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Blasco Library Teen Space to open February 9

Erie, PA – January 30, 2019 –The Erie County Public Library will officially open its Teen Space at the Blasco Library on Saturday, Feb. 9, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house starting at 2 p.m. The space was designed for and by teens through a series of public forums with guidance from the library’s Teen Advisory Board, who helped make decisions about furnishings, technology, and design.

A ribbon cutting will be at 2 p.m. outside of the new Teen Space, and will feature members of the Teen Advisory Board, the Erie Regional Library Foundation and the Erie County administration.

An open house will follow until 4 p.m., featuring tours and interactive activities hosted by the library’s youth-led Teen Advisory Board.

The Teen Space is on the first floor of the library, overlooking Presque Isle Bay, and includes a robust collection of books and resources, brand-new furnishings, a performance stage, collaboration spaces, a laptop bar and room for a wide variety of programs.

“I am so proud of our Erie County Public Library staff and the young people of the Teen Advisory Board for the effort they have put into making this Teen Space a reality,” said Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper. “We look forward to making this unique space a haven for teens across our community to share, learn, create and collaborate.”

This construction will complete Phase II of the Blasco Master Plan – a four-phase plan designed to respond to cultural and technological change, prioritize collaboration over collections, establish phased improvements and build community support.

This \$200,000 project is supported by the Erie Regional Library Foundation with a matching grant from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, Pennsylvania Department of Education, with funds provided from the Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund.

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