



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Kimberly Brown
(916) 651-6466

Kimberly.brown@library.ca.gov

State Library Launches Virtual Tour of Historic Library Building

SACRAMENTO (June 20, 2013) – The California State Library invites the public to take an online tour of the historic Stanley Mosk Library and Courts Building in Sacramento. The tour, made up of 22 slideshows, including several in 3D, gives viewers an in-depth look at the extensive renovation of the building, considered one of the most stunning examples of neoclassical design in the state.

A grand semi-circular marble staircase, bronze statues, and murals by famed artist Maynard Dixon are just a few of the unique architectural features of the library included in the tour.

“We’re excited to offer people a chance to see this historic building up close,” said Acting Deputy State Librarian Jarrid Keller. “The 3D images bring viewers into the building in a very fun way. You can almost reach out and touch the marble columns. Our photographers documented each phase of the renovation, taking hundreds of photos. We’ve put the most spectacular shots in this tour.”

The virtual tour is available on the library’s website at: http://www.library.ca.gov/about/renovation_demo.html

Built in 1928, the six-story building closed in 2009 for renovation of the mechanical, electrical, security and fire suppression systems. The work is now finished. The State Library is in the process of moving its collection of over 4 million titles back into the building and is expected to reopen there later this year.

The slideshows take viewers on a visual journey through the renovation process, beginning with photos taken before the project began, through the stages of repair and completion of the project. Among the highlights is the Memorial Vestibule at the entry. Sixteen black and gold columns of Italian marble tower over visitors. The walls are painted with 12 murals depicting warfare through the ages, and at each end of the vestibule is a marble tablet with a bronze inscription honoring Californians who served in World War I.

During the renovation, the library temporarily moved its services one block south to 900 N Street, where it is currently open weekdays.

NOTE: High quality photos of the online exhibit are available for publication.

About the California State Library

Founded in 1850, the California State Library is the central reference and research library for the Governor’s office, Legislature, state employees, and the general public. The State Library administers federal and state grants for programs in historical preservation, library construction, civil liberties education, literacy,

volunteering, and broadband connectivity in public libraries. For more information, please visit www.library.ca.gov.

#