



Allegany County Library System
31 Washington Street, Cumberland, MD 21502
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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Title: **Allegany County Library System Announces 2025-26 Battle of the Books Competition**

Cumberland, MD —The Allegany County Library System, in partnership with Allegany County Public Schools, Bishop Walsh School, Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County, and Garrett County Public Schools, is excited to announce the return of the Battle of the Books, a spirited reading competition open to all students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades.

This annual program challenges students to form teams, read from a list of pre-selected books, and answer questions in a quiz-style competition that celebrates reading, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Key Dates:

- Registration Opens: October 7, 2025
- In-Person Info Sessions for Students & Parents: October 22, November 19, and December 17, 2025, from 3–4 p.m. at the South Cumberland Library
- Virtual Info Session for Students & Parents: November 20, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
- Virtual Info Session for Coaches: November 19, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.
- Registration Deadline: January 6, 2026
- Team Training Sessions: Weekly on Wednesdays, January – March 2026 from 3–5 p.m. at the South Cumberland Library
- Battle of the Books Competition: March 2026

The date of the competition event will be announced at a later time.

Teams are made up of 2–5 students and a coach, and individual students are encouraged to reach out if they don't yet have a team.





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“We are thrilled to bring Battle of the Books to Allegany County this year,” said She Morse, Public Services Coordinator for ACLS. “Battle of the Books not only helps middle school students discover the joy of reading, but also gives them a chance to build confidence, work together, and have fun in the process.”

Students and interested volunteer coaches can complete the interest form on the library’s website at www.alleganycountylibrary.info/battleofthebooks to receive more details about book lists, information sessions, and competition dates.

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