Middle Ground Project

QUICK FACTS

• Middle Ground is a temporary interactive installation designed by the Exploratorium, funded through a grant from the National Science Foundation.

• Location: Larkin Street side of the SF Public Library Main Branch Building (100 Larkin Street)

• Installation: July 2019, with a public opening in Mid-August

• Removal: Summer 2020 (1 year duration)

PROJECT DETAILS

Middle Ground has been developed through a partnership between the City of San Francisco, the SF Public Library Main Branch, and the Exploratorium’s Studio for Public Spaces.

The project features temporary exhibits about social psychology – the study of how people affect and are affected by other people and by their social and physical environments. The design consists of approximately 17 columns, each about 12 feet high, rising from a base measuring 3x3 feet. Each column serves as a station for an interactive exhibit, inviting people to connect, confront their biases, challenge conformity, practice generosity, and share stories.

The columns are arranged to accommodate the Friends of SF Public Library Step Sales event currently hosted on the Mail Library’s Larkin Street steps on Wednesdays, and the project will not hinder the event. The project will be built, installed, and maintained by the Exploratorium.

For more information, please contact Exploratorium Project Director Steve Gennrich at sgennrich@exploratorium.edu or 415-528-4444.