COLUMBUS—Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) kicks off its annual Summer Reading Club on Saturday, June 4. *Be a Hero. Read* is the theme, inviting participants of all ages to read and earn great prizes while completing reading goals. The nine-week Summer Reading Club runs through Saturday, Aug. 6. All participants will need a CML library card to sign up this year.

CML will not have a centralized kickoff event at Main Library this year since the building is being renovated, but customers are encouraged to stop by any of the following branches to celebrate the start of Summer Reading Club 2016:

**Saturday, June 4**

- **Hilliard Branch** | 9 a.m.-6 p.m. (activities throughout the day)
  4772 Cemetery Rd.
- **Hilltop Branch** | 2 p.m.
  511 S. Hague Ave.
- **Livingston Branch** | 2-4 p.m.
  3434 Livingston Ave.
- **New Albany Branch** | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
  200 Market St.
- **Parsons Branch** | 12:30-3 p.m.
  1113 Parsons Ave.
- **Reynoldsburg Branch** | 2 p.m.
  1402 Brice Rd.
- **Whitehall Branch** | 2 p.m.
  4445 E. Broad St.

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Monday, June 6

- **Hilliard Branch** | 9 a.m.-9 p.m. (activities throughout the day)
  4772 Cemetery Rd.
- **Linden Branch** | 2-4 p.m.
  2223 Cleveland Ave.
- **Shepard Branch** | 2 p.m.
  790 N. Nelson Rd.

Monday, June 20

- **Southeast Branch** | 2-4 p.m.
  3980 S. Hamilton Rd.

Studies show that kids who read during the summer maintain reading skills that are critical to future school success. The Third Grade Reading Guarantee in Ohio means many central Ohio third graders could repeat the grade if they don’t pass state proficiency testing. This makes summer reading even more important, which is why, in addition to Summer Reading Club, CML locations will continue to offer Reading Buddies practice sessions throughout the summer months.

Last year, 68,500 children, teens and adults participated in Summer Reading Club. An OSU study found that children who participated in CML’s 2012 Summer Reading Club maintained their reading skills. Plus, Summer Reading Club is fun – with more than 1,000 programs and tons of books – not to mention eBooks – to read while earning great prizes.

Signup for Summer Reading Club begins online and at any CML location starting Saturday, June 4.

This year’s sponsors include RiteRug, Kiwanis Club of Columbus, Friends of the Columbus Metropolitan Library, the Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation, Giant Eagle, Columbus Parent, Magic 95.5 FM, ThisWeek Community News, Power 107.5 FM, Boom 106.3 FM, Joy 107.1 FM ABC6, Fox-28, CW Columbus, COTA and Highlights for Children.

Visit columbuslibrary.org/press to view other Columbus Metropolitan Library press releases.

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 Club 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 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. Columbus Metropolitan Library has been rated a 5-Star Library by Library Journal for seven of the eight years the magazine has published its industry ratings.

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SUMMER READING CLUB 2016
JUNE 4 - AUGUST 6

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