

PRESS RELEASE

Thursday, March 20, 2014

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Central Library Consortium expands to 14 Libraries Strong

Library customers will have access to 4.5 million items

COLUMBUS—Three more libraries are joining the [Central Library Consortium](#) (CLC). Now, Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) customers will have access to a total of 4.5 million books, audiobooks, CDs and DVDs with their CML library card.

On Wednesday, April 9, Bexley Public Library, London Public Library and Upper Arlington Public Library will make their debuts in the CLC catalog, joining a consortium that includes the catalogs of 11 other central Ohio library systems:

- Alexandria Public Library
- Columbus Metropolitan Library
- Fairfield County District Library
- Grandview Heights Public Library
- Marysville Public Library
- Pickaway County District Library
- Pickerington Public Library
- Plain City Public Library
- Southwest Public Libraries
- Wagnalls Memorial Library
- Worthington Libraries

The Central Library Consortium is a network of library systems whose catalogs are accessible by all members. If, for example, one member library does not have an item a customer is looking for, that item can be placed on hold and delivered from another member library.

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In order for the three new libraries to be added to the consortium catalog, all 14 member libraries (including CML) will need to stop some services beginning on April 3.

CML customers will still be able to:

- Get a library card
- Check out items, but they'll need to bring a library card or library card number – staff will not be able to look them up
- Use their library card to access public computers
- Use [Hoopla](#), [Zinio](#), [resources](#) and [eBooks](#)

From 9 p.m. on Thursday, April 3 through 9 a.m. on Wednesday, April 9, CML customers **will not** be able to:

- Access CML's catalog or their personal account on columbuslibrary.org or CML's Mobile App
- Place items on hold
- Check out items using the self-checkout kiosks at all 21 CML locations

During this 6-day period, all items will be checked out manually by CML staff members, and due dates will be extended. CML's services will be back to normal on Wednesday, April 9.

The Central Library Consortium was formed in 1988 to provide integrated library services and facilitate other cooperative projects that yield excellent quality and value to [its members](#). The CLC continues to experiment with new models of service and resources sharing in response to the needs of its members and to keep pace with the ever changing technology in the library environment. For more information, visit [clcoho.org](#).

Columbus Metropolitan Library has served the people of Franklin County, Ohio for 141 years. With its Main Library and 20 branches, CML is well known for signature services and programs like Homework Help Centers, Reading Buddies, Summer Reading Club and the Ready to Read Corps. 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 readiness and employment resources.

CML was named a 2011 National Medal Winner by the Institute for Museum and Library Services for work in community service, the highest honor for libraries and museums. In 2013, Columbus Metropolitan Library became the only large public library in the country to be rated a 5-Star Library for all six years of Library Journal's industry standards rating program.

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