

PRESS RELEASE

Monday, June 17, 2019

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Library offers students free summer lunch and snack Partnership program offered at 15 library locations this summer

COLUMBUS—Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) has once again partnered with Columbus Recreation & Parks Department to provide students with free lunches and snacks at [15 CML locations](#).

This marks the 18th year CML has offered Summer Lunch and the sixth year it has offered Summer Snack. Last year, CML served more than 29,000 lunches and snacks to children 18 and younger.

“So many children in our community rely on free or discounted school lunches,” says CML Public Services Director Kathy Shahbodaghi. “When school lets out for the summer, it is absolutely critical that students have access to healthy, nourishing lunches and snacks. It not only benefits the body, but the mind as well.”

Lunches are typically a sandwich, along with a healthy side, such as carrots, strawberries or string cheese, and milk or juice. Snacks, served later in the afternoon, are typically crackers and juice.

[Click here](#) for a list and schedule of CML’s Summer Lunch and Summer Snack locations.

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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, 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.

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. CML was also named 2010 Library of the Year by Library Journal.

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