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Opening Doors, Opening Minds

Submitted by Joan Stevenson

ay by day, nail by nail, the residents of Lafayette are watching the new Lafayette Library and Learning Center become the reality. The initial phase of the library campaign, "Imagine a Place," raised the funds for construction through donations from over 1600 households and businesses along with funds from the State, County and City.

Tucked into the mailbox of every Lafayette home last week was a book titled, "Opening Doors, Opening Minds." This storybook encourages the community to participate in the second phase of the campaign, a \$4,000,000.00 initiative to assure greater access through expanded hours, a continually enriched collection, increased programming, and resources to maintain the building and grounds.

The new Lafayette Library and Learning Center will also be home to the Glenn Seaborg Learning Consortium, a collective of a dozen of the Bay Area's most prestigious educational and cultural institutions offering multidisciplinary programs at a single site. The Consortium will be the first of its kind at any American public library.

An all day "Sneak Peek Community Celebration" is planned for May 3rd. Organizers are presenting a day-long opportunity to experience "what's (soon to be) inside" the new library. Program plans include something for every age and interest group - from story-time for pre-schoolers to Ken Balough, marketing manager of Sega (formerly of LucasArts) presenting a fun, interactive program for teens about the world of video games (he will be giving out prizes!), to a political savant from UC Berkeley talking - what else? - Presidential politics. Plus, music all day, giveaways, and authors signing their latest and greatest. More information can be found www.lafayettelib.com.