

PRESS RELEASE

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Library to hold Kindergarten Boot Camp for preschoolers

COLUMBUS—Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) is holding free Kindergarten Boot Camps at six of its locations beginning next week.

Now in its fifth year, CML's 2-week-long Kindergarten Boot Camp programs are led by certified kindergarten teachers and designed to equip preschoolers – and their parents and caregivers – with the tools they need to be ready for kindergarten. Curriculum includes:

- reading and writing skills
- numbers and counting
- classroom skills
- fine motor skills

“So many young minds in our community arrive to kindergarten unequipped and unprepared,” says CML Public Services Director Kathy Shahbodaghi. “This program, which we continually strive to improve, is centered on building family awareness of classroom and teacher expectations.”

This year's boot camps will be held at CML's Main Library and its Hilltop, Karl Road, Reynoldsburg, Southeast and Whitehall branches. These locations were selected based on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) scores in the school districts within CML's service area.

Each of the six Boot Camp programs can accommodate 20 families. Registration is required. [Click here](#) for more information and the boot camp schedule.

Each child who completes Kindergarten Boot Camp is given a backpack filled with school supplies. These supplies are provided with support from the program's donors: Alliance Data, The Ann Sherry Foundation, Battelle, Jennifer Massanova and Lewis Von Thaer.

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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.