

THE SPLENDID SHANKARLAL MITTAL LOBBY

provides a cheerful greeting to all who pass through the John Hay Library's welcoming front doors. Recently renovated as part of the Hay Library's 2014 restoration, the Mittal Lobby sets an elegant tone for the entire building, conveying a sense of Brown's history and traditions alongside glimpses of its bright and changing future. Painted a warm, illuminating white and adorned with ornate molding and gleaming marble floors, the Lobby features the

bust of John Hay, Class of 1858, for whom the Library is named, along with a plaque dedicating the Lobby to Shankarlal Mittal, former Owner/Partner of Mittal Builders, India. Nearby is a digital screen displaying selections from the Library collections and news of the latest happenings at the Hay—an immediate, dynamic reminder of the evolving yet enduring role libraries play in the communication of scholarly information and the education of Brown students.



Serving as a central crossroad for the building, the Mittal Lobby offers easy pathways to the entire building, including the adjacent Willis Reading Room and Greenberg Reader Services area. A hallway leading to the nearby glass-paned lounge, consultation room, and Exhibition Gallery is flanked by a grand staircase, ushering Library users to the Hay's upper floors, which are filled with rare collections and superb teaching spaces.

The Shankarlal Mittal Lobby is both literally and symbolically at the heart of the Library's activity. As the first major gift supporting the John Hay Library's renovation, the Mittal family launched not just the vision but also the possibility of a newly conceived library space that would serve the needs of Brown students and faculty both today and for years to come.

Named for Shankarlal Mittal, beloved father, grandfather, and family fountainhead, the Lobby's renovation was made possible through a generous contribution by Mr. Mittal's son and daughter-in-law, Ajay and Archana Mittal P'12, P'15, as Members of the Indian Advisory Board. Ajay and Archana are the proud parents of Ananya Mittal '12, who graduated from Brown with a concentration in

Engineering, and Arshiya Mittal '15, who graduated with a concentration in Anthropology and Political Science.





The Mittal family's gift to the John Hay Library has immeasurable significance and their commitment to Brown University has lasting impact.