



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG LIBRARY OFFERS VIRTUAL AND ONLINE PROGRAMS

Offerings target adults, teens and children and include Spanish-language options

**Charlotte, NC – April 15, 2020** – Charlotte Mecklenburg Library is offering virtual and online programs for adults, teens and children, including programs in Spanish, available through its website at [cmlibrary.org](http://cmlibrary.org). Teen and adult programs include Active Reading Mentor Training, digital literacy programs, book clubs and job help consultations, as well as “Book a Librarian” sessions. Most teen and adult programs are offered on online platforms including Jitsi, Zoom and YouTube and are linked through the Library’s website. Storytimes stream live on ImaginOn’s Facebook page Monday through Saturday at 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., and Spanish language storytimes/Cuentos virtuales en español are on Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. For a full calendar listing and more details, visit here: <https://www.cmlibrary.org/calendar>

Each week the Library adds programs and updates a weekly blog with information along with postings to social media platforms. In addition to the storytimes, current program offerings include Job Help Center career coaching and development, writing programs, learning circles and meditation.

“Many of our customers miss coming to branch locations for programming where they find a community connection. The Library is making good use of the virtual world by offering some of our learning and educational programs online to keep people connected and learning while they are at home,” says Emily Nanney, education leader at Charlotte Mecklenburg Library.

“The Library offers more than 29,000 programs annually and, while we cannot replicate each program online, we will continue to evolve and update the programming options as we move through this closure,” says Dana Eure, acting Library Director for Charlotte Mecklenburg Library. “Providing online program options is beneficial to the community and carry us forward until we can resume in-person programming.”

While locations are closed, the Library has seen a sizable increase in cardholders using free digital and online resources. 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 or a ONE Access ID is needed. Anyone needing a Library card can obtain one by applying online and begin using your account immediately. An online chat for assistance is available Monday-Friday 9 a.m.–6 p.m. on the Library’s website. Digital resources, Library card sign-up and more are available at [cmlibrary.org](http://cmlibrary.org).

The novel COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic represents 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 took the proactive measure to close all facilities on March 17, 2020 to encourage social distancing while reducing the spread of disease.

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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).

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**Media resources:**

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

**Social sharing:**

Hashtags: #cmlibrary #icanwithCML

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