



Maastricht, March 20 2017

Subject: Future Centre Céramique, Kumulus and Natuurhistorisch Museum announced

Dear customer,

Maastricht takes pride in its cultural history, heritage and cultural talents. The municipal pillars on which this pride is based are Centre Céramique, Kumulus and the Natuurhistorisch Museum Maastricht. That is why we aim to continue doing what we are good at; promoting reading and language and digital skills, development of talents, cultural participation and experience of the heritage of the city of Maastricht.

Lately, you may have heard or read some news about forthcoming changes at the three municipal cultural institutions, i.e., Centre Céramique, Kumulus and Natuurhistorisch Museum Maastricht. On January 1, 2013, these three organisations were merged. Initially, strong emphasis was put on efficiency of the operational management. In the spring of 2016, the College of Mayor and Aldermen (College van Burgemeester en Wethouders) commissioned us to work out future-proof plans. This College has recently reached a decision on this plan. In the meantime, many ideas on far-reaching changes have been voiced in the city; so today we are pleased to offer you the much-desired clarity.

Decision

The municipality of Maastricht will take measures to turn Kumulus into a healthy and future-proof arts centre. This implies, amongst other things, that courses will be adapted to the changing demands of our citizens. As far as the future role of the Natuurhistorisch Museum Maastricht and Centre Céramique are concerned, opportunities have also been mapped during the past year. In the very near future these will be carefully worked out in more detail with the council and the other parties concerned, to achieve a sound future for all three merged cultural institutions.

Changes that will be made

- The library collection will be supplemented with more e-books.
- Special collections will be kept and remain under active curation.
- As far as the Limburg's collections are concerned, a solution will be sought, in co-operation with various partners.
- Heritage collections will be more often presented in novel interactive ways.
- During recent years, the physical library collections have shrunk because of changing demand. Books that were not in high demand, and duplicates, have been removed from the collection but each book can be made available on request in 2 or 3 days.
- In Centre Céramique working spots for children and youths will be realised, focused on culture and media.

- We shall improve our service to library members and visitors.
- Taking part in the cultural programmes of Centre Céramique and the city will be further stimulated.
- We shall co-operate more closely with RTV Maastricht to improve our joint visibility

Do you wish to learn more?

If you have additional questions or wish to have more information, please consult our website
www.centreceramique.nl

Sincerely,



Stef Niekamp

director of Centre Céramique, Kumulus and Natuurhistorisch Museum Maastricht