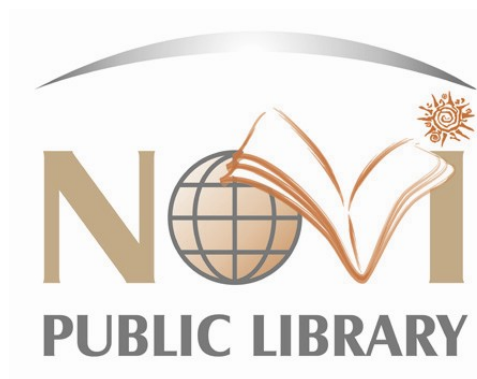


Art at the Novi Public Library



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www.novilibrary.org



“Art is the most intense mode of individualism that the world has known”

- Oscar Wilde

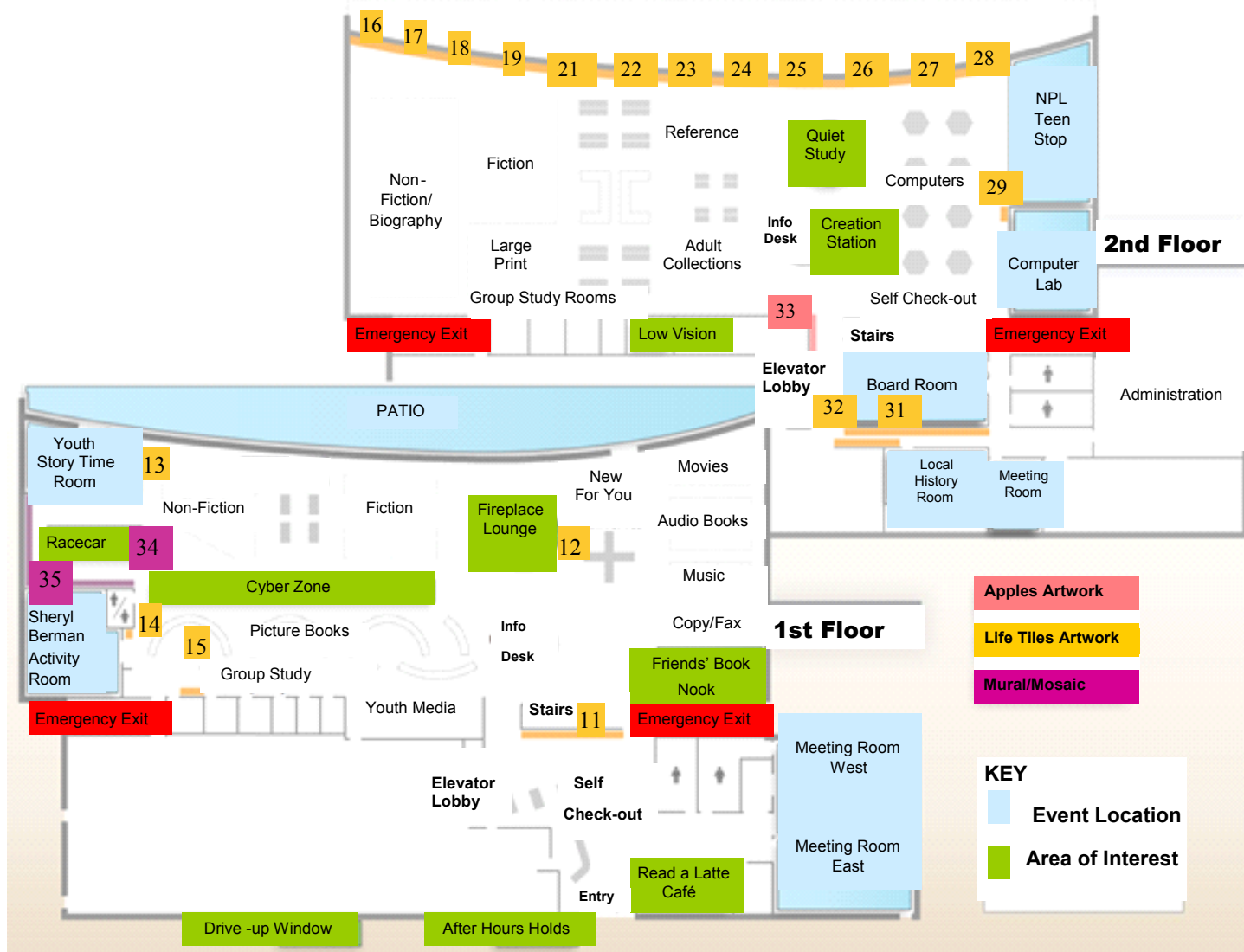
Welcome to the Novi Public Library!

This brochure is designed to guide visitors on a walking tour to view the many unique pieces of artwork throughout the Library and on the Library's grounds.

Take the Artwork Audio Tour!

Using your own cell phone, call the audio tour main number: **(248) 869-7200**, then dial the specific "dial" numbers posted on the silver signs by each art display and on the floor plan below. The sound will pause throughout the audio tour to provide time to locate individual pieces of art.

Don't hang-up after hearing the description of any specific art display. The welcome greeting will play again, cueing you to move to another display and dial the new "dial" number. Plan for approximately 40 minutes to enjoy the entire audio tour, or listen to parts of the audio tour on separate visits at your convenience. The audio tour can be taken in any order. See a Librarian for more details



GLASS APPLES (Dial Number 33)

The Library is also home to a beautiful sculpture of hand-blown glass apples, created by Richard Ritter. Richard is a graduate of Northville High School and the Center of Creative Studies in Detroit. His collections are showcased in the Detroit Institute of Arts, as well as an impressive variety of museums and galleries worldwide. The Library's apple sculpture celebrates the City's history of apple orchards and symbolizes knowledge, associated with many of the resources at the Library.



READING THROUGH TIME (Dial Number 34)

Michigan Artist, Stacy Schwartz designed and hand painted this intricate mural aptly titled, "Reading through Time". The mural shows transportation through history, including stories and items of local interest. Can you pick out the Novi landmarks or your favorite stories in this stunning three-wall panoramic mural?



JUMPING ON BOOKS (Dial Number 35)

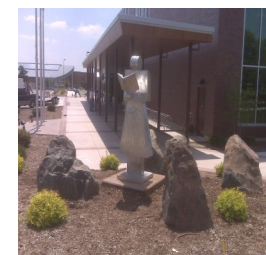
The Sherrill Berman Activity Room showcases a charming glass mosaic inspired by a classic youth book. The impressive mosaic was designed by local artists, Dani Katsir and Gail Rosenbloom Kaplan, while the mosaic's glass was carefully cut, glued, and positioned by the friends and family of Sherrill Berman.

Artwork on the Library's Grounds



THREE CHILDREN READING— MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE LIBRARY

As you enter the Library, you are greeted by a beautiful cast bronze sculpture of three children reading on a bench. This sculpture was designed by Randolph Rose of Yonkers, New York and donated by the Friends of the Novi Public Library.



THE LIBRARIAN—MAIN ENTRANCE DRIVE AT 10 MILE

Formed out of the international symbol for "library", The Librarian stands tall at the main entrance drive as cars enter from 10 Mile Road. This sculpture was designed by Jim Havens.



PREHISTORIC EARTH (Dial Number 15)

These tiles follow life on Earth through eras and eons in a geological timeline and show the changing relationship between Earth and early life forms. These Life Tiles show the life of plants and animals from each geological area, often incorporating fossils from the era into the surface of the tile. This turtle tile symbolizes this relationship, showing a water turtle and a mollusk fossil from the Jurassic period.



WORLD CULTURES-1 (Dial Number 16)

This display begins in Asia, the world's largest continent. Asia contains 16.9 million square miles and is bound by the Ural Mountains, Mediterranean Sea, as well as the Indian, Pacific, and Arctic Oceans. Asia held mankind's first civilizations and is home to many populations, nations, religions, and cultures. This display starts with the early civilization in the Middle East, including Mesopotamia, Babylonia, and Persia, and continues through Islamic, Western Asian, and Southern Asian cultures. The Astronomer tile shows an early scientist studying the movement of stars using an astrolabe.



WORLD CULTURES-2 (Dial Number 17)

This display continues to showcase Southern Asian culture, focusing on India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Nepal, among others. These countries are bordered on the north by the Himalayan Mountains between the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean. The final two rows in this display represent the southern Asian countries formerly part of the USSR, including Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. The elephant tile shows the Mahmud Palace in northern India during the 10th century.



WORLD CULTURES-3 (Dial Number 18)

The cultures of Southeast Asia are first shown in this display. This area ranges from the Himalayan Mountains south to the equator. It is a tropical region with larger river systems and fertile lands. It is home to a variety of cultures and a growing population, including the countries of Thailand, Vietnam, and Singapore. The tiles then move to Southwestern Asia, located between the Southeast Asian mainland and Australia. It is a volcanic region with a monsoon climate and includes the countries of Java, Philippines, and Korea. The rice farming tile represents the backbreaking work of Vietnamese rice farmers and the beautiful Vietnamese landscape. The tile also includes a coin from Vietnam.



WORLD CULTURES-4 (Dial Number 19)

This display features the cultures of Eastern Asia, stretching from the Arctic to the equator. It contains approximately one third of the earth's landmass and 3/5 of the world's population. It includes the countries of China, Japan, and the Pacific Islands. The display first shows Chinese culture from ancient civilization from 5000 BC through today. The display then introduces the cultures of Taiwan, Mongolia, and Japan. The rich and colorful culture of this region is shown in the theater tile. It depicts a traditional mask and costume from the Beijing Opera from the 11th century.



WORLD CULTURES-5 (Dial Number 21)

In this display, the continent of Africa is revealed. Africa contains 12 million square miles of territory, with a variety of climates, environments, geography, and landforms. This display first pictures the culture of Egypt, then tells the stories from Northern African cultures, including Tunisia, Ethiopia, and Sudan. This next culture represented is that of Western Africa, including Mali and Ghana. The tiles then move to the cultures of Central Africa, including the countries of Chad, Cameroon, and Congo. The journey through African culture continues to the Eastern and Southern African regions, including the countries of Kenya, Rwanda, and South Africa. The last row in this display moves us to the continent of Europe, starting with the classical civilization in Greece. The "butterfly" mask tile shows a ceremonial costume used by the Bobo Tribe in Burkina Faso. This country is located between Mali and Ghana in West Africa and contains 60 different ethnic groups.



WORLD CULTURES-6 (Dial Number 22)

This display continues telling the story of Southern European culture, starting with a prehistoric figure from 1st century Cyprus and continuing through Greek culture. Next you will see the culture of the Roman Empire from 200 BC throughout the 1st century. The Roman Empire is known for its vast territory, laws, architecture, and technology. This is well illustrated in the Roman Legion Guard tile. It shows a Guard outside the 31 mile aqueduct in Nimes, France in the 1st century.



WORLD CULTURES-7 (Dial Number 23)

This display represents the culture of Central Europe in the Middle Ages, Renaissance, Age of Exploration, 18th Century, and the 19th Century. These time periods marked the beginnings of the modern eras of nation states, rebirth of learning, and the rapid expansion of commerce, art, and technology. The Michelangelo tile shows a portion of the Renaissance master's famous painting in the Sistine Chapel in Italy.



WORLD CULTURES-8 (Dial Number 24)

20th Century Europe comes alive in this display. It focuses on Spain and Italy through the 1980s, before moving to Southeastern Europe. The Life Tiles move through the Balkan states and then to Northern and Central Europe. The Thor tile represents part of the Norse Gods and ancient creation myths.



WORLD CULTURES-9 (Dial Number 25)

This display explores the culture of Central and Eastern Europe, starting with the early Eastern Roman Empire and continuing through the 20th Century. This region shares a common culture influenced by the Eastern Orthodox Church and interaction with Eastern Asian neighbors. This area includes the countries of Germany and Russia. The Royal Lipizzaner House tile shows the horses performing "Airs Above the Ground" in 1922 and includes an embedded coin representing these amazing animals.



WORLD CULTURES-10 (Dial Number 26)

This display continues the imagery of Central and Eastern Europe beginning with the Baltic states of Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia. In the second row, we move to Western Europe. Western Europe is a land of many peninsulas, bounded by the eastern Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. The Western European tiles show ancient times, as well as the Dark and Middle Ages in Great Britain, France, and Belgium. The knight tile is an example of this culture. This tile represents the knights engaged in tournaments to demonstrate their military skill and chivalry.



WORLD CULTURES-11 (Dial Number 27)

This section begins with the image of a Gothic style cathedral in 10th Century France, showing the dominance of the Catholic Church in Western European culture. During this time period, there was a rapid rising of towns, new emphasis on education, science, and trade. The increased wealth and prosperity of this region is shown in "The Milkmaid" tile. It celebrates the detailed painting by Dutch painting master, Johannes Vermeer. Artists, like Vermeer, were in high demand to provide art to the growing middle class of merchants and traders. The embedded coin is from the Netherlands.



WORLD CULTURES-12 (Dial Number 28)

We continue to explore Western Europe in this display, with the Age of Enlightenment through the 20th century. This time period encompassed political, industrial, and artistic revolution. A shining example of this time and place is best represented by the Eiffel Tower tile. Gustave Eiffel built this tower at the Paris Universal Exposition to honor the French Revolution. Note the French coin embedded into the tile.



OCEANIA AND POLES (Dial Number 29)

The cultures of Oceania showcase this display. Oceania includes the large area south and east of Asia in the South Pacific Ocean, including a continent and numerous islands. Various peoples have spread across the Pacific Ocean to new island settlements in a large variety of landforms and distinctive cultures, including Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia, and Australia. The display continues with the cultures of the Polar Regions; the Arctic Circle region in the north and Antarctica in the south. The ecology and culture of this region are best shown in the scuba diver tile, which shows a diver exploring the Great Reef outside Australia. An actual coral fossil, composed of colonies of limestone polyps is embedded into this tile.



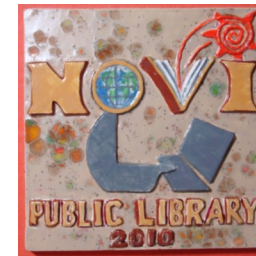
AMERICAS (Dial Number 31)

This display contains 345 tiles, encompassing North America, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean Islands. It starts by illustrating Native American culture, then European influence on the Western Hemisphere, followed by Canadian culture. The United States is then explored through the Colonial, Revolutionary, Republic, Expansion, Civil War, and the Industrial periods, followed by a decade-by decade breakdown of modern American culture. Afterwards, the rich and diverse Pre-Columbian, Latin American, Caribbean Islands, Central American, and South American cultures are highlighted. The tile shown highlights a dance competition at an organized Pow-Wow, where tribal heritage and traditions are celebrated across the United States and Canada. Notice the embedded dream catcher in the bottom, left corner. Dream catchers are an authentic American Indian tradition, from the Ojibwa (Chippewa) tribe,



PLANTS AND FLOWERS (Dial Number 32)

This display shows the different phylum, order, and subdivisions of plant life, starting with aquatic plants and ending with vascular plants. The rose tile depicts the well-known and loved flower. Roses are in a subclass of plants that have two seeded leaves and also include herbaceous perennials, annuals, trees, and shrubs.



LIFE TILES INTRODUCTION DISPLAY (Dial Number 11)

The Life Tiles collection consists of 1,600 different hand-crafted ceramic tiles created by local Artist, Educator, and long-time Novi Resident, Connie Lunski. The Life Tiles tell a unique visual story of our living universe from its beginning, billions of years ago, through our civilizations of today. The right section of the display showcases graphic and written descriptions of the Novi Public Library's mission, Life Tiles concept, world cultures, and their interconnections.



Centered at the top of the display is the **Life Tile key**, showing the interrelationships between the scientific domains and kingdoms which influence life on Earth. It is a human symbol enclosed in a blue circle representing culture on earth. The surrounding bands of color each represent other intersecting forms of life found in the Life Tiles below in this display, as well as in the other Life Tile displays throughout the Library. The first row of tiles under the key shows the domains of the Life Tiles. The second row represents the kingdoms. The phylum, class, and order are shown in the following rows, as well as in the other tile displays. At the far right, the black-colored tiles, represent the **Universe**, from the "Big Bang" theory to the planet, Earth. The terra cotta-colored tiles highlight the **Physical Geography** of Earth, including Earth's movement, structure, climate, and vegetation. The orange-colored tiles illustrate **Archaea**, the ancient bacteria that are still found today living in extreme environments.



Further left are the **Tree of Life** tiles, showing organisms from the simplest microscopic atoms at its roots, to the complex cultures of man at its canopy. Below the Tree of Life are the white-colored **Virus** tiles, further grouped by replication and genome type, DNA, and RNA. Moving right are the blue-colored **Bacteria** tiles, which are organized by a variety of changing classifications. Continuing right, you will find the purple-colored **Eucarya** tiles, which include algae, mildew, and kelp. Next are the green-colored **Plant** tiles, ordered into aquatic, non-vascular, and vascular forms, followed by the orange-colored **Unikonts** tiles, which include amoebozoan and fungi. The last grouping of burgundy colored tiles represent the **Animals**, including sponges, jellyfish, invertebrates, insects, crustaceans, and vertebrates.



ANIMALS (Dial Number 12)

This display showcases nearly 200 different invertebrates, crustaceans, centipedes, spiders, scorpions, insects, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Moving from left to right, you will see animal groupings by phylum. A great example of the craftsmanship of the Life Tiles is the frog life cycle tile.



STORIES (Dial Number 13)

This display includes art representing stories from the 14th century through modern times from Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and North America. This theme is well illustrated by the puppet troupe tile. This tile depicts storytelling with puppets from 14th century Italy, where it was widely used for entertainment during fairs.



TRANSPORTATION (Dial Number 14)

This display illustrates different modes of transportation used throughout the world, ranging from early carts pulled by animals to space travel. A great example of the excitement of transportation is shown in the motorcycles tile. It offers a view of a 1990 motor cross race on grass in Luxemburg.