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Howard County Library System Celebrates 75 Years of Excellence in Education
NEW SERIES OF COMMEMORATIVE LIBRARY CARDS
USHER IN HCLS' 75th ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Get Yours and Win 2 Tickets to 2015 HCLS Evening in the Stacks: Black Ties / White Diamonds

COLUMBIA, MD -- Howard County Library System (HCLS) is set to begin its seventy-fifth anniversary year with a special gift to the community on Valentine's Day. A series of six, commemorative library cards will be available beginning February 14, 2015 to both current and new customers at all branch locations. The new cards feature beautiful photographs of HCLS' six branches at dusk. The new design also features the anniversary logo and slogan, "celebrating 75 years of excellence in education." Switching to or choosing the new card is optional and there is no charge to customers.

In conjunction with the introduction of the new library cards, customers are invited to show some love for HCLS by entering a social media contest to win two free tickets to Evening in the Stacks on February 28, 2015. Everyone who posts a selfie with their favorite commemorative card to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and/or tumblr using the hashtag #HCLS75 will be eligible. A random winner will be selected from all posts made by midnight Friday, February 20, 2015. Posts must display one of the six new commemorative cards and use #HCLS75. The winner will be drawn on Saturday, February 21, 2015 and posted to all HCLS social media sites.

The commemorative card promotion is the first in a year-long celebration to recognize and celebrate Howard County Library Systems' journey from 1940 to today's 21st century model library. A major component of Howard County's educational system, HCLS delivers high-quality public education to students of all ages. In the past decade items borrowed from HCLS and research assistance interactions have doubled, and the number of both physical and virtual visits to the Library has grown threefold. Attendance at classes and events now reach more than a quarter of a million annually.

Plans are underway for other community-oriented anniversary activities throughout the year.

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