



HISTORICAL SOCIETY *of*  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND KIPLINGER RESEARCH LIBRARY  
TO REOPEN IN 2017 AFTER SUCCESSFUL REMEDIATION**

***The Historical Society will reopen after environmental remediation and testing***

**WASHINGTON, DC** — The Historical Society of Washington, D.C. is pleased to announce that it will reopen to the public on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 in the historic Carnegie Library at Mt. Vernon Square. Events DC, the official convention and sports authority for the District of Columbia, manages the property. In September, Events DC temporarily closed the Carnegie Library to treat mold found in two areas of the building and conduct thorough environmental testing on the rest of the space. Events DC announced today that it is reopening the historic Carnegie Library at Mt. Vernon Square after conducting a successful environmental remediation.

“We are committed to making sure each of our buildings is safe for all patrons and employees. I am proud of how quickly and efficiently our team was able to address this concern,” said Gregory A. O’Dell, president and chief executive officer of Events DC. “We look forward to finishing this year on a strong note and are excited for new events and developments at Carnegie in 2017.”

During the building closure, the Historical Society offices were relocated to the convention center. The announcement of the closure came just one week before the exhibit “DISTRICT II” was scheduled to open in the Carnegie Library’s East Gallery on the second floor. The Historical Society successfully rescheduled the exhibit, which opened at the National Building Museum on November 19, 2016 and will run through February 12, 2017.

The Historical Society has continued to deliver public programs thanks to the collaboration of many local cultural organizations including the National Building Museum, The George Washington University Museum | Textile Museum, the DC Public Library, Events DC, and the National Archives. The Newseum, an exceptional partner, hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Making D.C. History Awards just two weeks after the closure of the Carnegie Library, and the event raised over \$100,000 for the organization, the most successful to date. The leadership would like to thank each of these partners for their collaboration during the remediation of the building environment.

"We are pleased to be back in our clean space in the historic Carnegie Library on Mt. Vernon Square," commented John Suau, executive director of the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. "We will move back to the building after the new year and pending any changes, we plan to reopen to our visitors in January 2017. I would like to thank our researchers and patrons for their patience during the mitigation process and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to the Kiplinger Research Library and to see our exhibits in 2017. We also want to reassure our members and donors that we will remain in the building until 2098."

The Carnegie Library opened its doors in 1903, one of thousands of libraries funded by steel industry titan Andrew Carnegie, with the distinction of being the first fully-integrated public building in Washington, DC. In 1999 Congress granted \$2 million and a 99-year lease to the Historical Society to use the building as a history museum about Washington, D.C. After \$20 million of renovations funded by local donors, the Library has served as the home of the Historical Society's exhibits, public programs, and renowned Kiplinger Research Library since 2003.

The Carnegie Library has been an integral part of the two-hundred-year history of Mt. Vernon Square, a fast growing area that has recently seen the construction of the Marriott Marquis Washington DC, Convention Center retail program, as well as a host of new restaurants, retailers, and housing developments.

#### **ABOUT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, D.C.**

The Historical Society of Washington, D.C., is a community-supported educational and research organization that collects, interprets, and shares the history of our nation's capital. Founded in 1894, the Historical Society serves a diverse audience through its collections, public programs, exhibitions, and publications. The Historical Society's galleries and research library are located in the historic Carnegie Library at Mt. Vernon Square, 801 K Street NW. The Historical Society offers exhibitions and programs throughout the year encouraging the collection of local history as well as the documentation of contemporary D.C. To support exhibitions and related programming at the Historical Society and to learn more visit [dchistory.org](http://dchistory.org).

#### **ABOUT EVENTS DC**

Events DC, the official convention and sports authority for the District of Columbia, deliver premier event services and flexible venues across the nation's capital. Leveraging the power of a world-class destination and creating amazing attendee experiences, Events DC generates economic and community benefits through the attraction and promotion of business, athletic, entertainment and cultural activities. Events DC oversees the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, an anchor of the District's hospitality and tourism economy that generates over \$400 million annually in total economic impact, and the historic Carnegie Library at Mt. Vernon Square. Events DC manages the Stadium-Armory campus, which includes Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium and surrounding Festival Grounds, the non-military functions of the DC Armory and Maloof Skate Park at RFK Stadium. Events DC also built and now serves as landlord for Nationals Park, the first LEED-certified major professional sports stadium in the United States. The most recent addition is Gateway DC, an innovative and versatile space featuring a covered and open-air pavilion in the center of a 1-acre park, conveniently located in the Congress Heights neighborhood of Washington, DC. For more information, please visit or find us on social media – Facebook (Events DC), Twitter (@TheEventsDC) and Instagram (@EventsDC).