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Howard County Library System

It Isn't Your Parents' Bookmobile!

Digital Bookmobile Makes HCLS Miller Branch First Stop in Maryland During National Tour of 48 States and 4 Provinces

ELLCOTT CITY, MD -- Howard County Library System (HCLS) will be the first stop in Maryland for this year's National Tour of the Digital Bookmobile. On Friday, August 21 from noon to 6 pm at the Miller Branch readers of all ages can visit the Digital Bookmobile and learn how to access HCLS' 42,547 eBooks and 18,569 eAudio digital titles through interactive demonstrations and high-definition instructional videos. The branch is located at 9421 Frederick Road in Ellicott City.

The Digital Bookmobile, which is housed inside an 18-wheel tractor-trailer, is a high-tech update of the traditional bookmobile. The 74-foot community outreach vehicle is equipped with broadband Internet-connected PCs, high definition monitors, premium sound systems, and a variety of portable media players, all designed to help customers explore digital service. Interactive learning stations provide an opportunity for visitors to search HCLS' digital media collection, use supported mobile devices, and sample eBooks, audiobooks, and video. The Gadget Gallery—featuring Kindle® Fire, iPad® Mini, Android™ Galaxy Tablet, NOOK™ HD+, Creative® Zen, Kindle® Paperwhite, Windows® Phone 8, and more—will help visitors discover portable devices that are compatible with HCLS' digital service.

HCLS customers can visit hclibrary.org to access digital content 24/7. A growing collection of bestselling, new release, and classic titles, are available to browse and check out via OverDrive with a valid library card. Once the digital titles have been checked out, readers can enjoy them in the browser or transfer them to their computer or a supported portable device. Many audio titles can also be burned to audio CD. At the end of the lending period, titles will automatically expire and are returned to the digital collection. There are never any late fees or damaged items.

The Digital Bookmobile National Tour began in June in Aurora, Colorado. Once completed in October the vehicle will have traveled to 48 states and four provinces. The National Tour is designed to showcase the digital content services now available at libraries. The Digital Bookmobile is operated by OverDrive, Inc. HCLS Miller B

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