The J. Erik Jonsson Central Library opened in April of 1982. Designed by Fisher and Spillman Architects, Inc., the building complements the inverted structure of City Hall directly across the street. With eight subject-specialty floors, it is one of the largest public library facilities in the nation.

1st Floor
Downtown Branch

On this floor:
- Current Collection (fiction and non-fiction)
- Large Print
- Audiobooks
- Sports Collection
- Bureau of Vital Statistics
- Magazine Browsing Collection

Artwork (in concourse)
- Textured Screen, Harry Bertoia (1955)
- Square Form with Circles, Barbara Hepworth (1963)
- Mantra △□□ “Topsy Turvy”, David W. McCullough (1977)
- Hand-woven Navajo blankets (c. 1870 to 1890s)

2nd Floor
Youth Discovery Center

On this floor:
- Childrens Books, DVDs, & Audiobooks
- Historic Children’s Literature Collection
- Discovery Wall
- Experiential Learning Area (crafts, puppets, toys)
- Chalk walls for poetry and art expression
- Young Adult Books

Artwork
- Star Quarters I-IV, Robert Rauschenberg (1971)
- Manderley Doll House, Julius Richard Guest (1980)

3rd Floor
Literature, Language & Religion

On this floor:
- General Fiction, Science Fiction & Urban Fiction
- Religion, Philosophy & Parapsychology
- Languages & Spanish Language Books
- Journalism & Writing

Artwork
- Morning News, Harry Marinsky (1979)
- Untitled, Charles T. Williams (1964)

4th Floor
Art, Movies & Music

On this floor:
- Visual Arts, Music, & Performing Arts
- Fashion, Interior Design, & Architecture
- Movies, Television Shows, & Documentaries
- DVDs & CDs

Artwork
- Music Stand, Frank Lloyd Wright (1956)
- The Book Family, Xavier Corbero (2000)
- Margo Jones, Raiberto Comini (c. 1947)

Check it out:
- Bradshaw Gallery (rotating exhibits)
- Shirley Philipson Pollock Showcases (rotating exhibits)

1a Textured Screen, Harry Bertoia, 1955 (1st floor)  
1b Square Form with Circles, Barbara Hepworth, 1963 (1st floor)  
3 Untitled by Charles T. Williams, 1964 (3rd floor)  
4 Margo Jones, Raiberto Comini, c. 1947 (4th floor)
5th Floor
Business, Science & Technology
On this floor:
- Business Research & Small Business
- Cookbooks
- Car Repair Manuals
- Grant and Non-profit Fundraising Resources
- Science & Technology
- Health
- Oil & Gas Resource Center

Artwork
- Amoeba, Bruce Stillman (c. late 1970s/early 1980s)
- Viking Ship Drakkar

6th Floor
City Life, Education & Work Skills
On this floor:
- Job Search, Resumes, & Test Guides
- Seed Library
- Social Science, Political Science, & Urbanism
- Patent & Trademark Resource Center
- Taxes, Immigration, & Government Information
- Culture, Community, & Social Movements

Artwork
- Flying Clouds, Albert Lorey Groll (c. 1890)

Check it out:
- Look out the east windows for a view of the tallest Ferris wheel in North America

7th Floor
Dallas History & Archives
On this floor:
- Historic photographs, maps, & newspapers
- Unique manuscript materials
- Historic books, county records, & oral histories
- JFK Collection

Artwork
- Declaration of Independence (July 4, 1776)
- Shakespeare’s First Folio (1623)
- Scene on the Brazos, Frank Reaugh (1883)
- Dallas Digital Interactive Gallery (DIG)

Check it out:
- See a Dallas newspaper from the day you were born
- Research the history of your Dallas home

8th Floor
Genealogy & History
On this floor:
- Nationally acclaimed genealogy collection
- Free access to ancestry.com
- History

Artwork
- Native American ceramic pottery (1890s to 1920s)
- Hand-woven Navajo blankets (c. 1870s to 1890s)

Check it out:
- Discover the history of your last name
- Learn the meaning of your first name
- Guide to the Central Library