Library Foundation receives $2.15 million gift from Battelle
Funding to support Young Minds initiatives

COLUMBUS—The Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation (CMLF) is announcing that it has received a $2.15 million gift from Battelle in support of Columbus Metropolitan Library’s (CML) Young Minds programs and services.

CML’s Young Minds strategy focuses on three educational benchmarks: kindergarten readiness, third grade reading and high school graduation. CML’s community reach enables it to support these benchmarks with programs and services such as Summer Reading Challenge, Ready for Kindergarten Storytimes, Reading Buddies, Homework Help and more.

Of the $2.15 million total, $2 million is given in support of these programs and services, while an additional $150,000 solidifies Battelle’s place as a Presenting Sponsor for the CMLF’s annual Celebration of Learning event for each of the next three years.

“With the pandemic fundamentally changing the way our children learn and grow – particularly children in at-risk communities – we must position ourselves as innovators in rising to address these new challenges and barriers they face,” said CML CEO Patrick Losinski. “Battelle’s generosity enables us to extend our impact and elevate our efforts in support of Young Minds.”

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“Central Ohio parents know that reading matters, and we understand many families are juggling new constraints on the time and finances during the current crisis,” said Battelle President and CEO Lou Von Thaer. “The programs we’re supporting expand the library’s reach to give more young people the support they need to thrive and succeed.”

Every day, the people of Battelle apply science and technology to solving what matters most. At major technology centers and national laboratories around the world, Battelle conducts research and development, designs and manufactures products and delivers critical services for government and commercial customers. Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio since its founding in 1929, Battelle serves the national security, health and life sciences and energy and environmental industries. For more information, visit battelle.org.

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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