

MEDIA ADVISORY

Friday, July 11, 2014

CONTACTS:

Gregg Dodd, Marketing Director
Columbus Metropolitan Library
(614) 849-1043 office, (614) 205-7816 cell
gdodd@columbuslibrary.org
www.columbuslibrary.org

Ben Zenitsky, Marketing & Communications Specialist
Columbus Metropolitan Library
(614) 849-1045 office, (614) 315-3766 cell
bzenitsky@columbuslibrary.org
www.columbuslibrary.org

Library to unveil first new branch in 10 years tomorrow

WHO: Columbus Metropolitan Library
Mayor Michael Coleman
Columbus City Schools Superintendent Dr. Dan Good
Additional city leaders

WHEN: **Saturday, July 12, 2014**
Dedication Ceremony: Noon-12:30 p.m.
Open House Celebration: 12:30-3 p.m.

WHERE: **New Driving Park Branch**
Columbus Metropolitan Library
1422 E. Livingston Ave. (corner of Livingston and Kelton avenues)

WHAT: *New Driving Park Branch Dedication and Grand Opening Celebration*

On Saturday, July 12, Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) will open its new Driving Park Branch to the public with a brief dedication ceremony at noon followed by a grand opening celebration. The event is free and open to all.

Following brief remarks from community and city officials – including Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman – the afternoon will be filled with refreshments, music and entertainment. Plus, all are welcome to explore the new branch (see photo and floor plan below). Visitors can also sign up for a commemorative library card and register for a chance to win an eReader.

The day will be highly visual, and include a city street sign unveiling by children from the Driving Park neighborhood, as well as a ceremonial ribbon cutting by CML CEO Patrick Losinski, Mayor Coleman, Columbus City Schools Superintendent Dr. Dan Good and other library, community and city leaders.

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Entertainment will include:

- Performances by the Columbus Saints Drum & Bugle Corps
- Chalk art by Edwin John Yang
- Historical reenactment by Anthony Gibbs from the Ohio History Connection
- Music and an open mic dub poetry jam by Doctah X
- Stilt-walkers from the Amazing Giants
- Costumed characters from CATCO is Kids
- Magic show by Stephen Knight

The new Driving Park Branch, which is CML's first new building in a decade, represents the first of 10 library locations (including Main Library) to be renovated or rebuilt within the next few years. Ground broke for the new building on July 30, 2013. CML also held a groundbreaking for its new Whitehall Branch on Sept. 10, 2013, scheduled to open next spring.

Visit columbuslibrary.org for more information and to track progress of CML's ambitious building program.



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DRIVING PARK BRANCH FLOOR PLAN



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.