One of Chicago’s premier cultural institutions, the Newberry Library is also among the city’s most beautiful historic buildings. With its ornate façade, Romanesque entryway, marbled halls, and spacious rooms, the Newberry is an elegant space for hosting events of any type, from lavish weddings to more intimate celebrations.

Since its founding in 1887, the Newberry has offered visitors free access to its world-class collections.

With more than 1.6 million books, 600,000 maps, and 5 million manuscript pages, the Newberry is a portal to over six centuries of human history and a sophisticated venue for your event.

By holding your event at the Newberry, you’re supporting our mission of using inquiry across the humanities as a tool for engaging critically in a vibrant democratic society.
THE LOBBY
Recently restored to highlight its original grandeur, the entry vestibule’s barrel-vault ceiling, collection graphics, and elegant lighting welcome guests into our grand lobby. The lobby features stunning chandeliers that accentuate our mosaic floors, ornate Corinthian column capitols, and dramatic marble staircase, creating a sumptuous setting for cocktail receptions, dinner parties, and wedding ceremonies.
RUGGLES HALL

This spacious, high-ceilinged hall features a herring-bone hardwood floor, vintage chandeliers, gorgeous sconces, and rich mahogany wood paneling. Large windows facing Washington Square Park to the south and neighboring buildings to the east make the beauty of the park and the energy of the city part of the atmosphere. Ruggles Hall is a versatile and elegant setting for a singular experience. Possibilities include gala dinners, cocktail receptions, lectures, performances, fundraising events, and—of course—weddings.
Featuring a restored marble floor, recessed lighting, and large windows looking out onto our historic neighborhood, Rettinger Hall is the perfect space for smaller gatherings and groups.
Our newly designed boardroom is well-equipped with state-of-the-art technological supports for modern board and business meetings. This adaptable space serves as an excellent learning environment for organizations and academic groups and is especially suitable for networking and social events.
ROOM CAPACITIES

COCKTAILS  DINNER  WEDDINGS  LECTURE  BOARD MEETING

LOBBY

COCKTAILS  DINNER  WEDDINGS  LECTURE  BOARD MEETING

160  80  125

RUGGLES HALL

COCKTAILS  DINNER  WEDDINGS  LECTURE  BOARD MEETING

250  208  208  220

RETTINGER HALL

COCKTAILS  DINNER  WEDDINGS  LECTURE  BOARD MEETING

106  89  65  80

BASKES BOARDROOM

COCKTAILS  DINNER  WEDDINGS  LECTURE  BOARD MEETING

35*  90

Many FILMING and PHOTOGRAPHY OPTIONS AVAILABLE
Please inquire for recommendations
Plan an Event at The Newberry!

Start your inquiry by contacting the Newberry event rentals office at rentals@newberry.org or (312) 255-3595.

www.newberry.org/plan-event

As a historic venue, we take pride in our building. In order to preserve our renowned architecture, we ask that you work with vendors who are insured professionals familiar with our venue guidelines. A list of the Newberry’s exclusive caterers and other recommended vendors are is available on request.

@newberryevents

Your generosity is vital in keeping the Newberry’s programs, exhibitions, and reading rooms free and accessible to everyone. To make a donation, call (312) 255-3616 or visit www.newberry.org/give.

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