

The Leonardo™



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Renovations Begin on the Leonardo

Opening Day for Science-Tech-Art Center will be announced in October

SALT LAKE CITY, Oct 1, 2009—Renovations have officially begun on the old main library in Salt Lake City—future home to The Leonardo, Utah’s science-tech-art center.

"The Leonardo donors, team and the voters who approved the bond have anticipated with great excitement the day when life will return to the magnificent old main library," said Peter Giles, executive director for The Leonardo. "The Leonardo team and its collaborators are well into the process of developing exhibit and programming concepts to bring science, technology and art together on Library Square in ways that will inspire creativity and innovation in Utah."

"This is a major milestone in the development of The Leonardo," said Mayor Ralph Becker. "The Leonardo will add to the vibrancy of our city—from educational and cultural events, to tourism and economic development opportunities. I look forward to the day we open the doors of this amazing new resource in our Capital City."

The renovation process will include asbestos removal, seismic upgrades and other building improvements. In 2003, Salt Lake City voters approved a \$10.2 million bond to renovate the old main library for use as The Leonardo. The bond, along with grants from the city’s Redevelopment Agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and Rocky Mountain Power’s Blue Sky Program, will fund the renovations.

The renovation process is being managed by Salt Lake City’s Public Services Department, and is expected to take approximately 15 months. After the city has completed renovations, The Leonardo team will move in to put the finishing touches on the space and install exhibits. The Leonardo will announce the official opening day in October.

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