Library introduces new collection just for walk-in visitors
First-come, first-serve books cannot be reserved or renewed

COLUMBUS—Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) is introducing a new collection of books that cannot be reserved or renewed. The Quick Pick collection will be available at all 21 locations beginning Tuesday, June 3. These books will consist of high-interest titles that often would have long wait periods if reserved. They will be available only to customers who visit CML locations and will not appear in the library’s catalog.

“This is a great new way to connect our customers with popular books,” said CML CEO Patrick Losinski. “And we hope this new collection also serves to encourage customers to come in and explore our libraries.”

By checking out a Quick Pick book, that customer will relinquish his or her reserve on that item. For example, if a customer places a reserve on the new Stephen King novel, then checks it out from the Quick Pick display at one of CML’s locations, his or her reserve will be removed and they will no longer be in line for the book.

Books in the Quick Pick collection will be labeled with a sticker (see below) and permanently displayed.

Other libraries offer variations of this service. Locally, Worthington Libraries offer what they call their “Get Lucky” collection. And Cuyahoga County Public Library offers “Sizzler” titles.

CML’s Quick Pick collection will be books only, not CDs, audiobooks or DVDs, and will include primarily adult and some juvenile fiction books. They will have a standard 21-day lending period.

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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.