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North Canton Public Library wins Harry Potter librarians' contest from Scholastic to host a 15th anniversary Potter Party

The library will host an extraordinary Harry Potter party for 100 six to ten year olds on August 27, as the New Harry Potter U.S. trade paperback editions are released

NORTH CANTON, Ohio, August 7, 2013 - The North Canton Public Library is honored to be one of 15 libraries nationwide to have been chosen as a winner of Scholastic's Harry Potter Public Library Contest. Scholastic, the U.S. publisher of the Harry Potter series, invited libraries to submit their ideas for a party that would introduce Harry to the next generation of readers. August 27, 2013 marks the 15th anniversary of the first U.S. publication of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, the first book in the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling.

The North Canton Public Library will host the party August 27, 2013 beginning at 4:15 p.m. Christina Weyrick-Cooper, community relations manager for the library said "We were excited to learn about the contest and were elated to find out we were chosen as a winner. Staff from all departments of the library are offering to help with the party. One of our art teachers will instruct Care of Magical Creatures, where children will create their own magical creature, our patron services manager, dressed as Professor Sprout, will help children plant their own magical sprouts, our children's department manager will lead potions class and another member of our children's team will impersonate Professor Trelawney for a guided meditation during Divination class. It may be 15 years later, but we still get very excited about Harry!"

Tickets to board "Hogwarts Express" are available at the children's department desk. The party for children ages six through ten (the next generation of Potter fans) is limited to the first 100 who register. All attendees will have an opportunity to spend their very own galleons at our Honeydukes store, where one of the many wizarding candies offered will be chocolate frogs courtesy of North Canton's Hometown Chocolates. Additionally, all children will leave with a wand, their own copy of the new U.S. trade paperback editions of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, featuring the new cover art by #1 New York Times bestselling author/artist, Kazu Kibuishi, and much more.

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As a winner, the North Canton Library will receive the following from Scholastic:

- 100 copies of the new trade paperback edition of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, with the new cover illustrated by Kazu Kibuishi, to give away at the celebration
- One new paperback boxed set of all seven Harry Potter books signed by Kibuishi for the library
- \$100 gift card towards the Harry Potter celebration
- A Harry Potter event kit with sticker sheets, name tags, bookmarks, activities, and more

A panel of judges from Scholastic read the hundreds of entries and winners were chosen based on creativity, originality, and their promotional plans to help bring Harry Potter to life for a whole new generation of readers. The 15 library winners are (listed alphabetically):

- Anderson County Library (Anderson County, SC)
- Apache Junction Public Library (Apache Junction, AZ)
- Arapahoe Library District (Centennial, CO)
- Carl Sandburg Branch, Livonia Public Library (Livonia, MI)
- DeKalb Public Library (DeKalb, IL)
- Dover Public Library (Dover, DE)
- Kenton County Public Library, Erlanger Branch (Erlanger, KY)
- Lawrence Public Library (Fairfield, ME)
- Meadowridge Library (Madison, WI)
- Newberg Public Library (Newberg, OR)
- North Canton Public Library (North Canton, OH)
- Port Jefferson Library (Port Jefferson, NY)
- Portneuf District Library (Chubbuck, ID)
- Rancho Cucamonga Library (Rancho Cucamonga, CA)
- The Colony Public Library (The Colony, TX)

According to Scholastic, fifteen years after the first U.S. publication of J.K. Rowling's first book, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, there are more than 150 million Harry Potter books in print in the United States alone and the series still hits bestseller lists regularly. The seven Harry Potter books are published in over 200 territories in 74 languages and have sold more than 450 million copies worldwide.

Images of the books are available for media at <http://mediaroom.scholastic.com/harrypotter>.

For additional information, contact Christina Weyrick-Cooper at 330.499.4712 x331 or ccooper@northcantonlibrary.org.

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