



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG LIBRARY ANNOUNCES CLOSURE BEGINNING MARCH 17, 2020 AT 5 P.M.**

Library responds to health concerns by closing all facilities, cancelling all programs until further notice

**Charlotte, NC – March 16, 2020** – Charlotte Mecklenburg Library announces all Library locations and material drop boxes will close on March 17, 2020 at 5 p.m. until further notice. The closure includes the cancellation of all programs and events, both in Library branch locations and through Outreach. During the closure, the Library will extend checkout and return dates of all materials until the Library re-opens. The Library will continue to monitor the ongoing situation before re-opening, and updates will be posted on [cmlibrary.org](http://cmlibrary.org) as well as on social media platforms.

“To protect the health and safety of our Library employees and customers from the spread of COVID-19, we made the difficult decision to close Library locations. Our organization’s heart is in public service, but at this moment public safety requires our greater attention. We hope to re-open our Libraries soon,” says Lee Keesler, CEO of Charlotte Mecklenburg Library.

While Charlotte Mecklenburg Library locations are closed, cardholders and the community are encouraged to explore and use the Library’s digital resources, including e-books and e-audiobooks, streaming TV, movies and music, online classes, and digital subscriptions to newspapers and magazines. To access digital resources, a Library card and PIN is needed. If you need a Library card, apply online and begin using your account immediately. Digital resources, library card sign-up and more are all available at [cmlibrary.org](http://cmlibrary.org).

The novel COVID-19 (coronavirus) disease outbreak continues to accelerate globally, representing a serious public health threat for communities of all sizes. As central public spaces and trusted resources for health and wellness information, Charlotte Mecklenburg Library is taking proactive measures to close facility locations to encourage social distancing while reducing the spread of disease.

“While we are physically closed, we will continue serving customers on-line and with Wi-Fi services,” says Dana Eure, acting library director for Charlotte Mecklenburg Library. “We look forward to introducing Library customers to digital resources they may not have used before.”

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#### **About Charlotte Mecklenburg Library:**

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library is one of America’s leading urban public libraries, serving a community of more than one million citizens in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Through 20 locations, targeted outreach and online resources, the Library delivers exceptional services and programs, with a mission to improve lives and build a stronger community. For more, visit [cmlibrary.org](http://cmlibrary.org).

#### **Media Contact:**

Ann Stawski  
Marketing & Communications Leader  
Charlotte Mecklenburg Library  
o:704-416-0702 c: 980-293-5634  
[astawski@cmlibrary.org](mailto:astawski@cmlibrary.org)

**Media resources:**

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library newsroom: [cmlibrary.org/library-news](http://cmlibrary.org/library-news)

**Social sharing:**

Hashtags: #cmlibrary

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/cmlibrary](http://www.facebook.com/cmlibrary)

Twitter: @cmlibrary

Instagram: @cmlibrary

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/charlotte-mecklenburg-library](http://www.linkedin.com/company/charlotte-mecklenburg-library)