PRESS RELEASE
Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015

Library Foundation announces DeeDee & Herb Glimcher as recipients of Julian Sinclair Smith Award

Cindy and Steve Rasmussen to receive Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation Award

COLUMBUS—Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) has announced DeeDee and Herb Glimcher as the 2015 recipients of the Julian Sinclair Smith Award. Each year, the Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation (CMLF) presents the award to honor inspiring individuals living or working in and around Franklin County with a passion for lifelong learning. The award will be presented at CMLF’s annual Celebration of Learning fundraiser gala on Friday, Oct. 30 at CML’s Whitehall Branch.

DeeDee and Herb Glimcher have a history of passionately supporting lifelong learning through their work with community organizations in central Ohio. Their efforts and active participation in education and the arts have made a significant impact on lives of central Ohio residents.

Julian Sinclair Smith was founder of the Sinclair Broadcast Group, owner of WSYX/ABC 6 and operator of WTTE/Fox 28. His rise to prominence in the industry can be attributed to his quest for knowledge, beginning with the completion of a radio correspondence course while still in high school. When he died in 1993, the Smith family chose to honor his passion toward reading, education and lifelong learning, with an award named in his honor presented through the Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation.

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Additionally, Cindy and Steve Rasmussen will be honored with the Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation Award, which recognizes an individual volunteer or volunteers who have had a sustained impact and demonstrated a commitment, passion and dedication to the library and/or its Foundation.

Steve served nine years on the CML Board of Trustees, including two as president. Cindy has served on the Celebration of Learning Committee since 2008, including one year as chair.

Carl Hiaasen is the featured author for the Celebration of Learning event. Hiaasen, an acclaimed author and columnist, is the author of books for kids, teens and adults alike, including Star Island, Hoot, Skink—No Surrender and his newest novel for adults, 2013’s Bad Monkey.

Celebration of Learning, the CMLF’s annual fundraiser, is usually held in the atrium and stacks of Main Library. However, with Main Library closed for renovations – expected to be completed in summer 2016 – this year’s gala will be held at CML’s new Whitehall Branch (4445 E. Broad St.), which opened on April 11.

The event features remarks from a renowned author and the presentation of The Julian Sinclair Smith Award for Lifelong Learning. The Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation helps fund the library’s capital needs as well as Homework Help Centers, Ready for Kindergarten initiatives, employment resources and Summer Reading Club, supporting the needs of kids, teens and adults.

The honorary chairs of this year’s Celebration of Learning are Lynne and Martyn Redgrave. Visit foundation.columbuslibrary.org for more information.

NOTE: Digital photos above available upon request.

Columbus Metropolitan Library has served the people of Franklin County, Ohio for 142 years. With its Main Library and 21 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 2014, Columbus Metropolitan Library became the only large public library in the country to be rated a 5-Star Library for all seven years of Library Journal’s industry standards rating program.

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