

A little history...

Somewhere in the early days of the library building renovation project, someone, thinking about the wood feature wall behind the staircase, suggested that we could put words or sayings on the lighted panels.

This caught the fancy of city staff, the architects, and the building project team. Early in 2008, we formed the word wall team. It included members of the building project team (staff, City Council, Library Board, citizens) and added members of the Richland Arts Commission. Many meetings ensued with discussions on words, sayings, font style and size, color, and many more design features. Each member contributed a multi-page list of favored sayings; we combined those lists to find common choices. From there the work turned from creative to technical as the team worked to fit the sayings onto panels of varying sizes, some vertical and some horizontal.

The team discussed many themes and concepts, with the use of the Dewey Decimal system winning as an overarching concept. From there, library staff sorted the favored sayings into their appropriate Dewey classifications and arranged them for the wall.

Many people contributed to this effort but two need special mention. Joe Schiessl, Planning & Redevelopment Manager, is liaison to the Arts Commission and provided the brain work on how to allocate sayings to the lighted panels. Mike Steen, of the city's Streets Division, fabricated the signs. In addition, both Joe and Mike added their love of words and keen eyes for design to make the Word Wall a treasure within the Richland Public Library.

Ann Roseberry, Library Manager

Richland Public Library



Word Wall



www.richland.lib.wa.us

(Numbers) indicate placement within Dewey Decimal system.

1. The Pythagorean Theorem relates to the three sides of a right triangle. It states that $a^2+b^2=c^2$ when c , called the hypotenuse, is the side opposite the right angle, and a and b are the sides adjacent to the right angle. In essence, the theorem states: The sum of the areas of two small squares equals the area of the large square they make. (500s)
2. Phrase from a poem by Horace (65 BC-8 BC), literally translated to "seize the day." The full phrase from his Ode I-XI is "Carpe diem, quam minimum credula postero," which translates to "Pluck the day, putting as little trust as possible into tomorrow." (100s)
3. Louis Armstrong. (700s) Famed jazz player.
4. Usually translated from the Latin as "I think, therefore I am." Attributed to French philosopher René Descartes (1596-1650) in his *Discourse on Method* (1637) in which he attempted to prove his existence as a thinking being, by thinking. Descartes' original statement in French was "Je pense, donc je suis." (100s)
5. Also known as "Great art picks up where nature ends." Attributed to Marc Chagall (1887-1985), Russian born French painter who was a pioneer of the modern art movement and one of its greatest figurative painters. (700s)
6. Mother Teresa (1910-1997). The full quote is "Joy is the net of love by which you can catch souls. A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love." (200s)
7. John W. Gardner (1912-2002), president of the Carnegie Corporation, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare under President Lyndon Johnson, and founder of two U.S. organizations, Common Cause and Independent Sector. (900s)
8. The first two bars from the Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904) New World Symphony, also known as Symphony No. 9 in E minor "From The New World." More specifically, the second movement (Largo). The spiritual "Going Home" is adapted from the main theme. (700s)
9. Specific elements that were used during the Manhattan Project on the Hanford Reservation north of Richland. (500s)
10. Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926). One of the German language's greatest 20th century poets. An excerpt from his *Letters to a Young Poet*. (400s)
11. A. Whitney Brown (b1952). An Emmy award-winning writer best known for his appearances on *Saturday Night Live* during the 1980s on "Weekend Update's Big Picture."

The Word Wall...

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2 \quad 1$$

Study the past... 13

12. Theodor Geisel (1904-1991). From the classic Dr. Seuss book *Horton Hears A Who*. (800s)

Carpe diem. 2

13. Chinese philosopher and reformer Confucius (551BC-479BC). The full quote is "Study the past if you would define the future." (900s)

What we play is life. 3

Cogito ergo sum 4

I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free. 14

14. Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni (1475-1564). Italian sculptor, painter, architect, and poet. Widely considered to be the Father of the Renaissance. (700s)

Great art picks up where nature leaves off. 5

Information is the currency of democracy. 15

$$E=mc^2 \quad 16$$

You can't wake a person that is pretending to be asleep. 17

15. Attributed to Thomas Jefferson (1762-1826) third U.S. President (1801-09) and author of the Declaration of Independence. No confirmation has ever been found that he actually said this, and some sources attribute the quote to Ralph Nader (b1934). (300s)

History never looks like history when you're living through it. 7

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16. Albert Einstein's (1879-1955) equation for mass energy equivalence in which e is energy, m is mass and c is the speed of light in a vacuum, which is 299,792,458 meters per second. (500s)

Pu 239	24,4000y
U-235	710,000,000y
Th-231	25.5h
Pa-231	32,500y
Ac 227	21.6y
Th-227	18.2 d
Ra-223	11 43d
Rn-219	4 s
Po-215	1.78 ms
Pb-211	36.1 m
Bi-211	2.15 m
Po-211	0.52 s
Pb-207	Stable



${}_{92}^{235}\text{U} + {}_0^1\text{n} \rightarrow {}_{56}^{142}\text{Ba} + {}_{36}^{91}\text{Kr} + 3 {}_0^1\text{n}$ 19

Pure mathematics is the Poetry of logical ideas. 20

17. Navajo proverb. (400s)

Do not wait for leaders; Do it alone, person to person. 21

18. On May 24, 1844, Samuel Morse (1791-1872) officially opened the experimental 38-mile telegraph line between Washington, DC and Baltimore, Maryland with the famous words, "What Hath God Wrought." (600s)

Try to love the questions. 10

Every great achievement has come from the independent work of some independent mind. 23

The past actually happened, but history is only what someone wrote down. 11

A person's a person, no matter how small. 12

Dif-tor heh smusna 24

The more you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go. 25

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19. Nuclear fission of Uranium-235. (500s)

20. Attributed to Albert Einstein (1879-1955). The full quote is "Pure mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas." (100s)

21. Attributed to Mother Teresa (1910-1997). (100s)

22. Chinese proverb. Translated to "In books, there is beauty."

23. From the movie *The Fountainhead* (1949), based on Ayn Rand's novel. Excerpted from Howard Roark's (played by Gary Cooper) closing statements during the delivery of his own defense.

24. "Live long and prosper" in the Vulcan language as spoken in *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*. It also appeared for the first time on September 15, 1967 in "Amok Time," an episode of *Star Trek: The Original Series* (episode #30, production #34). (700s)

25. Theodor Geisel (1904-1991). From the Dr. Seuss book *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut*. (800s)