The Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind (VSDB)

Community Open House

for the Interior Renovation of Historic Main Hall!

Vision for Main Hall

Main Hall is envisioned as the "gateway" to VSDB's campus, welcoming families, visitors, and alumni, and providing a place to elevate VSDB's impact and history. In addition to bringing together the business and operations offices of VSDB, Main Hall will provide gathering, conference, and training spaces to promote knowledge sharing and best practices for the education of the deaf and the blind.



Main Hall History

As the first school in the nation to serve both the deaf and the blind, VSDB's Main Hall serves as one of the cornerstones of education for the deaf and the blind in the United States. Originally constructed in the 1840s, Main Hall and its historic architecture have been recognized as the iconic representation of continuous and notable educational contributions to Virginia. A comprehensive exterior restoration was completed in 2020.



Programming Includes...

WORK STUDY

Opportunities for skill-building for students.

- Student-run School Store
- Coffe Shop
- Video Production Studio

VISITOR CENTER

A destination for visitors on campus.

- Welcome Desk
- Incidental Learning/Empathy Lab
- Historical Displays and Gallery
- Alumni Lounge

MUSEUM/DISPLAY

A place to learn the history of VSDB.

- Informative and Interactive Exhibits
- Limited Archives
- Historical Photos and Timelines

CONFERENCE CENTER

A place for gathering and sharing.

- State-of-the-Art Conference Spaces
- Professional Development Spaces
- Technology-rich spaces that support Deaf and Blind participants

VMDO