

MONIKA SIMONJETZ

Department of Research, Analysis and Methodology
The Cyprian Norwid Provincial and Municipal Public Library
in Zielona Góra
e-mail: m.simonjetz@libris.wimbp.zgora.pl

IS SPACE FOR PEOPLE MORE IMPORTANT THAN SPACE FOR BOOKS? LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION IN THE LUBUSKIE VOIVOD- SHIP – NEW SEATS AND ARRANGEMENTS



Monika Simonjetz is a graduate of Polish philology and library studies. She manages the Department of Research, Analysis and Methodology of the Cyprian Norwid Provincial and Municipal Public Library in Zielona Góra. Ms. Simonjetz has lectured on fiction and reading at the Helena Radlińska Center for Library, Information and Documentation Education in Warsaw, and at the Branch in Zielona Góra. She coordinated the Library Development Program and Library +. She is editor-in-chief of the biannual „Bibliotekarz Lubuski”, and a member of the Editorial Board of the monthly „Poradnik Bibliotekarza”. Author of several dozen articles on the activities of libraries, she has published interviews with writers in the quarterly „Guliwer” and „Magazyn Literacki KSIĄŻKI”. In 2020 these were included in the collection *Pisać. Rozmowy o książkach*. She is co-author of several books, including: *Nowe przestrzenie i nowe technologie – dlaczego warto modernizować biblioteki* (2018), *Miejsce spotkań. Biblioteka jako przestrzeń społeczna* (2019), *Wiedza, gust, kompetencje. Kultura literacka, teatralna, czytelnicza i cyfrowa we współczesnej bibliotece* (2020). In 2021 she published a series of interviews entitled *Praca i pasja*.

Monika Simonjetz is a graduate of Polish philology and library studies. She manages the Department of Research, Analysis and Methodology of the Cyprian Norwid Provincial and Municipal Public Library in Zielona Góra. Ms. Simonjetz has lectured on fiction and reading at the Helena Radlińska Center for Library, Information and Documentation Education in Warsaw, and at the Branch in Zielona Góra. She coordinated the Library Development Program and Library +. She is editor-in-chief of the biannual „Bibliotekarz Lubuski”, and a member of the Editorial Board of the monthly „Poradnik Bibliotekarza”. Author of several dozen articles on the activities of libraries, she has published interviews with writers in the quarterly „Guliwer” and „Magazyn Literacki KSIĄŻKI”. In 2020 these were included in the collection *Pisać. Rozmowy o książkach*. She is co-author of several books, including: *Nowe przestrzenie i nowe technologie – dlaczego warto modernizować biblioteki* (2018), *Miejsce spotkań. Biblioteka jako przestrzeń społeczna* (2019), *Wiedza, gust, kompetencje. Kultura literacka, teatralna, czytelnicza i cyfrowa we współczesnej bibliotece* (2020). In 2021 she published a series of interviews entitled *Praca i pasja*.

KEYWORDS: Public Libraries. Lubuskie. Modernization. Library infrastructure.

ABSTRACT: Thesis/goal: The aim of the article is to present the implementation of library construction in the Lubuskie Voivodship in 2010-2019. **Research methods:** participant observation was the basis; visits to libraries at various stages

of construction/modernization, analysis of articles and statements about projects in the pages of regional literature, talks with librarians. **Results and conclusions:** on the basis of the analysis, 13 projects were presented, implemented in 10 towns of the Lubuskie Voivodship: Kargowa, Nowa Sól, Wschowa, Zwierzyniec, Szczaniec, Kostrzyn nad Odrą, Międzyrzecz, Iłowa, Krosno Odrzańskie and Zielona Góra. In Zielona Góra, two modern branches were created in the main building, the seat of one of the city branches was changed, and an out-of-town branch was created.

INTRODUCTION

In 2018, at the Cyprian Norwid Provincial and Municipal Public Library in Zielona Góra, a National Scientific Conference was held, entitled „Libraries of multimodalities. New technologies and new spaces “. In his inaugural speech, Dr hab. Tomasz Kruszewski, professor of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, emphasized that architecture in Poland has been experiencing a lively quantitative and qualitative growth in recent years. In addition to spectacular business and commercial facilities, projects of cultural institutions are being implemented, including interesting architectural concepts for libraries. Attractive shapes are conducive to interesting undertakings. The library does not have to fit into any context: It is a self-governing institution that can point towards a place that creates culture. Paul Henrik Kielland, director of the Tromsø Public Library in Northern Norway, said that Norwegian libraries are transforming from book lending and storage facilities into an open meeting space, becoming a literary house and a cultural center, and users can enjoy the freedom to use the library at a convenient place and time for them. Despite the continuous development of digital services, the most important product offered to users by a library is a paper book, and the basic value – a space for people. „In the future, space for people will be more important than space for books” (Simonjetz, 2019).

It is worth investing in libraries! Why? “Because it’s worth investing in people. The library is a social space, a place of free access to culture, knowledge, information and technology, conducive to the development of society. Therefore, expenditure on libraries should not be treated as an unnecessary cost, but rather as an investment in human capital. An investment that will pay off in the form of educated, creative and committed citizens ” (Buck, Simonjetz, Kotlarek, 2018, p. 121). The new, functional facility is as a rule popular among residents. It draws attention. Even at the project implementation stage, it encourages co-creation of a cultural center, especially in small towns, where each investment becomes a local event. Dedicated to the local community, it is linked to special attention.

NEW LIBRARY SPACES IN THE LUBUSKIE VOIVODSHIP

The construction of new facilities is a huge challenge. Library directors who carry out infrastructure investments make an invaluable contribution to the cultural life of the local community. When analyzing the modernizing projects in the area of library construction in the Lubuskie Voivodship, one can risk the statement that it all started with the Cyprian Norwid Provincial and Municipal Public Library in Zielona Góra, where the first media outlet in Lubuskie was established.

Góra Mediów (Mountain of Media) was built in the main building of WiMBP, in the space of the former Music Reading Room. The interior designers were Anna Modrzejewska and Mariusz Kołodziejczyk, graduates of the Art Department of the University of Zielona Góra. The space is divided into several thematic zones. In the film and music zone, films and music are gathered on various media (CD, DVD, Blu-ray, vinyl discs). The knowledge zone gives access to the Internet and to computer programs, including educational applications and databases. The e-book zone offers audiobooks and e-books. The hobby zone offers game consoles and computer games. The meeting zone is a place for cultural and educational activities. The media library is also equipped with robots, tablets and educational games that are used to conduct coding classes for children, adolescents and adults. Users have at their disposal VR goggles, MP3 players, board games and readers.

The walls of Media Mountain are decorated with tricolor mosaics evoking computer pixels. Similar geometric and color motifs (blue, gray and green) were used on the floor covering and the ceiling. White furniture with multimedia brighten up the interior.

Users crossed the threshold of this modern establishment on December 14, 2010. Góra Mediów is a place for various ventures, and at the same time the best meeting place for people learning foreign languages (Language Café), fans of new information and communication technologies (TechClubs), young artists preparing their vernissages, and for lovers of games, movies and music.

After the first implementation in Lubuskie, which was revolutionary for the region at that time, new projects appeared. Among them, we can distinguish structures that have been rebuilt and modernized for the needs of the new location of a library (Mediatka Światowid in Kargowa, MBP in Nowa Sól, BPMiG in Wschowa, CKiB in Szczaniec, MBP in Kostrzyn nad Odrą, Mediateka in Krosno Odrzańskie, Mediateka Szklana Pułapka in Zielona Góra), major refurbishment of buildings or rooms with the reconstruction of the existing headquarters (BPMiG in Międzyrzecz, BK in Iłowa, Center for Children and Youth at WiMBP in Zielona Góra) and newly established facilities (GBP in Zwierzyno, Lubuskie Laboratorium Książki).

MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARY IN NOWA SÓL

In 2011, readers passed through the doors of the new seat of the Municipal Public Library in Nowa Sól. In January, the Department for Children was opened; in February, the Main Library. The library had moved to a historic villa from the 1920s. The investment was carried out as part of the task: "Reconstruction of facilities at ul. Bankowa for the needs of the Municipal Public Library". The total value of the project was over 8.5 million PLN. The historic buildings have been fully adapted to the needs of a modern library facility. A ramp, a platform for wheelchairs and a passenger elevator guarantee comfortable access to all rooms.

In the Main Lending Room, free access to shelves is accompanied by two self-service kiosks that facilitate the process of returns and loans. On the ground floor, next to the Lending Room, there is a Multimedia Reading Room. On the first floor there are General and Regional Reading Rooms. In the first of these, two stations have been equipped with scanning mice, which enable easy and quick transfer of printed text to computer programs. At the entrance, in a separate space, there is a periodicals lounge. On the lower ground floor there is a small conference room and a spacious *Galeria pod Tekstem*. All library processes have been automated in the Library in Nowa Sól. The loan system is based on RFID technology.

The investment in Nowa Sól also included the development of the adjacent area. The Garden of Arts was established in the vicinity of the Library's seat. In a space with fountains and a pergola there is an outdoor chessboard, tables with chess tops and an exhibition system enabling the implementation of outdoor exhibitions. An amphitheater was built on to the walls of the Municipal Museum adjacent to the Library – a place for musical concerts, theatrical performances, and campaigns promoting reading. In the quiet of the building of the Children's Department, an Alley of Lovers has been arranged with a Romeo and Juliet bench erected on the 400th anniversary of the birth of William Shakespeare. Nearby, under a large linden tree, there is a swing, which refers to the famous poem by Jan Kochanowski, „The Linden Tree”. In July 2019, the Melpomene Swing was ceremonially opened.

THE EUGENIUSZ PAUKSZTA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY IN KARGOWA (MEDIATEKA ŚWIATOWID)

In 2012, the Public Library in Kargowa moved to its new seat. The cost of the entire investment is over 2.5 million PLN, of which one million was subsidized by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. The county's special-purpose subsidy amounted to over a million zlotys. The building of an old cinema of the same name was converted into the Mediateka Światowid.

The stage part has been preserved in the new facility. The screen, cinema sound system and digital projector allow one to display movies. Mobile shelves facilitate the modification of the space. In a dozen or so minutes, the library becomes an auditorium or a conference hall. The floor is decorated with the city's logo, in which a vivid red contrasts with the gray of the laminate. The emblem of Kargowa appears on the double-leaf internal doors. The shield is the coat of arms of the Unrug family who founded the town in 1641. The facility has a tourist information center and an exhibition hall. Places were designated for a permanent exhibition on Eugeniusz Paukszta – the patron of the library - and actor Maciej Kozłowski, associated with Kargowa, among others places. A librarian's stand was located at the entrance, and an open space for the periodical reading room was also arranged. In the largest room, between the elements supporting the mezzanine structure, there are white illuminated shelves. Mobile multimedia cabinets were placed closer to the center. From here you go directly to the Toddler's Corner and the computer room. There is also an exit to the outside, where a loggia has been set aside which can serve as both a summer reading room and a place for games and activities in the open air. A cloakroom and utility facilities are hidden at the far end of the building. There are DVD movies, music, audiobooks, e-books, games, six computer stations, a console game stand and an interactive board waiting for the visitors. On the mezzanine there are shelves holding a traditional book collection. In total, 519 m² of usable space was made available to the residents.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY IN WSCHOWA

The library in Wschowa found a convenient location in 2013 within the walls of the former Jesuit College. The purchase of the equipment for the new seat of the Wschowa facility was carried out under the Multiannual Program Culture + Priority „Library + Library Infrastructure”. The total value of the project is 1,250,000 PLN, of which a grant of 500,000 PLN was obtained. The remaining amount is the commune's own contribution, under which Wschowa received 150,000 PLN from the Marshal's Office of the Lubuskie Voivodship. The arrangement of 900 m² of space makes reference to the history of the city, visited by Władysław Jagiełło, Kazimierz Jagiellończyk, Zygmunt I Stary, August II the Strong, and Kazimierz Wielki.

The reading room resembles the buildings of the city square. There is a fountain surrounded by racks topped with an arched lintel. Instead of water, it features interactive educational games, such as “Coins”, “Polish Kings”, and multimedia checkers. There is an e-gallery in the hall; a system of LCD screens enclosed in decorative frames can display any multime-

dia content in the form of photos, videos, or animations. The Multi Touch board also allows access to other applications, including library maps and an e-learning application dedicated to the history of Wschowa and the region. The elevator opens the three-story building up to the elderly and the disabled. On the first floor, where a rental shop for adults is located, frescoes discovered during the renovation have been preserved.

On the top floor, next to the lending room and reading room for children and teenagers, the Kingdom of the Youngest Users was created. In addition to a PlayStation console, computers, an interactive floor, and lots of interesting books, a royal canopy and colorful seats await the toddlers.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY IN MIĘDZYRZECZ

In 2014, as part of the Multiannual Culture + Priority "Library + Library Infrastructure", the Międzyrzec Cultural Center obtained 1,875,000 PLN for the project "Renovation and reconstruction of the Public Library in Os. Center 8 in Międzyrzecz ". The total value of the investment was 2,439,090.00 PLN. 89,000 were obtained from the State Fund for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled. The project budget was supplemented by a special-purpose subsidy of the Międzyrzecz County and the personal funds of the MOK (Pawłowska, 2015). The general renovation included the roof, thermal modernization with the replacement of windows, thermal insulation of external walls, modernization of heating systems, gas and sanitary installations. A new driveway has been built. The main entrance has been rearranged. Social rooms were provided. The entire building was repainted.

Inside the two-story building, an elevator has been installed (a platform lift). Toilets have been adapted to the needs of the disabled. The floor surfaces have been replaced. Local carpeting islands were used, which ensured the proper acoustics of the rooms, the safety of communication routes, and the comfort of playing in the areas of active work with children. Color combinations attract attention. Kept in neutral colors, the spacious corridor opens up the perspective of the Lending Room and the Reading Room for Adults. Here orange dominates combined with gray and accessories in shades of fuchsia and lime. The white frames are accompanied by anthracite-colored windows that correspond to the orange seats, or traditional panes in orange and gray frames. Glazed doors and partition walls provide lots of natural light and optically enlarge the area of even large rooms. Directly from the reading room, you can go to the multimedia room with a projector and new media for borrowing and sharing on the spot.

There is a children's area on the first floor. In the children's toilet, one wall is lined with the colorful text of Julian Tuwim's "The Locomotive".

On the next ones we find colorful letters of the Polish alphabet. A wall-mounted baby changing table has also been installed.

COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY IN ZWIERZYN

The new headquarters of GBP in Zwierzyn were visited by the first users at the beginning of 2017. The cost of building the library was over 1,300,000 PLN. The contribution of the county amounted to 268,000 PLN, the rest of the amount was subsidized under the „National Program for the Development of Reading” Priority 2 „Library infrastructure 2016-2020”.

A one-story, ergonomic building has been erected near the school and kindergarten. During the construction, the technology of structural steel and ready-made elements was used, which allowed for quick implementation of the investment.

The interior of the Library is devoid of architectural barriers. “All over the building there are signs for rooms, shelves and information pictograms. The interior of the library is in gray tones and natural wood colors, the whole is enlivened by lime-colored accessories that harmonize with the library’s logo” (Markiewicz, 2017). The 390 m² area houses a reading room, a rental room, an auditorium, an office, and toilets. The hall is partially used as an exhibition space. In the open space for sharing resources, zones for users of different ages have been separated. There is a children’s corner at the entrance, opposite the service and rental registration point. Near the library counter there are shelves with audiobooks and board games. Eight modern computer workstations, tablets, robots, a TV set and a projector make up the Internet reading room. There is an area for newspapers and magazines in the opposite corner.

Almost along the entire length of the room, perpendicular to the window line, there are white bookshelves with a collection of books. All of them are equipped with wheels, enabling efficient rearrangement of space. “The advantages of the new facility are certainly its location and gathering all services and collections in one place. The interior has been designed with care for functionality, proper collection and sharing, exhibition of collections and the organization of various types of projects” (Markiewicz, 2017).

CULTURE AND LIBRARY CENTER IN SZCZANIEC

On January 5, 2017, the Szczaniec Mediateka was officially introduced. The meeting took place in a new space, over 224 meters large. The layout of the room where films were once viewed has been translated into a characteristic arrangement, similar to the Mediateka in Kargowa which had inspired the contractors of the investment in Szczaniec County. Taking

into account the architectural features of the premises, it was possible to find an additional 54 m² for a glazed mezzanine. Codex books were placed on white and maroon shelves. Single seats are placed between the shelves. The entire room is kept in subdued colors. Classic shades of white and gray are enlivened by wine red accents.

A computer lab, games room, exhibition system, small kitchen facilities and an unrestricted relaxation zone make Mediateka an attractive meeting place. The preservation of the stage area opens up additional possibilities. Mobile shelves, folding tables and chairs allow one to freely arrange the space.

The value of the entire investment was almost 855,000 PLN. The grant was obtained under the priority "Library Infrastructure 2016-2020" of the National Program for the Development of Reading.

CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY IN KOSTRZYN UPON ODER

The Municipal Public Library in Kostrzyn upon Oder is located in a spacious two-story building. Two stories are arranged on the principle of top-bottom, sky-earth. The opening of the library in the renovated premises took place on December 28, 2017.

On the ground floor, with greenery and with bronze and sand-gold accents dominating the walls and ceilings, multi-functional rooms are located in which library projects and users' own ideas are implemented. The space is organized in black and white pictograms. The main entrance directs the reader to „Your Coffee Shop” or „Your Space”. In the first, you can drink coffee, meet friends, read periodicals. There are three rooms in „Your Space”: a room for children with board games and a reading armchair, a workshop, and a fully equipped IT lab. The latter, apart from computer stations, is dominated by educational sets LEGO WeDo 2.0 and LEGO Mindstorms EV3. Thematic rooms can increase or decrease their size thanks to folding partition walls.

The traditional user service departments (on-site sharing and outside lending) are located on the first floor. Blue ceilings are combined with white lamps and furniture. Fluorescent light was supplemented with lampshades stylized as white clouds. White in combination with dark blue is reminiscent of the sky. The main color theme is broken only by single shelves and armchairs in shades of pink. Two entrance units actually lead to one room, in which the shelves are arranged in analogous sequences, and the readers are free to move around and communicate. The age zones are informally demarcated by a pillar with a table top and chairs placed next to it. Here you can work with a laptop or tablet.

The reconstruction and adaptation of the premises of the Library in Kostrzyn upon Odra, taking into account the needs of the disabled, was

carried out under the Priority „Library Infrastructure 2016-2020” of the National Program for the Development of Reading.

MEDIATEKA – PUBLIC LIBRARY IN KROSNO ODRZAŃSKIE

On April 25, 2019, the Mediateka in Krosno Odrzańskie was officially opened. The library changed its seat and gained a new arrangement and equipment.

The library space is open, but divided into zones, which can be additionally separated thanks to sliding doors. The area for adults is the farthest from the main entrance, closer to the media library, followed by a cafe and a zone for children with characteristic hammocks. A colorful, friendly space for children welcomes everyone entering the library. Various seats are also waiting for guests in other areas: high dark blue and gray pouffes in the cafe, orange ones in the media library. You can also sit by the windows that stretch almost along the entire length of the library rooms. In the adult area, handy tables are attached to the orange seats.

The individual zones take on their character thanks to their patrons. The youngest are kept company by Grzegorz Kasdepke, users of the media library by Steve Jobs, and the adults by Agnieszka Osiecka.

Among the libraries in Lubuskie, the library in Krosno is undoubtedly distinguished by hammocks. They coexist well in combination with touch screens and a yellow round seat integrated into the bookshelves. Consoles, computers, tablets, books, magazines, toys, an interactive floor – no element is accidental here.

The project, developed by Justyna Fryszkowska-Kosmala, a resident of the Krosno Odrzańskie county, was carried out for almost 3,000,000 PLN. The funds came from the county’s budget.

CULTURAL LIBRARY IN IŁOWA

The Municipal Public Library in Iłowa is located in farm buildings next to the palace. The two-winged palace was built during the Renaissance. In spring, the gardens of Iłowa bloom in the vicinity of the Library, including a Japanese garden, established at the beginning of the 20th century, the first garden of this type in Europe.

For the task named “Reconstruction of the Municipal Public Library in Iłowa with the creation of a multimedia room, knowledge and magic”, the Iłowa County received 85% co-financing from the Regional Operational Program - Lubuskie 2020, which was over 1,355,000 PLN. The subsidy was allocated to the renovation and furnishing of the existing MBP rooms and the adaptation of the attic for a multimedia room. The contract was im-

plemented under the Priority Axis "Environment and Culture", activities "Resources of culture and cultural heritage".

Inside the modernized library rooms, put into use in May 2019, attention is drawn to multimedia totems, thanks to which one can view digitized documents on the history of the city. The resources were obtained from the inhabitants and from enthusiasts with knowledge about the region. One of the touch-activated devices allows one to send a virtual postcard, the other allows one to check the current cultural offer and tourist attractions. In the multimedia room there are drones, VR 3D glasses, apparatuses, cameras, and equipment facilitating the handling of conferences and special events, also with the use of audiovisual projections on three-dimensional objects (3D mapping).

Traditional collections reign supreme on the ground floor. Everything is colored in white. In the children's and youth zone, white is enlivened by the greenery of individual shelves and maroon seats. The uniqueness of the place is provided by the large windows divided by muntins. They let in light while simultaneously stopping time. Deeply recessed, they create an additional space to use, e.g. for mascots or for displays of the creative achievements of the youngest members.

SZKLANA PUŁAPKA (THE GLASS TRAP), LIBRARY CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTHS, LUBUSKIE BOOK LABORATORY

In Zielona Góra, following Góra Mediów (Mountain of Media), the time came for another media library. Since 2012, a municipal branch, no. 7, has been operating in the Zielona Góra Palm House - the Szklana Pułapka media center. The project was implemented with the help of the city authorities, who allocated 100,000 PLN for the adaptation and furnishing of the former Palm House conference room. The visual setting and logotype were created by a local visual artist, Agata Buchalik-Drzyzga. On an area of 160 m², multimedia and paper collections are gathered. Users have at their disposal computer stations with Internet access, a Play Station console and lots of friendly nooks and crannies with a view of the Winny Park and city buildings.

The name is closely related to the glass facade of Zielona Góra's tourist attraction. The library is arranged around the cafe on the first floor, on a terrace overlooking the restaurant filled with exotic plants. The zone of access to knowledge, entertainment, culture and new technologies, like a trap, is meant to intrigue and tempt potential users so that anyone who once crosses the threshold of the Glass Trap will forever remain a regular recipient of an attractive media offer.

In 2016, after several months of renovation, the Library Center for Children and Youth was opened in the Main Building of the Provincial

Library. The project was carried out as part of a grant from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, with the financial support of the voivode-ship's self-government and the Mayor of Zielona Góra. In the space of the former Children's Ward, some of the walls were demolished and modern lighting was installed. An animation room has been arranged in the place of the former reading room. The interiors were filled with new furniture and fittings, which, in combination with dedicated colors, distinguished zones for different age groups on an area of 383 m². Additionally, information pictograms were hung above the shelves. Blots of different colors on the floor were called for: It is a hallmark, because the full name of the department is: Library Center for Children and Youth – Mr. Kleks (Mr. Blot) Library.

In 2019, in the Zielona Góra district of Jędrzychów, the GreenBook Lubuskie Book Laboratory (LLK) was established - a new department of the Cyprian Norwid Provincial Library. Its name is meant to connect Zielona Góra with books, and the activities focus on workshops around the beginnings of printing, the rich history of writing, the present day and modern technologies supporting contact with words and living literature. At LLK you can borrow, read, watch, research, write, learn about, create, review and have fun with books. "The new library department is impressive, it contains not only a lot of books (several thousand!), But also a place for meetings, workshops, a kids' corner, and computer stations with modern readers" (Dyjas-Szatkowska, 2019).

SUMMARY

Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple, proved that people don't know what they want until it is shown to them. Passionate about innovation, he was infected with the willingness to change, learn and improve the quality of everyday life, and he was successful. We have more and more interesting libraries in Poland. They are known for their precision in searching for information and reliability in accessing reading material. Therefore, they retain their traditional DNA, but at the same time persistently strive for an attractive design. Modern space offers new opportunities and opens up broad development prospects. The Cyprian Norwid Provincial and Municipal Public Library in Zielona Góra, supporting Lubuskie libraries in the process of change, continues to strive for funds for further infrastructure projects. Thanks to this, it becomes a place of inspiration, creating social and professional activity among the library staff in this area.

The library is an investment in people and the future of the community. Culture should not be seriously considered in isolation from libraries, their resources and activities. It is impossible to ignore these institutions or disregard their achievements. Behind the latter are people: their courage,

self-sacrifice, dedication, sense of mission and responsibility, and creativity. It is self-evident that the library is not an ordinary place. These are thematic zones of uncommonness, where the rhythm is determined by words, sounds and images. The library offers a chance for such a reality, broadens horizons and creates opportunities. Here, every detail matters.

Modern arrangements change the image and way of thinking about cultural institutions. They influence the prestige of the profession, the quality of the tasks performed and the basic indicators of functioning. Libraries are people. You need to have intuition and the courage to create in order to find areas in the local community where there is a shortage, and then to accurately complement and strengthen them. Librarians, with the support of the organizers and/or extra-budgetary funds, do great things, and their potential and imagination know no limits. Libraries function in local communities to add color and make life easier. Dr. Dawid Kotlarek, analyzing "Reading in the digital age", sums up: "The answer to the needs of modern users is certainly a hybrid model of a library, which in an attractively arranged spatial interior will offer access to traditional and modern collections as well as a rich set of cultural projects" (Kotlarek, 2012/ 2013, p. 29). It is worth investing capital in libraries.

REFERENCES

- Bielawa, Marta (2014). Mediateka jako „trzecie miejsce” – Kino Letnie z LOTTO. *Bibliotekarz Lubuski*, No. 2, pp. 15-16.
- Buck, Andrzej (2011). Wejdz na szczyt! *Pro Libris*, No. 3 (36), pp. 104-113.
- Buck, Andrzej; Simonjetz, Monika; Kotlarek, Dawid (2018). *Nowe przestrzenie i nowe technologie – dlaczego warto modernizować biblioteki*. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Stowarzyszenia Bibliotekarzy Polskich.
- Czerniawski, Bartosz (2010). Mediateka zielonogórska – multimedialne okno na świat. *Bibliotekarz Lubuski*, No. 2 (30), pp. 28-29.
- Dyjas-Szatkowska, Natalia (2019). *Nowa agenda biblioteki im. Norwida na Jędrzychowie kusi czytelników morzem atrakcji. Kiedy otwarcie?* [online]. *Gazeta Lubuska*; [access: 06.12.2021]. Available at: <https://gazetalubuska.pl/zielona-gora-nowa-agenda-biblioteki-im-norwida-na-jedrzychowie-kusi-czytelnikow-morzem-atrakcji-kiedy-otwarcie-zdjecia/ar/c1-14166563>.
- Gonet, Elżbieta (2010). Nowosolskie królestwo książek wkrótce w nowych murach. *Bibliotekarz Lubuski*, No. 1 (29), p. 34.
- Kotlarek, Dawid (2012/2013). Czytelnictwo w erze cyfrowej. *Bibliotekarz Lubuski*, No. 2/1 (34-35), pp. 25-29.
- Kwiecień, Małgorzata (2013). Mediateka Światowid. Nowa biblioteka w Kargowej. *Bibliotekarz Lubuski*, No. 2 (36), pp. 15-16.
- Langner-Kosmaty, Agnieszka (2019). Mediateka – Biblioteka Publiczna w Krośnie Odrzańskim. *Bibliotekarz Lubuski*, No. 2 (48), pp. 29-30.
- Markiewicz, Sylwia (2017). Nowa biblioteka, duża przestrzeń, większe możliwości. *Bibliotekarz Lubuski*, No. 1-2 (43-44), pp. 23-24.

- Nowotnik, Jolanta (2017). Mediateka w Szcząncu. *Bibliotekarz Lubuski*, No. 1-2 (43-44), pp. 25-26.
- Pawłowska, Krystyna (2015). *Międzyrzecka biblioteka po remoncie* [online]. Wojewódzka i Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna im. Z. Herberta w Gorzowie Wielkopolskim; [access: 25.06.2018]. Available at: <https://www.wimbp.gorzow.pl/międzyrzecka-biblioteka-po-remoncie-104638/>.
- Pietruszewska, Aleksandra (2019). „Norwid” działa także na Jędrzychowie. Co proponuje czytelnikom? [online]. Portal uniwersytecki W Zielonej.pl; [access 06.12.2021]. Available at: <https://www.wzielonej.pl/kultura/literatura/norwid-dziala-takze-na-jedrzychowie-co-proponuje-czytelnikom/>
- Ratajczak, Ilona (2014). Zapraszamy do Biblioteki Publicznej Miasta i Gminy we Wschowie. *Poradnik Bibliotekarza*, No. 3, pp. 28-30.
- Rusek, Tomasz (2018). Biblioteka nie może zajmować się już tylko wypożyczeniem książek [online] *Gazeta Lubuska*; [access 24.06.2018]. Available at: <https://plus.gazetalubuska.pl/wiadomosci/a/biblioteka-nie-moze-sie-zajmowac-juz-tylko-wypozyczaniem-ksiazek,13146349>
- Simonjetz, Monika (2014). Biblioteka Wojewódzka zmienia się i inspiruje. *Pro Libris*, numer specjalny: Biblioteka jako trzecie miejsce. Doświadczenia i wyzwania partnerów, Lubuskie-Brandenburgia, pp. 68-75.
- Simonjetz Monika (2017). Szczaniec – dążenie do lepszej jakości i niezgoda na zmiany, a w efekcie biblioteka spełnionych marzeń. *Poradnik Bibliotekarza*, No. 6, p. 31.
- Simonjetz, Monika (2019). Biblioteki multimożliwości. Nowe technologie i nowe przestrzenie. Ogólnopolska konferencja naukowa. (Zielona Góra, 4-5 grudnia 2018 r.). *Przegląd Biblioteczny*, No. 1, pp. 72-78.
- Simonjetz, Monika (2020). Nowa biblioteka – nowe możliwości. Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna w Iłowej po modernizacji. *Poradnik Bibliotekarza*, No. 2, pp. 30-32.
- Simonjetz Monika (2020). Funkcjonalne, estetyczne, atrakcyjne. Biblioteczne wnętrza, które inspirują. *Biblioteka Publiczna*, No. 11, pp. 16-20.
- Wańtuch, Marzena (2014). Mam marzenie. *Bibliotekarz Lubuski*, No. 2, pp. 9-12.
- Wańtuch, Marzena (2018). Nowoczesna biblioteka dla dzieci i młodzieży w Zielonej Górze. *Poradnik Bibliotekarza*, No. 5, pp. 31-33.

APPENDIX



Figure 1. Mountain of Media (Góra Mediów)



Figure 1a. Mountain of Media (Góra Mediów)



Figure 2. Municipal Public Library in Nowa Sól
(Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna w Nowej Soli)



Figure 2a. Municipal Public Library in Nowa Sól. Surroundings
(Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna w Nowej Soli. Otoczenie)



Figure 3. The Eugeniusz Paukšta County Public Library in Kargowa. Interior (Mediateka Światowid) (Gminna Biblioteka Publiczna im. Eugeniusza Paukšty w Kargowej. Wnętrze [Mediateka Światowid])



Figure 3a. The Eugeniusz Paukšta County Public Library in Kargowa. Interior (Mediateka Światowid) (Gminna Biblioteka Publiczna im. Eugeniusza Paukšty w Kargowej. Wnętrze [Mediateka Światowid])



Figure 4. Public Library of the City and County in Wschowa
(Biblioteka Publiczna Miasta i Gminy we Wschowie)



Figure 4a. Public Library of the City and County in Wschowa. Interior
(Biblioteka Publiczna Miasta i Gminy we Wschowie. Wnętrze)



5. Public Library of the City and County in Międzyrzecz
(Biblioteka Publiczna Miasta i Gminy w Międzyrzeczu)



5a. Public Library of the City and County in Międzyrzecz. Interior
(Biblioteka Publiczna Miasta i Gminy w Międzyrzeczu. Wnętrze)



Figure 6. County Public Library in Zwierzyn
(Gminna Biblioteka Publiczna w Zwierzynie)



Figure 6a. County Public Library in Zwierzyn. Interior
(Gminna Biblioteka Publiczna w Zwierzynie. Wnętrze)



Figure 7. Culture and Library Center in Szczaniec
(Centrum Kultury i Biblioteki w Szczaniecu)



Figure 7a. Culture and Library Center in Szczaniec. Interior
(Centrum Kultury i Biblioteki w Szczaniecu. Wnętrze)



Figure 8. City Public Library in Kostrzyn upon Oder
(Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna w Kostrzynie nad Odrą)



Figure 8a. City Public Library in Kostrzyn upon Oder. Interior
(Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna w Kostrzynie nad Odrą. Wnętrze)



Figure 9. Mediateka – Public Library in Krosno Odrzańskie. Interior (Mediateka – Biblioteka Publiczna w Krośnie Odrzańskim. Wnętrze)



Figure 9a. Mediateka – Public Library in Krosno Odrzańskie. Interior (Mediateka – Biblioteka Publiczna w Krośnie Odrzańskim. Wnętrze)



Figure 10. Cultural Library in Iłowa (Biblioteka Kultury w Iłowej)



Figure 11. The Glass Trap (Szkłana Pułapka), Library Center for Children and Youths, Lubuskie Book Laboratory (Centrum Biblioteczne dla Dzieci i Młodzieży, Lubuskie Laboratorium Książki)



Figure 11a. The Glass Trap (Szkłana Pułapka), Library Center for Children and Youths, Lubuskie Book Laboratory. Interior (Centrum Biblioteczne dla Dzieci i Młodzieży, Lubuskie Laboratorium Książki. Wnętrze)