FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Contact Information:
Emily Brown
Public Relations Coordinator
Mid-Continent Public Library
ebrown@mymcpl.org
O: 816.503.4187
M: 816.809.9630

Mid-Continent Public Library Hosts Championship Spelling Bee

Local Students Compete in Jackson-Clay County Bee, Winner to Advance to Nationals

Kansas City, MO – Mid-Continent Public Library is proud to host the 2019 Jackson-Clay County Spelling Bee for students in grades 8 and under, which will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. at MCPL’s Woodneath Library Center (8900 NE Flintlock Road, Kansas City, MO 64157). The winner of this bee will be sent on an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to represent the region in the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee this May.

Contestants in this year’s Jackson-Clay County Spelling Bee qualified for participation by winning their local school or homeschool bee as well as one of two divisional spelling bees that were hosted by Mid-Continent Public Library and Kansas City Public Library earlier this month. During the divisional bees, spellers were given three words, and those who spelled all three correctly qualified to advance to the regional championship bee.

In total, 37 students qualified to compete at the Jackson-Clay County Spelling Bee, which will be organized as a “spell-off,” meaning only one speller can win and advance to the national bee. The spellers will be evaluated by a panel of four judges comprised of current and former staff members from Mid-Continent Public Library. Seth Moses, manager of MCPL’s Colbern Road Branch, will serve as the bee’s pronouncer, and the following will act as the judges and written/digital recorders for the bee:

- Jill Seib-Schaub, former MCPL employee and current Kansas City Royals Hall of Fame Registrar
- Mariah Hone, Information and Readers Services Department at MCPL
- Amy Vajnar, MCPL Oak Grove Branch Manager
- Mackenzie Ahlberg Elliot, Community Programming Department at MCPL

For more information about the 2019 National Spelling Bee, visit spellingbee.com. Also, “Bee” sure to follow the Jackson-Clay County Spelling Bee on Facebook and Twitter to hear the latest buzz and receive live updates on the day of the bee!

###

Access Your World

Mid-Continent Public Library is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 31 branches and three Library-To-Go locations and serving more than 800,000 people in Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties. The Library strives to enrich our citizens and communities through expanding access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration. MCPL is a 2014 National Medal for Museum and Library Service winner. Connect with the Library on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.