



Allegany County Library System
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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Title: **Allegany County Library System Celebrates National Library Week 2025**

Cumberland, MD – The Allegany County Library System (ACLS) is excited to celebrate National Library Week from April 6-12, 2025, with a variety of special events and activities highlighting the invaluable role of libraries in our communities. This year’s theme, **‘Drawn to the Library,’** celebrates the creative and personal connections that bring people to libraries for learning, inspiration, and community.

Throughout National Library Week, ACLS will showcase the winners of its Library Card Design Contest, celebrating this year’s theme, **‘Drawn to the Library.’** Patrons of all ages submitted creative and inspiring designs, with the finalists selected through a public vote. Library staff chose the winning entries by Maryssa and Carmen based on originality, artistic expression, and their ability to capture the essence of ‘what the library means to you.’ The newly designed, limited edition library cards will be available at all ACLS locations beginning Monday, April 7, while supplies last.

As part of National Library Week tradition, ACLS will host the “Food for Fines” event on Tuesday, April 8, benefiting the Western Maryland Food Bank. Patrons can bring non-perishable food items to any ACLS branch and receive \$1.00 off their library fines per donated item, up to a maximum of \$15.00 per person. Donations must be within their expiration date, unopened, and undamaged. This initiative provides an opportunity for library users to clear overdue fees while supporting a good cause.

ACLS is proud to present screenings of *Free For All: Inside the Public Library*, a compelling documentary that explores the history and enduring impact of public libraries in the United States. Following each screening, attendees will have the opportunity to participate in discussions facilitated by members of the Women’s Action Coalition and the Choose Civility initiative.

- **Tuesday, April 8, 2025 – 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM** at the Frostburg Library. Pizza will be provided. Registration is recommended.
- **Thursday, April 10, 2025 – 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM** at the ACM Thomas Welcome Center

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- **Friday, April 11, 2025 – 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM** at the South Cumberland Library. Pizza will be provided. Registration is recommended.

Free For All: Inside the Public Library highlights the contributions of historical and modern library advocates, including pioneering women who shaped library services, such as Ernestine Rose and Regina Andrews. The film explores libraries as essential civic institutions that provide access to knowledge, resources, and safe spaces for all.

Community support and advocacy are more important than ever to ensure that libraries continue to thrive. The Allegany County Library System invites all community members to participate in these enriching events and celebrate the power of libraries. For more information, visit www.alleganycountylibrary.info or contact your local library.

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