



MEMPHIS  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY  
INFORMATION CENTER

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## MEDIA NOTIFICATION

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# Naturalization Ceremony to Mark New Beginnings for Hundreds of New Citizens

MEMPHIS, TN – Representing countries from around the world, hundreds of naturalized citizens will begin new lives in the United States on **Friday, June 24, 2016, 11 am** at the **Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library** (3030 Poplar Avenue, meeting rooms A – C). With cheers from family and friends, candidates will experience the American Dream firsthand and embark upon the “pursuit of happiness” for the first time.

“This will be one of the most important days of their lives, one they have dreamed of for a long time,” noted Adult Services Coordinator Wang-Ying Glasgow. “I coordinate all kinds of Library programs but, as a naturalized citizen myself, this ceremony is very special and meaningful to me,” she said.

Director of Libraries Keenon McCloy will serve as keynote speaker for the event, which is hosted in partnership with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (Memphis field office). The Daughters of the American Revolution (Jonesboro and Crittenden chapters) will be on hand to welcome citizens one by one. (The event is open to the media, candidates, and their families, but it is closed to the general public.)

“Candidates come from all corners of the world to escape war and poverty, and to pursue religious freedom or economic prosperity. In short, they are seeking a better life, and they will never forget this life-changing day they spent at the Memphis Public Library,” Glasgow said.

Director of Libraries Keenon McCloy commented, “The Memphis Public Library System is proud to be a part of these uplifting ceremonies that celebrate hard work, family, and perseverance. The excitement in the room is palpable. I have the esteemed honor of being among the first to welcome and congratulate our newest citizens and to share the amazing programs, services, and resources available to them at the Library. We look forward to assisting them and their families as they experience the endless possibilities that come with their new citizenship status.”

For more information about the Naturalization Ceremony at Central Library, call (901) 415-2709.

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**ABOUT THE MEMPHIS PUBLIC LIBRARY & INFORMATION CENTER:**

The Memphis Public Library & Information Center (MPLIC) is committed to satisfying the customer's need to know. With 18 Library locations throughout the Greater Memphis area, MPLIC offers an array of programs, services, and resources for citizens and visitors to enjoy. They include JobLINC mobile career services, LINC/2-1-1 telephone referral services, a TV and radio station (WYPL TV-18, WYPL FM 89.3), a small business center, laptops for checkout and free Wi-Fi access, in addition to books, e-books, DVDs, records, compact discs, and educational programs for children, teens, and adults. Customers can find age-appropriate services and a list of Library locations at [www.memphislibrary.org](http://www.memphislibrary.org).

Memphis Public Libraries are publicly and privately funded. Approximately three million people visit the Memphis Public Library & Information Center each year.

**ABOUT THE CITY OF MEMPHIS:**

Memphis is the largest city in Tennessee and a major cultural center for the Southeastern United States. It has a metropolitan population of more than one million. For more information about the City, visit [www.memphistn.gov](http://www.memphistn.gov).