior Design Association (IIDA). Laurie Smith Design Associates served as the project interior designer on the hatch + ulland owen design team. Photography is by Paul Bardegjy and Sherwin Field.



FURNITURE PLAN

N.T.S.





