

Making Space for Young Adults in Public Libraries  
**[name removed] Public Library**

**Staff Video**

Narrator: This is our teen room... see if I can get the ceiling. It's an interesting ceiling, half of it no ceiling, half of it floating, and the floor is really holding up. It's a great floor... colorful, good furniture. We're really lucky. We had some great designers work on this space for us.

[0:53] The desk over here is a very social place. I have a toy collection that I have here to encourage people to stop by and to encourage people to talk to me, and just to give teens something to do when they do come up to the desk and ask a question.

Comic book collection over here, very popular, growing collection, and a little magnetic art gallery on either side of the shelf for kids to hang their work. And some art supplies over here. Unicorn mask... This is... I think this is the one thing I would take away. I [2:04] wouldn't take away the whole desk, but I would make it smaller. I think it's too much real estate for one person, and I would... I'd... I'd make something else bigger and make the desk smaller. That's what I would do, if I could.

Maybe I would make the study room bigger. There's Pringles on the floor. This room is used night and day. Groups come in here for group projects; tutors work in here; students from the high school run their club meetings in here sometimes. It's a great little room. I want more rooms.

This is our fiction collection along the wall, with a little art gallery up above. The Girl [3:07] Scouts have an exhibit up there right now. We have really nice lighting in here. It's very... it's very warm and inviting. It's a very low-tech space. We have a lot of books and toys. We have four computers, which are used regularly, but you know, technology isn't our big thing in this room. Our big thing is conversation, interaction. That's what this space is more about.

I do think technology is important. I think if I could add anything, I would add a building [3:58] and staff. I think we should give teens their own library with performance spaces and technology, computer labs and staff. This room is run by me [laughs], one person, and it's not the best model, definitely not the best model.

We had a wall of magazines there, but many of them have gone out of print, so we have to figure out something new for that wall, and our manga collection is here, little small but growing manga collection. And on the back side of the wall, we have a separate sci-fi, fantasy and horror collection here, and a little spinning rack of classics right there, and [5:06] another little gallery space for teens. I've got book covers in there now, but just to encourage teens to show their work.

And that's the teen room. Thank you for including us in your study.

[End of Staff Video]

## Youth Video

Narrator: And this is our teen room. When most people walk in, they see the curving table of many toys and sculptures and little plastic things that anyone could set up in their own little scene or story. Then when you walk past, you have four comfy chairs to read or just sit, and then our librarian lets us put up our own art here so everyone can enjoy it, and we have some words, then of course Spiderman. What would a library be without a [1:03] Spiderman? Then we have the pirate dinosaurs.

When we walk over here, you can see all the art supplies that we can just grab and do whatever you like. Then, one of my favorite things is all the letters, full of just random scraps of paper. It's always a mystery and surprise. Then we have this comfortable chair, and our librarian is so welcome for us to come back behind her desk and just hang out with her, which is really nice.

[1:57] Then we have her giant poster board of all these pictures that I have no idea what it means. Look at this. Black Horse spit... celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> year. What does that mean? I don't know.

When we look over here, you see.... oh, hey! You see all their computers and another chair for you to sit in, and we have all the books and some posters that the Girl Scouts made, and these are new arrivals over here ... and a giant fly, and these are just some [3:04] other books that... put on display, and this is where you look for your books in case you don't see it.

And then when we walk over here, there's a private little teen room in case you want to be somewhere quiet or if you're studying, for doing class... have the chalkboard and the whiteboard, and who can forget the floating banana? We call this room the Fish Room for a reason, because all of the fish stickers against the wall. Then this is our library.

[End of Youth Video]