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Media Contact:

Melissa Howard

414-286-3032

mhowar@milwaukee.gov

Milwaukee Public Library Announces Grand Opening of New Martin Luther King Jr. Branch on September 6

Milwaukee, WI — Milwaukee Public Library is excited to announce the official grand opening of the new Martin Luther King Jr. Branch Library on Saturday, September 6, 2025. The public is invited to celebrate as a new chapter begins on King Drive with a vibrant space designed to strengthen community, creativity, and connection. Final details for the opening ceremony and community celebration will be announced in the coming weeks.

Rooted in the theme "Amplify," the new Martin Luther King Jr. Branch carries forward Dr. King's mission by creating a space where every voice can be elevated, every dream nurtured, and every neighbor welcomed.

"This new space reflects our deep belief that libraries are more than buildings, they are commitments to the people they serve. Any city that has a healthy library system is a city of hope," said Joan Johnson, City Librarian. "Knowledge is power and this new branch has everything needed to empower its users. I encourage and welcome all to make good use of their newest library and let the MPL team help you and yours realize your full potential."

Located at 2901 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, the new branch is part of the city's continued investment in the King Drive corridor.

"For more than half a century, the Martin Luther King Branch has been an anchor in the Harambee neighborhood, a place for learning, growth, and entertainment," Mayor Cavalier Johnson said. "The library's new home continues that great tradition with even more. It is a wonderful addition that will be loved by library customers and staff."

At 18,000 square feet, the new Martin Luther King library is the third largest branch in the Milwaukee Public Library system, offering expanded resources and reimagined spaces for all ages. The design emphasizes community engagement, creative exploration, and environmental sustainability, with several key features:



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- A fully equipped makerspace, including 3D printing, podcasting equipment, and other up-to-date technology to support creativity, innovation, and digital literacy.
- A large community room designed to host neighborhood meetings, programs, and cultural events, reinforcing the library's role as a civic gathering space.
- Green building features, including solar panels, geothermal heating and cooling, and infrastructure for future electric vehicle charging stations.

The new building was made possible through a combination of funding from the City of Milwaukee's Tax Incremental District (TID) program, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and support from the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation.

About Milwaukee Public Library

Milwaukee Public Library is an anchor institution that helps build healthy families and vibrant neighborhoods – the foundation of a strong Milwaukee. Since 1878, Milwaukee Public Library has been a free provider of education and information for residents of Milwaukee and beyond. With 13 locations, and more than three million items in circulation, MPL offers free access to a rich collection of materials both physical and digital, access to technology, classes, exhibitions, programming and more. From toddlers to scholars, MPL serves more than one million patrons who come through its doors annually and many more around the globe who use its resources at www.mpl.org. To offer this wide array of free programming, MPL relies on both public and private funding. Learn more about how to support Milwaukee Public Library at mpl.org/support.

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