

# DOKK1

## ■ - Public Participation as Democratic Infrastructure

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Library concept  
Ownership and Partnership  
User Involvement  
Democratic Participation  
Space Design



# Dokk1 Vision

Space for co-operation

Place for dialogue, knowledge, ideas and inspiration

Open informal learning space

A unique place for children and families



# AARHUS PUBLIC LIBRARIES

## **Dokk1**

30.000 m2 (library 18.000 m2 )

Mon-Fri: 8-22.

Unstaffed btw 8-10 and 19-22

Sat-Sun: 10-16

App. 3600 visitors a day

## **18 Branches**

Variation of sizes

Unstaffed btw 7-10 + 18-22

Network of public spaces

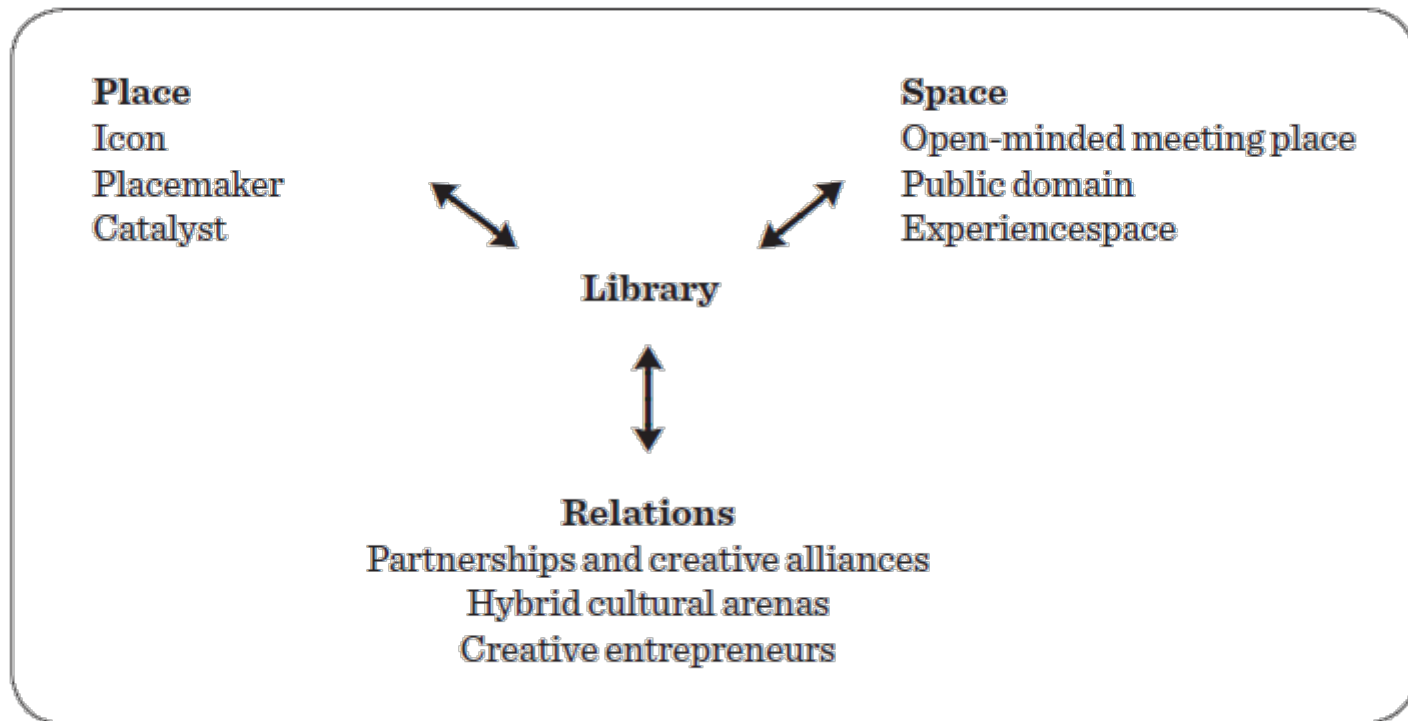
***Total: 190 fte***

***Total: 2,4 mill visits/year***





# The Public Library in Urban Development

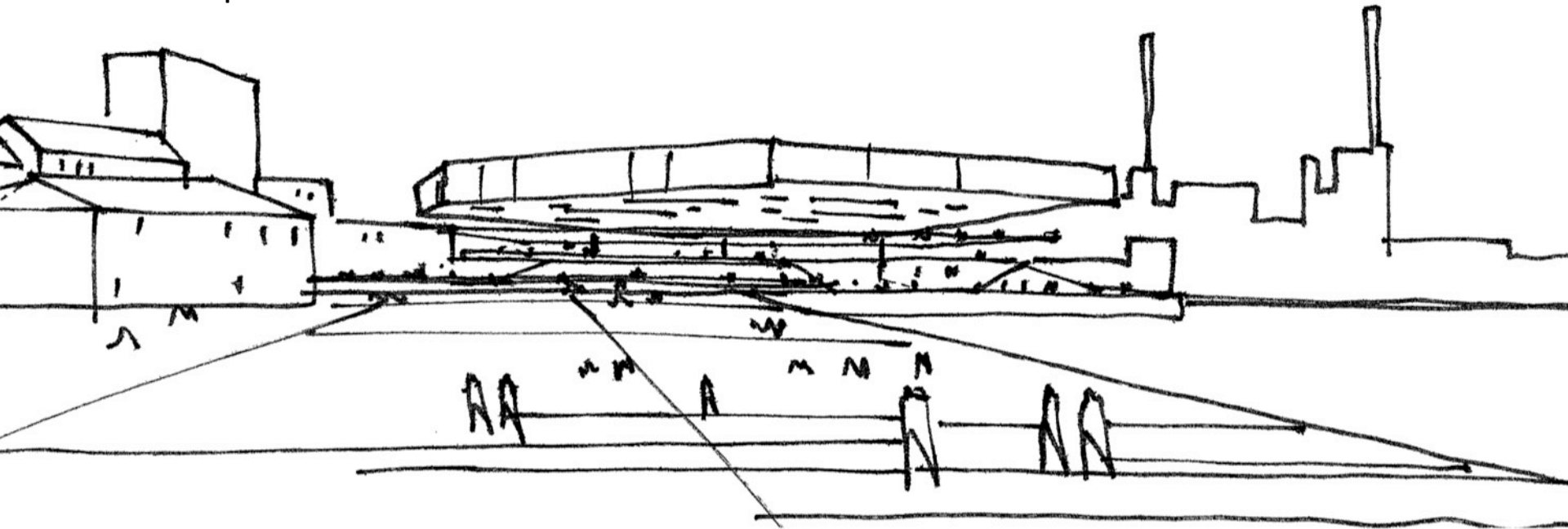




Democratic open buildings are central for citizens' empowerment and enablement - understanding, navigating and influencing city development

Libraries are urban spaces that allow the community to:

- play a central role in creating and disseminating knowledge for all
- be competent in their own lives.



**“the library is a covered urban public plaza”**





<b>From information that can be found anywhere</b>	<b>To What can only be experienced at the library</b>
Space for media	Space as a media
On-line	On site
Information	Meaning
Facts	Credibility
Meeting information	Meeting people
Knowing	Experimenting
Visitors	People of Resources
Neutral	Emotional
Seriousness	Sense of humour
Arranged events	Things that happen





From space for collection to space  
for people

Co-creation and user involvement  
are centre of development

Non-hierarchical way of working

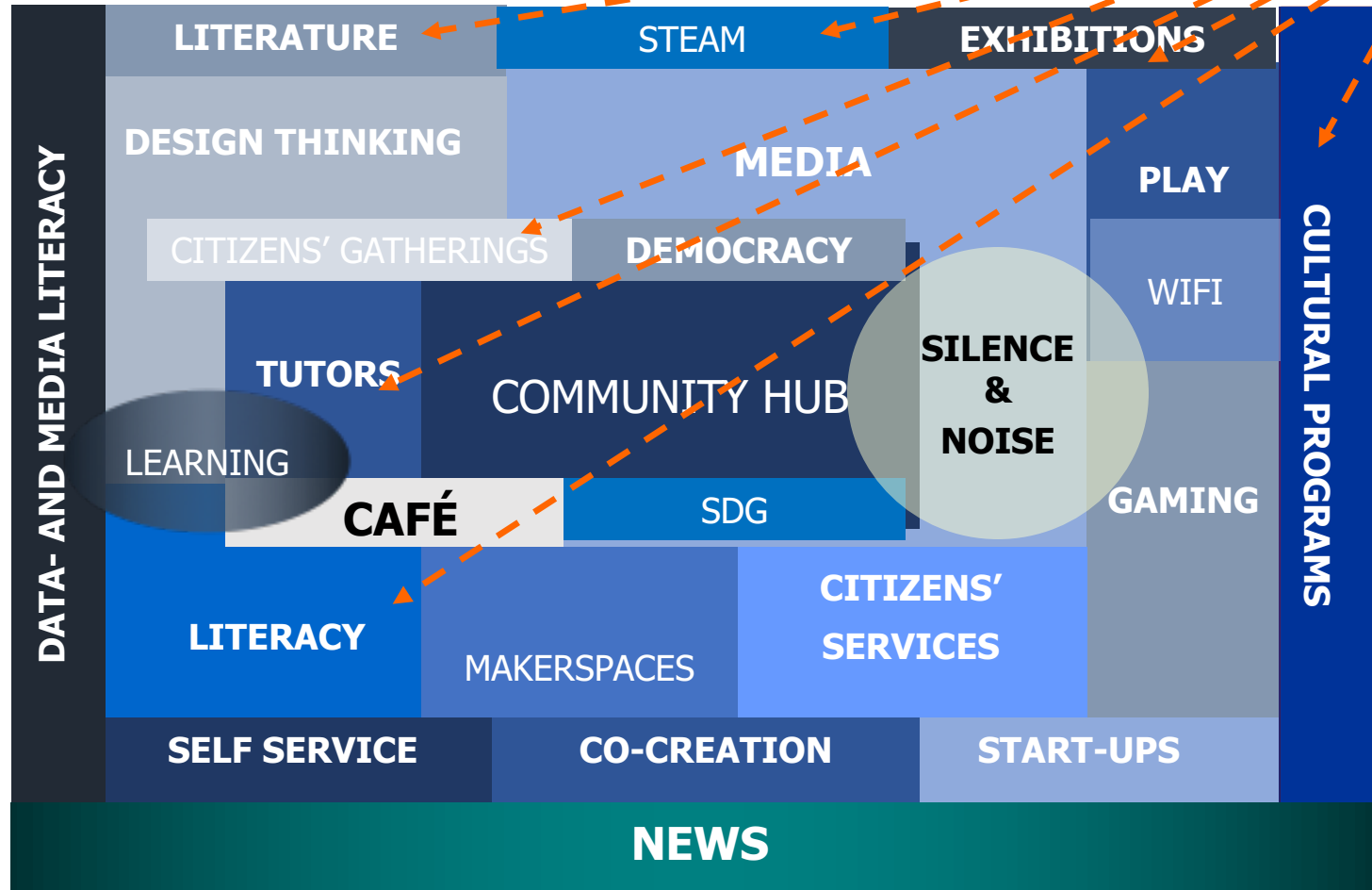
Celebrating clever mistakes

Last responsible minute

Marie Overgaard/Dokk1/Aarhus/ Denmark



# The Mash-up Library

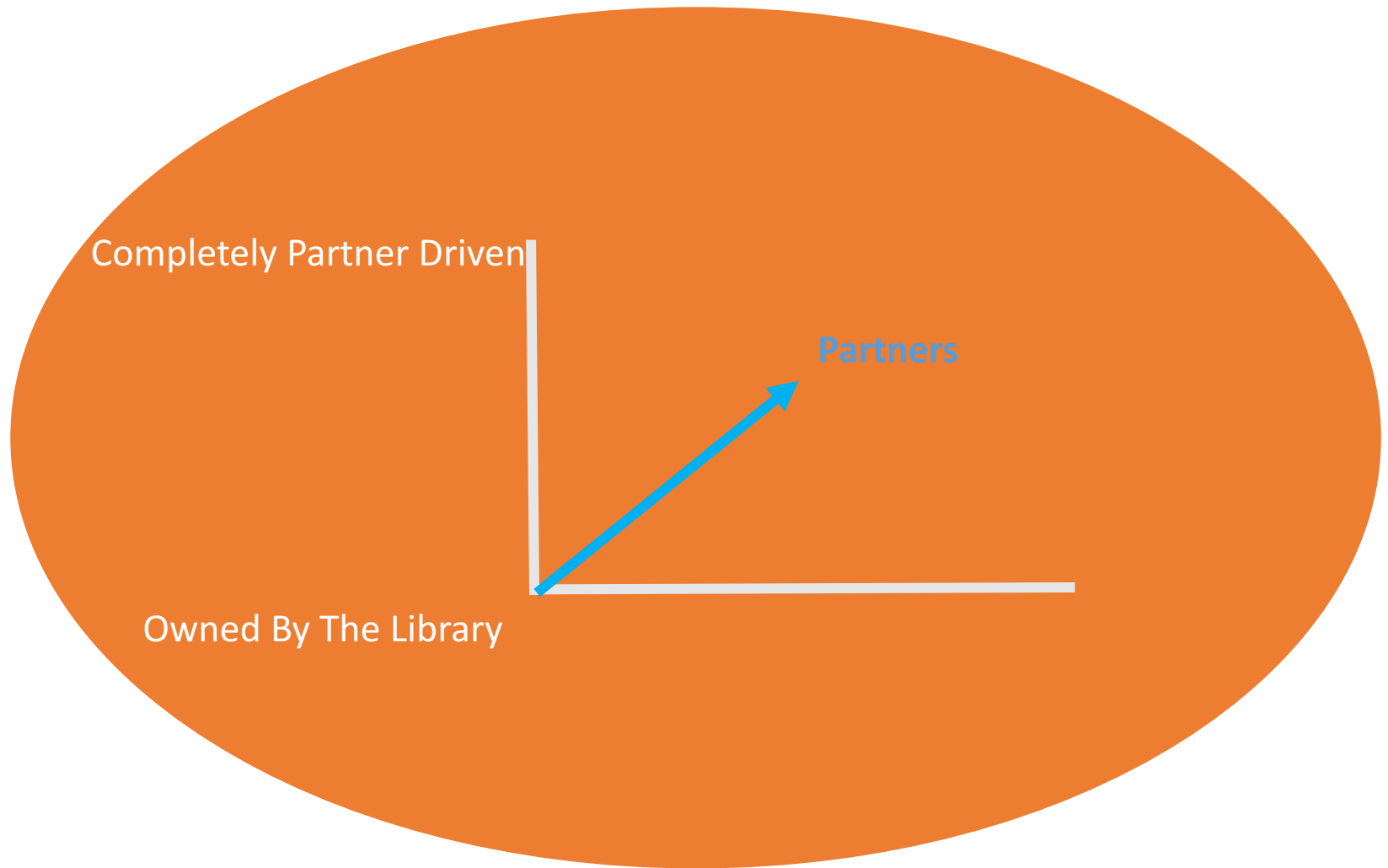




# From Ownership to Partnership



Marie Oestergaard/Aarhus Public Libraries/ Denmark





# Partnerships

**Strategic, programme-based, network-based**

**Dokk1 app. 140 programmes each month**

**– 60 % are carried out by or with partners**

**Programming as strategic tool**

**All staff capable of partnerships**

**App. 3500 events and programmes a year across libraries**



# Projects and international Co-operation

Creative technology

Small Voices – great stories

Makerfaire

LiteratureXchange

Albus – Children's literature

Next Library

FEPL – Future of Eurp. PL.

Placed

Connectable

IRIS

Hybrid Democracy

Children and Democracy

The Sustainable Library

Authors in Aarhus

Healthy Reading Communities

P2P-learning

User Involvement and the Children's library

NewComers







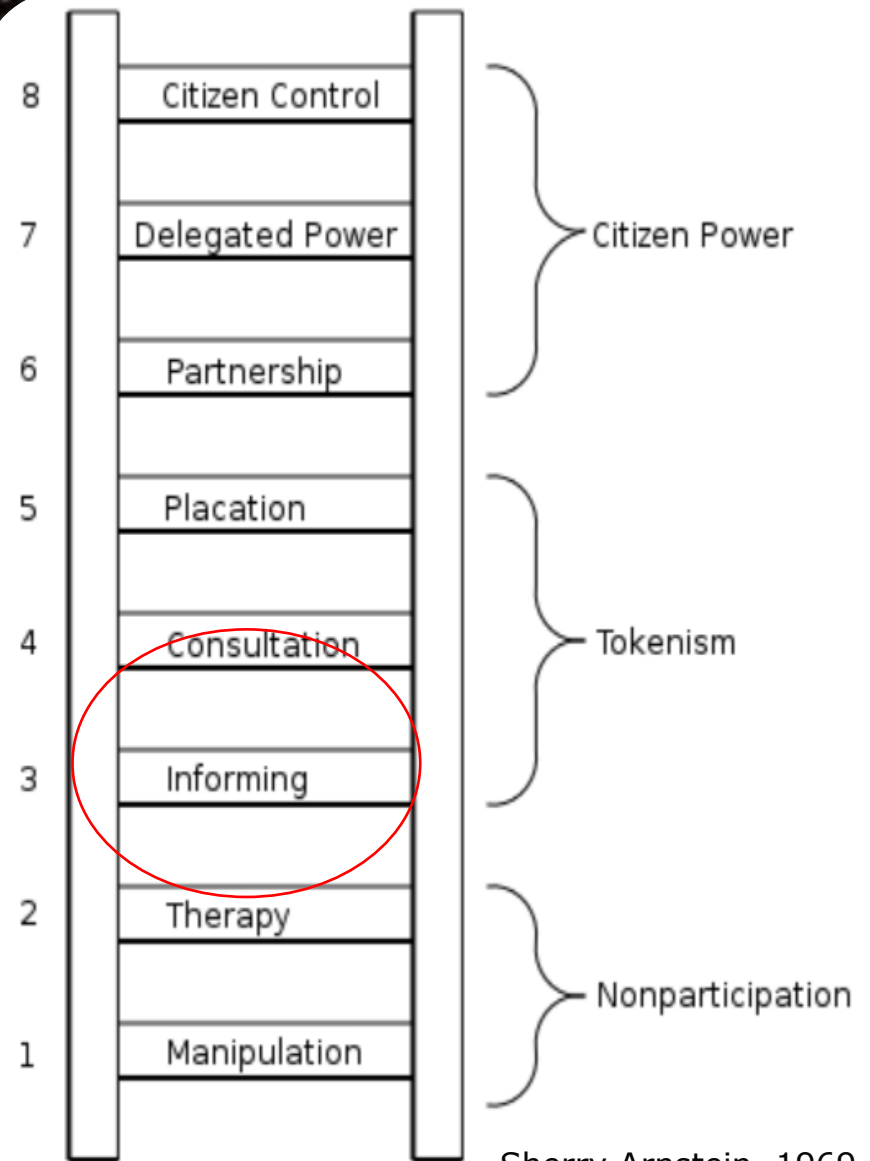


# User Involvement and Design Thinking

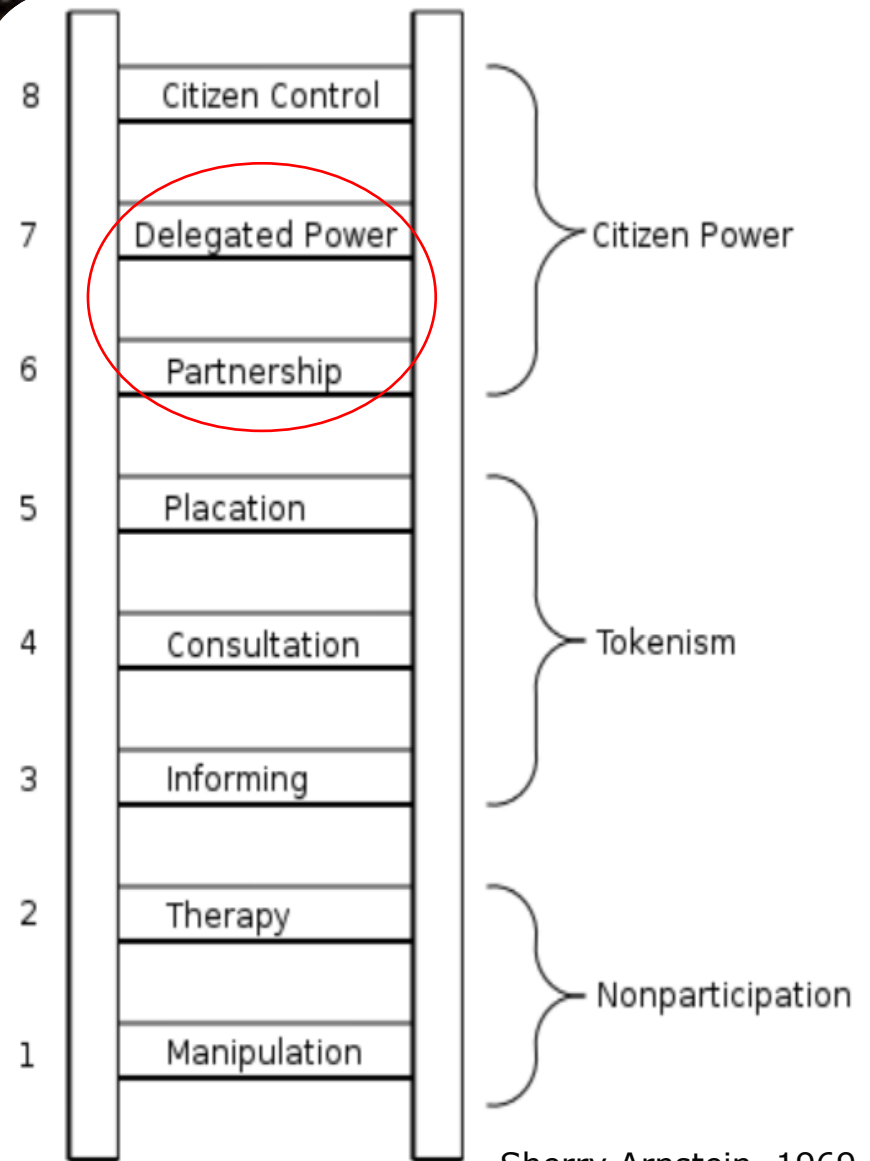


Marie Oestergaard/Aarhus Public Libraries/ Denmark



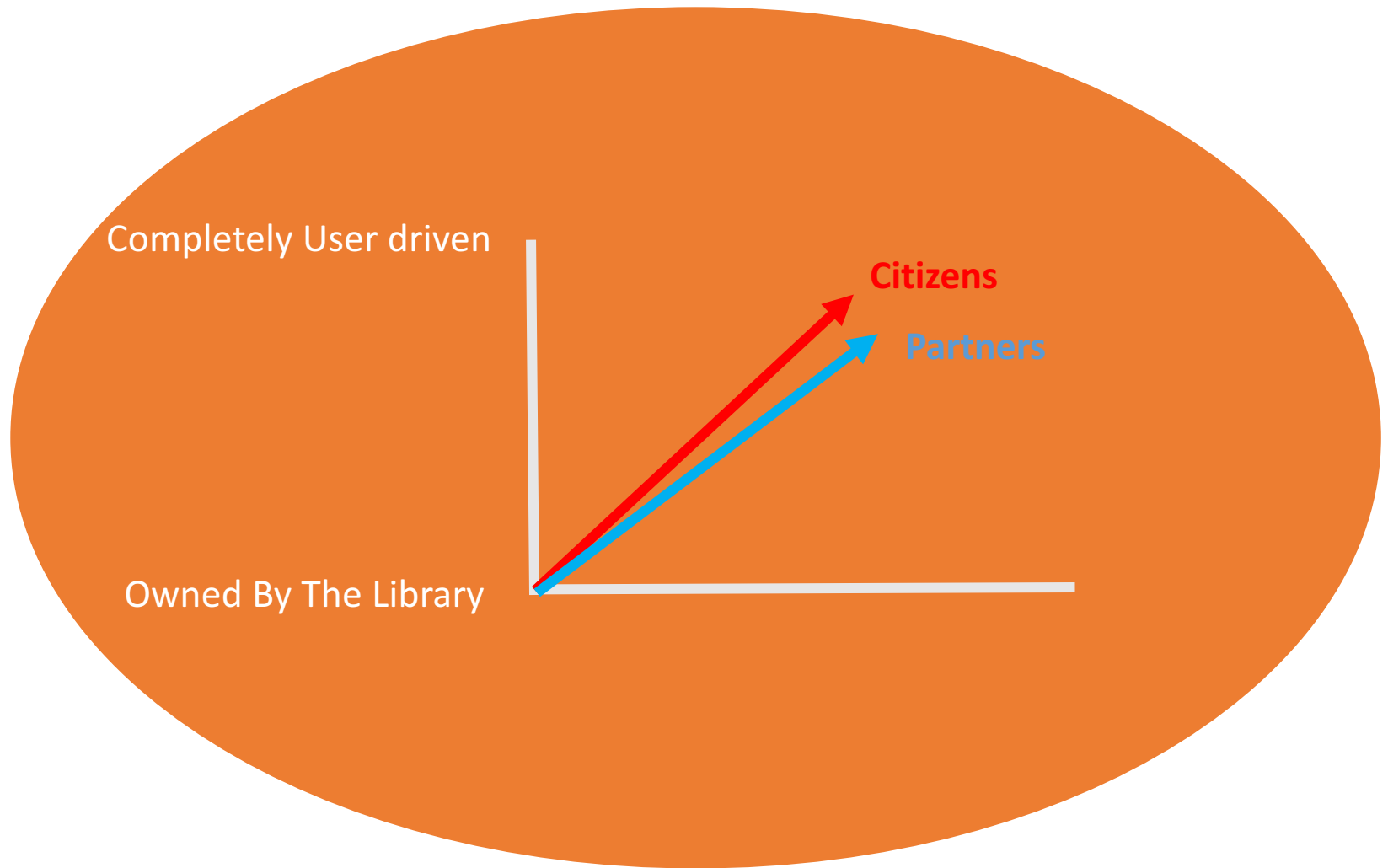


Sherry Arnstein, 1969

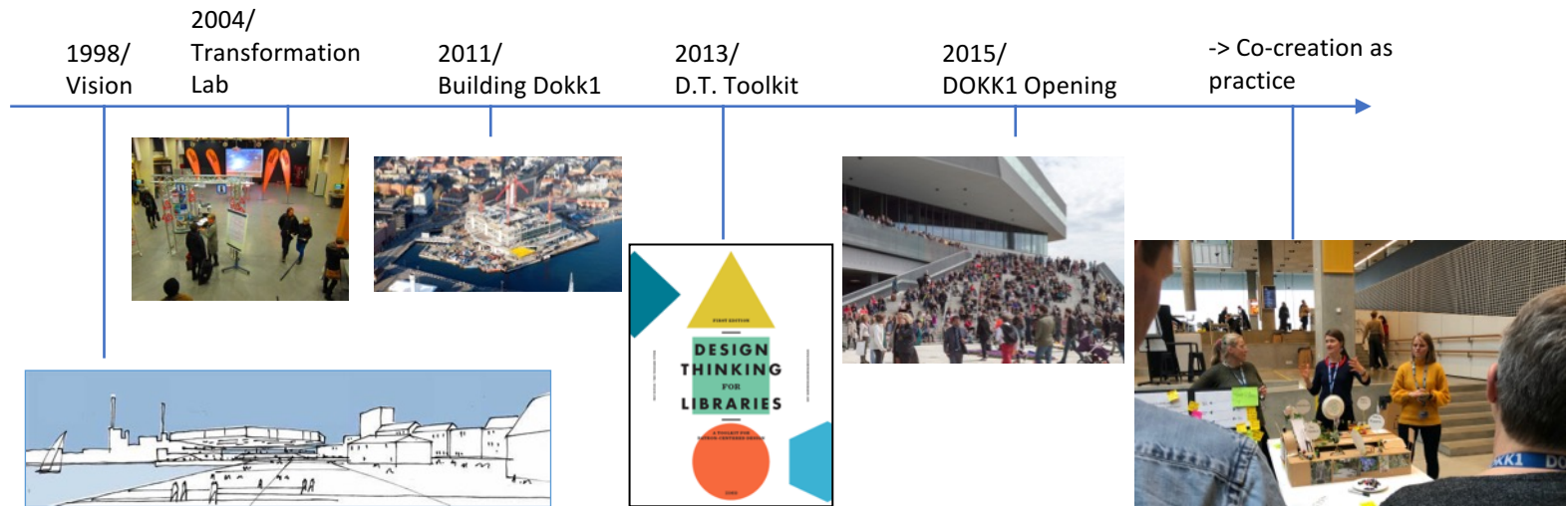


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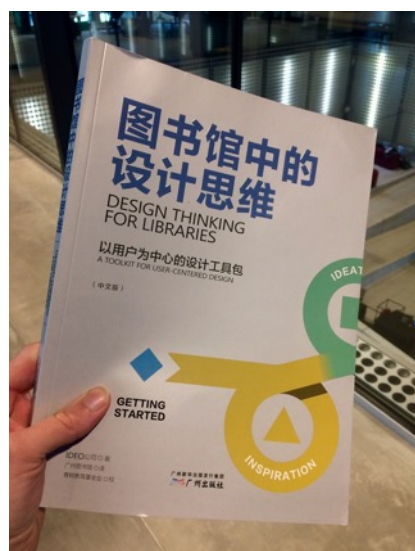




# Design thinking - a mindset and a practice..













## The Creative Learning Research Group at Aarhus Public Libraries

Kort nyt

Af **Sidsel Bech-Petersen**

07.09.21



## Prototyping Services

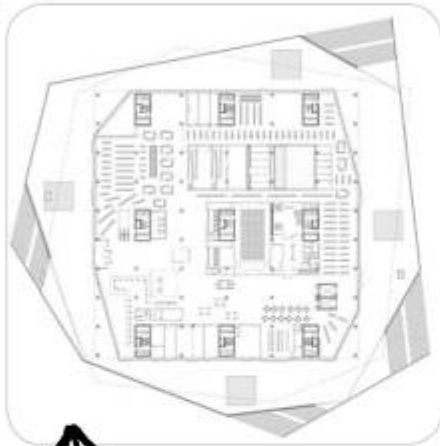
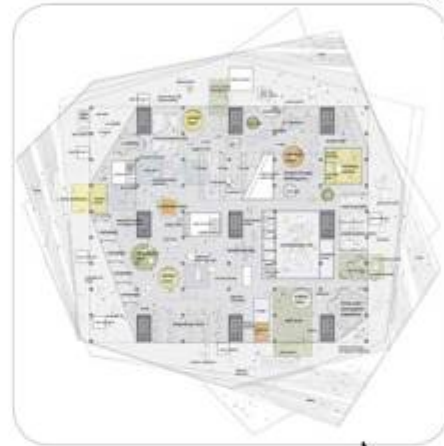
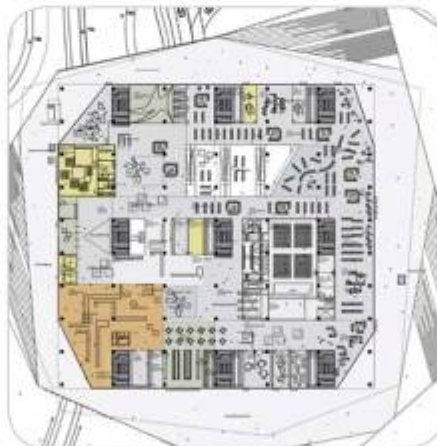
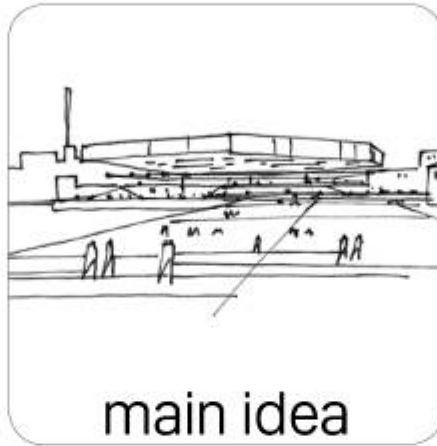
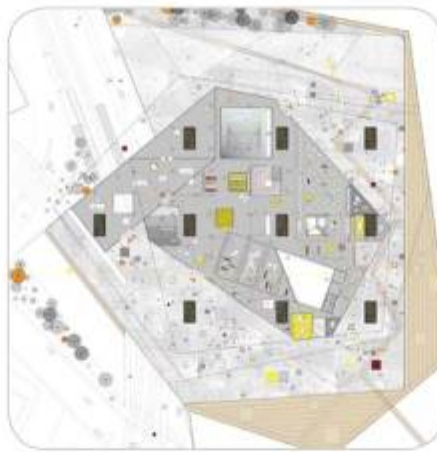




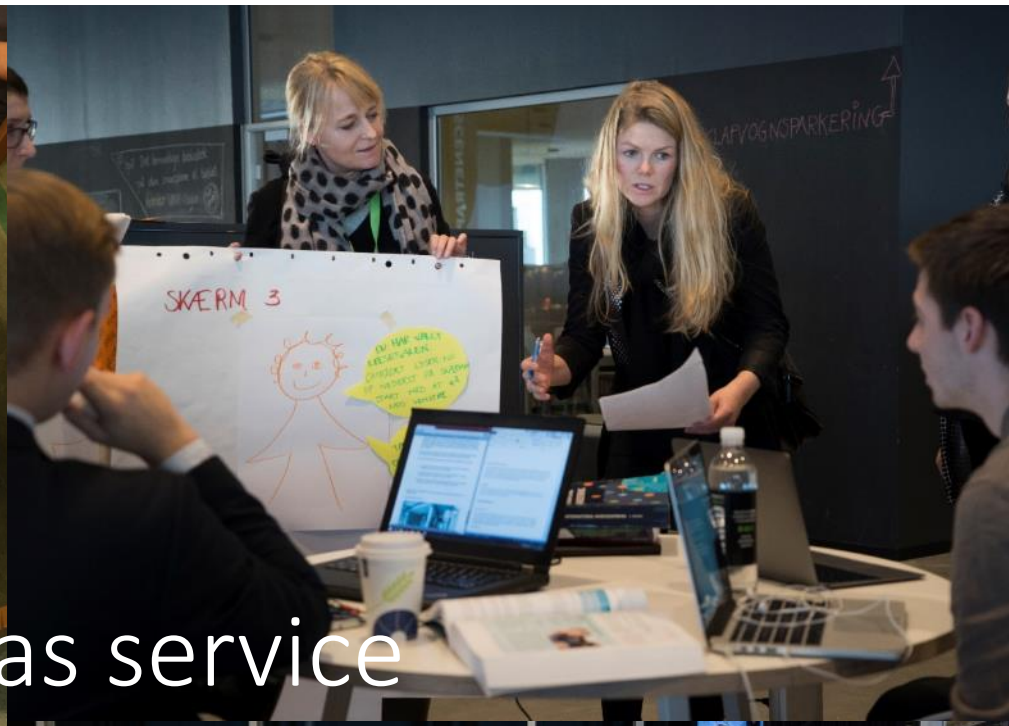


# Space Development









DT as service

















# Libraries As Vehicles For Democratic Participation



Democratic Confidence

Democratic Self-confidence

# A Democratic Society Needs

Culture of  
participation

Literacy

Safe space for  
democratic  
participation

Facilitation of  
dialogue and  
public debate

Support for  
local  
communities







# The Europe Challenge

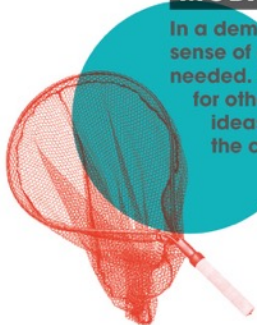
A community of people without homes are reimagining how libraries can cater for everyone in the city of Aarhus, Denmark.

# DEMOCRACY FITNESS

Which democracy muscles have you trained today?

## MOBILISATION

In a democracy, a sense of community is needed. Making room for other people's ideas strengthens the collective.



## COMPROMISE

In a democracy, there is room for diversity. You must know how to compromise so everyone feels they are getting more than they are giving.



## VERBAL

### CONFIDENCE

In a democracy, we all have a voice. You need to get to know your own voice in order to use it meaningfully.



## CURIOSITY

In a democracy, we need to learn from each other. You must poke around and leave no stone unturned.



## ACTIVE LISTENING

In a democracy, everyone has a voice. You must be able to listen without prejudice and learn from others.



## EMPATHY

In a democracy, there is room for everyone. You need to accept individual diversity and be empathetic towards others.



## DISAGREEMENT

In a democracy, we often disagree. You must be able to accept disagreement, as it makes us all the more wiser about one another.



## ACTIVIST

In a democracy, you can actively engage with whatever you are passionate about. See it take off!



## COURAGE

In a democracy, participation is important. You should find the courage to come as you are. You already have the guts to do it.



## OPINION

In a democracy, differing opinions are allowed. In order to shape your opinion, you need to be able to voice it and listen to the opinions of others.



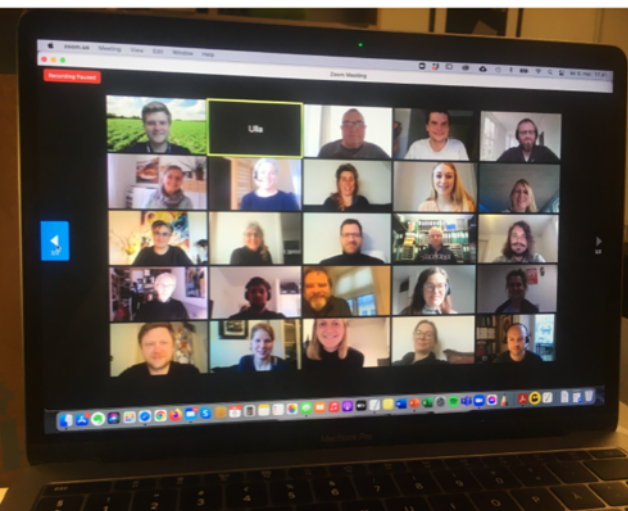
Democracy Fitness is a training concept which challenges the traditional understanding of democracy. Democracy is something one needs to train - and it should be fun, challenging and meaningful all at the same time. Learn more at [www.demokratifitness.dk/en](http://www.demokratifitness.dk/en)













# SDGlab













# IRIS - MediaLAB







Partnership developer

Library Transformer

Proto-typer

Play maker



Maker

Game maker

Democracy developer

Design thinker



Programme editor

Researcher, host, facilitator...



Space maker

Digital editor

Programme designer

Let people use the space as they like

# Courage to act

Everyday empowerment – big and small scale

Local decision competence

Trust in back up from leadership

Value-based responsibility





A group of people are gathered in a workshop or meeting space. In the background, there are several large boards. One board on the left is black and covered with various photos and small cards. Another board in the center has many yellow sticky notes attached to it. To the right, a third board is visible with blue and green sticky notes. Several people are standing and looking at these boards. One person in a blue shirt is pointing at the leftmost board. Another person in an orange shirt stands in the center. A person in a black shirt is to their right. On the far right, a woman in a light-colored jacket is looking at the boards. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible, suggesting they are observing the activity. The room has a modern feel with a perforated metal wall in the background.

Courage

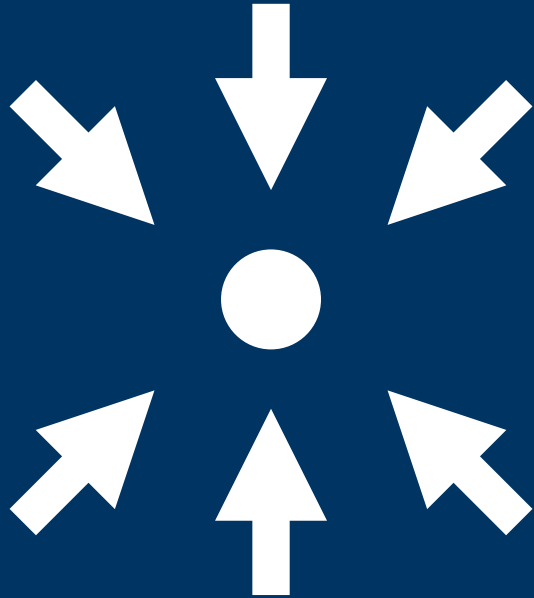
Co-  
creation

Clever  
mistakes

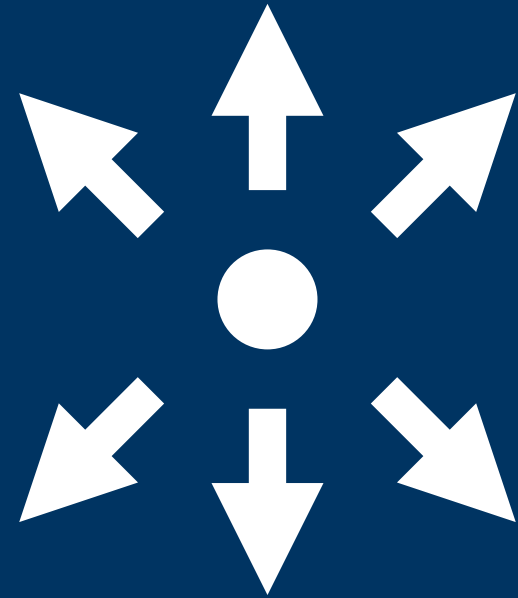
Confidence

Chaos

Physical design supports shift in mind set and ownership



**Target**



**Prompt**

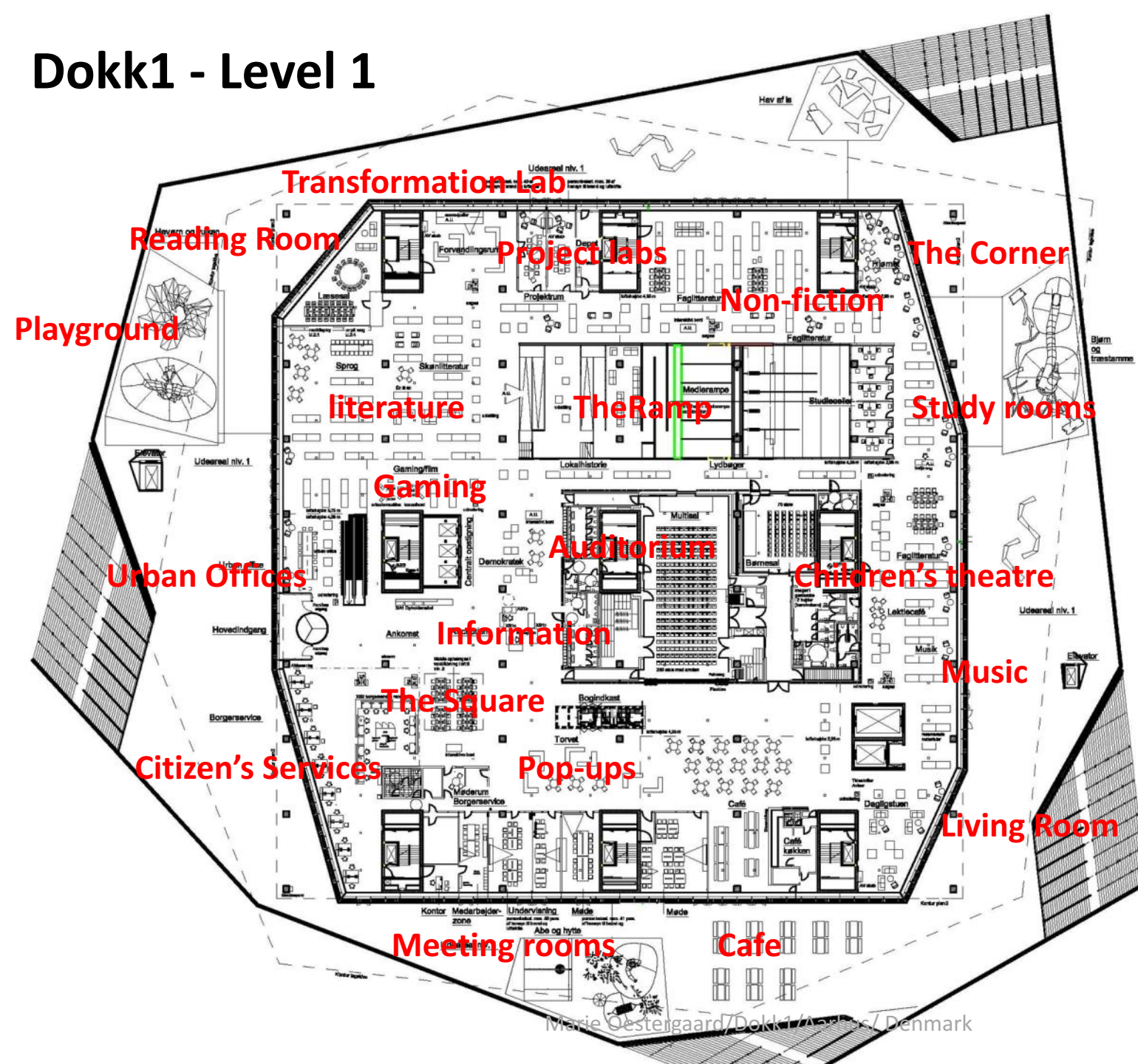


# Democratic Spaces





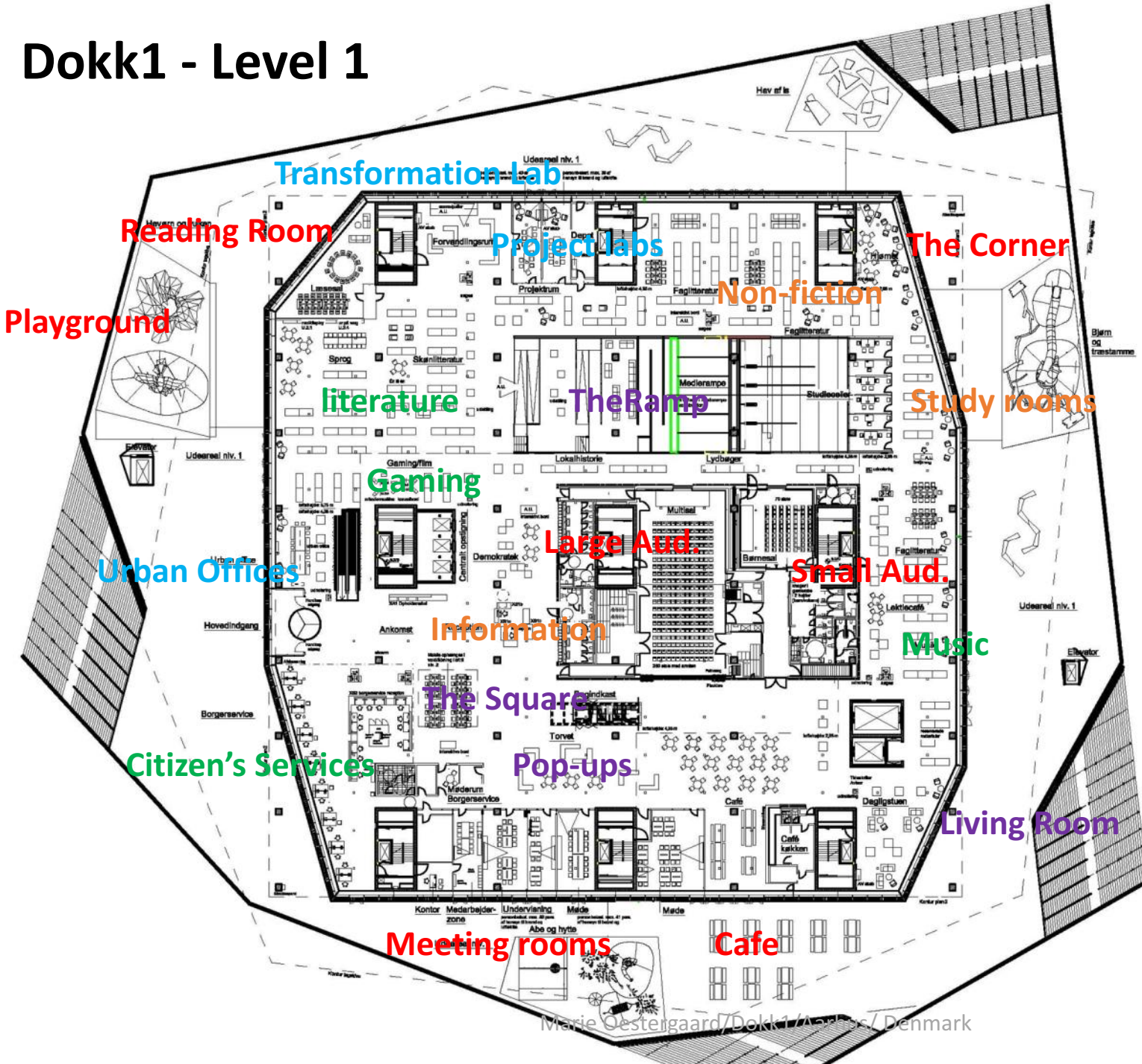
# Dokk1 - Level 1





# Dokk1 - Level 1

Blue: disappear  
Red: unchanged  
Orange: 2 times  
Green: 3 times  
Purple: stopped counting

















slido

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[slido.com](https://slido.com)  
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IVÆRK  
SÆTTER  
FESTIVAL

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LAESESAL













Marie Oestergaard/Dokk1/Aarhus/ Denmark





Design thinking



Democracy Training



Contemplation



SDGLab





Meetings



Debates



Media Interaction

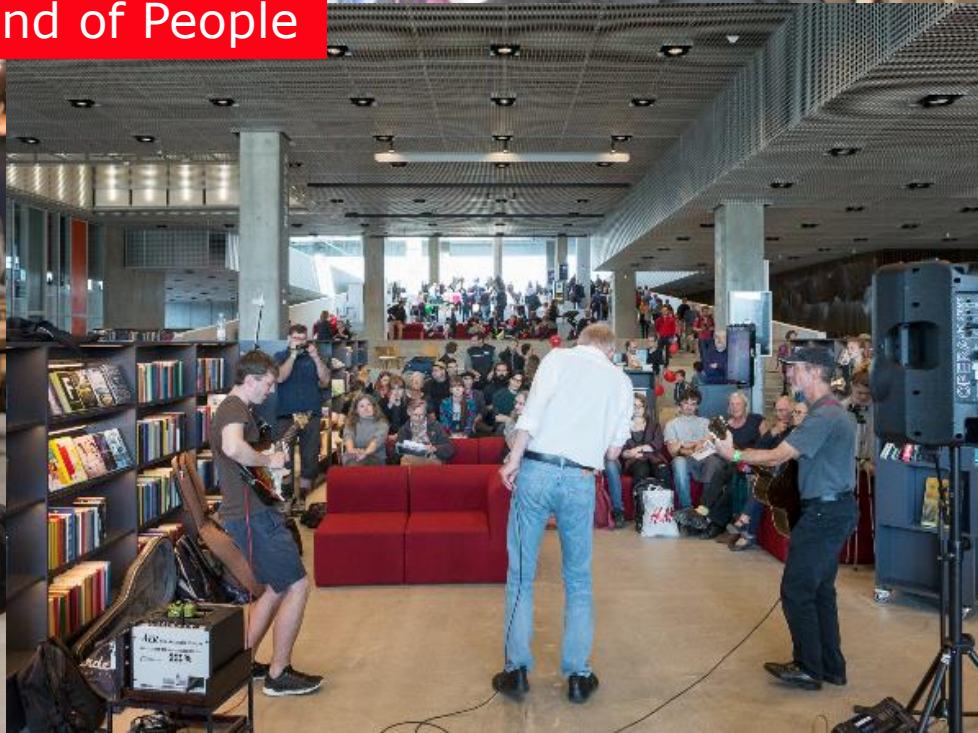


Reading Circles





## The Sound of People







## User-driven activities



Marie Oestergaard/Dokk1/Aarhus/ Denmark





Play









RAMPEN



- the library is a space where we create meaning together



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