

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Library launches monthly social justice conversation series featuring community leaders

### Discussions will focus on a book or film from library's collection

**COLUMBUS**—Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) is launching a new monthly conversation series, [Speak Up/Speak Out](#). After the success of the 11-week [One Book – One Community](#) program, CML is eager to continue the critical community conversations around race, racism and social justice.

Each month, a library leader will moderate a panel featuring community leaders discussing a different book, article, movie or music selection from CML's collection. The series will kick off **Wednesday, Feb. 24 from 2-3 p.m.** The virtual panel will discuss the 2016 documentary [I Am Not Your Negro](#).

Scheduled panelists include **Jevon Collins** from the King Arts Complex, **Chris Hamel** from the Gateway Film Center, **Angela Pace** from WBNS-10TV and **Letha Pugh** from Bake Me Happy, LLC. CML's Chief Community Engagement Officer, **Donna Zuiderweg**, will serve as moderator.

Visit [columbuslibrary.org/speak-up-speak-out](http://columbuslibrary.org/speak-up-speak-out) to learn more.



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*Columbus Metropolitan Library has served the people of Franklin County, Ohio since 1873. With its Main Library and 22 branches, CML is well known for signature services and programs like Homework Help Centers, Reading Buddies, Summer Reading Challenge and Ready for Kindergarten. The library's Strategic Plan supports the vision of "a thriving community where wisdom prevails," which positions CML to respond to areas of urgent need: kids unprepared for kindergarten, third grade reading proficiency, high school graduation, college and career readiness and employment resources.*

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