



# CORDOVA CENTER PROJECT

## EDUCATION SUMMARY

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### BACKGROUND

The community of Cordova is planning for the construction of a 33,929 square foot, fully ADA accessible multi-use facility. The Cordova center will include a museum, library, performing arts theatre/auditorium, meeting rooms, education rooms and associated work spaces. Development of the project centered around a need for expanded areas for the educational and children's programs that currently take place within the community but in inefficient sites. Mt. Eccles Elementary students, homeschool students and preschool children all attend programs within the library and museum. The science-based Discovery Room education program is housed within two classrooms in the community college. Community music and education programs are held in the elementary school cafeteria.

### LIBRARY/MUSEUM EDUCATION

Together the Library and Museum provide unique learning opportunities for the youth in the community. For instance, an "After School Art Class" was developed for youth in grades K-8. The library also serves as the elementary school library for 200 pre-kindergarten to sixth grade children.

A variety of literacy activities and programs are provided for the youth in the community. Story times and a summer reading program encourage youth to continue to build their reading skills along with a love of reading. The library also serves as a cultural facility, providing film festivals, author visits and other programs to enhance the quality of life for residents in the community.

In addition, the library has recently seen a large increase in the number of 'latch-key' children sent to the library for the after-school hours and has begun to develop more of a structured after-school program.

### DISCOVERY SCIENCE EDUCATION

As a part of the U.S. Forest Service, the Science Discovery Program is currently located at the college in two small rooms. The staff provides a variety of education programs and demonstrations for youth. A theme is chosen each month to be explored and enjoyed by the participants. Youth participate in hands-on activities related to the theme. A library collection which is a valuable resource for the community is also housed in the rooms.

