The A+ Partners in Education™ initiative between Howard County Library System and the Howard County Public School System is designed to promote scholarship, eliminate student achievement gaps, and expand academic opportunities for students.
Why invite HCLS to your classes, meetings, and events!

All HCLS classes are free and:

- Promote Howard County Library System (HCLS) curriculum components that benefit students.
- Support curricula for every grade.
- Introduce students to research tools.
- Familiarize teachers, students, and parents with HCLS’ online research and homework help tools.
- Assist with communication with parents.
- Provide classes of interest to parents of elementary, middle, and high school students.
- Strengthen the connection between and among school, parents, students, and HCLS.

Classes appropriate for PTA/PTSA/homeschool representatives to schedule are marked with an asterisk.
FOR TEACHERS & PARAEDUCATORS:
HOW TO SCHEDULE A+ CLASSES
available October - April
Mondays - Thursdays

Please provide the following:
1. Title of A+ class
2. School name
3. Grade and number of students
4. Preferred dates (three choices)
5. Preferred times
6. Your name and title
7. Phone number and email address
8. Any special considerations or requests

Please call with the above information or complete form at hclibrary.org/teachers. After the A+ class, please complete an online evaluation form.

- May and June are reserved for summer reading promotions.
- Request all classes at least three weeks in advance.
- A faculty member must be present for the purpose of classroom management.
- Please inform HCLS instructors two weeks in advance if classes need to be adapted for the needs of English Language Learners (ELL) and/or special education students and groups.
- Classes are intended for one pod or classroom group.
- See page 5 for whom to contact for scheduling elementary classes, and page 10 for middle and high school classes.
- Invite an HCLS instructor to a staff meeting.
WHY BOOK AN A+ CLASS FROM HCLS FOR PTA/PTSA EVENTS?
available October - April

Invite HCLS instructors to teach A+ classes, provide library card applications and books for borrowing, and discuss research tools at your school’s next special event. Classes appropriate for PTA/PTSA/homeschool representatives to schedule are marked with an asterisk.

Opportunities include:

Back to school night  
Science or STEM fair orientation  
Parent/child evenings  
Freshman orientation  
PTA presentations  
Reading night  
Math night  
Middle school orientation  
Mid-term mania  
College night

To schedule a class for a PT(S)A-sponsored event or meeting, please contact Rita Snyder three weeks in advance at 410.313.0760 or rita.snyder@hclibrary.org.
### HCLS Central Branch

Elisabeth Proffen  
410.313.7880  
elisabeth.proffen@hclibrary.org

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<th>Location</th>
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<td>Bryant Woods</td>
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<td>Clarksville</td>
<td>Longfellow</td>
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### HCLS East Columbia Branch

Chris Mancini  
410.313.7738  
christine.mancini@hclibrary.org

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<td>Guilford</td>
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### HCLS Elkridge Branch

Phil Lord  
410.313.5083  
phil.lord@hclibrary.org

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### HCLS Glenwood Branch

Tanya Malveaux  
410.313.5580  
tanya.malveaux@hclibrary.org

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<td>Dayton Oaks</td>
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### HCLS Miller Branch

Stacey Freedman  
410.313.1980  
stacey.freedman@hclibrary.org

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<td>Hollifield Station</td>
<td>St. Johns Lane</td>
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<td>Manor Woods</td>
<td>Veterans</td>
<td>Worthington</td>
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### HCLS Savage Branch

Amber Haslinger  
410.313.0760  
amber.haslinger@hclibrary.org

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STORIES GALORE*  (LANGUAGE ARTS)  
Students learn that reading is fun as HCLS instructors read new tales and old favorites. Teachers may request a particular theme. 30 min.; grades pre-K-3.

MULTICULTURAL MEDLEY  (LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES)  
Students sample cultures of the world through stories, songs, and activities. 45 min.; grades K-5.

IT ALL ADDS UP  (MATH)  
Students have fun practicing math skills in everyday life with math concept books, stories, and other activities. 30-45 min.; grades 1-2.

TELL ME A TALE  (LANGUAGE ARTS)  
Students identify and discuss characteristics of both traditional and fractured fairy tales (grade 2) or tall tales (grade 3), through stories and activities. 45-60 min.

SPIRIT OF AMERICA  (SOCIAL STUDIES)  
Students test their knowledge of people, places, and events as they play a game. Students are also inspired with short talks on related fiction and nonfiction books. Teachers may choose Maryland, Colonial America, or the American Revolution. 60 min.; grades 4-5.

BOOKS GALORE*  (LANGUAGE ARTS)  
Give your students a shot of reading inspiration with tempting talks on the latest and greatest fiction and non-fiction titles, including narrative non-fiction. 30 min.; grades 3-5.

* denotes classes appropriate for PTA or Homeschool organization events.
FAMILY EVENT VISITS
HCLS instructors visit schools to promote including homework and research tools. Families, grades pre-K-5.

HOMEWORK & PROJECT HELP *
(TECHNOLOGY)
Students and parents are introduced to online tools to become more savvy users, including accessing HCLS’ online research tools, searching the catalog, and using AskUsNow, Online Homework Assistance, and LearningExpress. PTAs, homeschool associations, or teachers may request HCLS instructors address how to choose credible web sites and access science fair resources. 45 min.; parents, teachers, or grades 4-5.

ALL ACCESS PASS
Ensure every student has the tools to succeed. HCLS instructors can visit your class to provide students with library card applications.

FIELD TRIP
Arrange to bring your students to any HCLS branch for a guided tour of research tools and to receive library cards. Arrange for card applications before a visit.

* denotes classes appropriate for PTA and homeschool association events.
STUDENT CONTESTS
Check source, visit hclibrary.org/students, or call a branch for details.

BUMBLEBEE
Grades 1 - 3
BumbleBees prepare first, second, and third graders for the Howard County Library System Spelling Bee through classroom and/or school spelling bees. Students build vocabularies, learn spelling tips, and gain confidence in front of an audience. HCLS provides suggested guidelines, lists of suggested words, and book lists. Register* by Oct 31.

Sponsored by the seven Howard County Rotary Clubs.

HCLS RUBE GOLDBERG CHALLENGE
Grades 4 - 5
Teams of fourth and fifth grade students in Howard County incorporate at least three simple machines into a more complicated contraption that will crush and recycle an empty soft drink can. Submissions include video of the machine accomplishing this task and written documentation of how the machine was developed. Register* by November 21.

Sponsored by M&T Bank and Friends of Howard County Library System. Coordinated by Howard County Library System and the Howard County Public School System.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS
Grade 5
Battle of the Books is a fun, innovative academic competition that engages fifth grade students. Teams of five contestants answer questions about 16 books they have read from a preselected list.

Information meeting takes place at HCLS Miller Branch on Tuesday, October 21 at 7 pm.

Register* at hclibrary.org/battleofthebooks from Oct 20 through Nov 3.

Battle of the Books is presented by Josephine B. Scheffenacker Education Trust. Also sponsored by Friends of Howard County Library System, Howard County Public School System, M&T Bank, Frank and Yolanda Bruno Fund, and the Columbia-Patuxent Rotary Club.
HCLS SPELLING BEE
Grades 4 - 8
Students in grades 4 through 8 learn standard English spelling, increase vocabulary, and recognize the meaning, form, and function of words as they compete in classroom and school bees. Winners of school bees advance to HCLS’ regional bee in March 2014. The winner of the regional bee competes in the National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC. The HCLS Spelling Bee is organized under the rules of the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Call 410.313.7750 to register* by September 30.

SHERLOCK HOLMES ESSAY CONTEST
Grade 7
Seventh grade students increase their understanding of the literary forms of mystery and suspense as they read and respond to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s “The Adventure of the Speckled Band.” Entries due by May 31, 2015.
In partnership with Watson’s Tin Box and Howard County Public School System.

*Sponsored by BB&T, Friends of Howard County Library System, and Howard County Public School System.
DESIGNATED A+ BRANCHES FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

If you have questions or want to schedule a class, please call or email the appropriate person listed below.

**HCLS CENTRAL BRANCH**
Maggie Smith  
410.313.7870  margaret.smith@hclslibrary.org

- Atholton HS
- Cedar Lane
- Clarksville MS

- Harpers Choice MS
- Homewood School
- Lime Kiln MS

- River Hill HS
- Wilde Lake HS
- Wilde Lake MS

**HCLS EAST COLUMBIA BRANCH**
Mark Bizokas  
410.313.7711  mark.bizokas@hclslibrary.org

- Lake Elkhorn MS
- Applications & Research Lab

- Oakland Mills HS
- Oakland Mills MS

**HCLS ELKRIDGE BRANCH**
Deborah Bosilovich  
410.313.5085  deborah.bosilovich@hclslibrary.org

- Bonnie Branch MS
- Elkridge Landing MS

- Howard HS
- Long Reach HS

- Mayfield Woods MS
- Thomas Viaduct MS

**HCLS GLENWOOD BRANCH**
Lori Conforti  
410.313.5583  lori.conforti@hclslibrary.org

- Folly Quarter MS
- Glenelg HS

- Glenwood MS
- Marriotts Ridge HS

- Mount View MS

**HCLS MILLER BRANCH**
Courtney Gardinier  
410.313.1964  courtney.gardinier@hclslibrary.org

- Burleigh Manor MS
- Centennial HS

- Dunloggin MS
- Ellicott Mills MS

- Mt. Hebron HS
- Patapsco MS

**HCLS SAVAGE BRANCH**
Sarah Cooke  
410.313.0760  sarah.cooke@hclslibrary.org

- Hammond MS
- Hammond HS

- Murray Hill MS
- Patuxent Valley MS

- Reservoir HS
MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL
A+ CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

HCLS classes for middle and high school students are designed to promote critical and selective use of sources, including HCLS’ online research tools. These classes expose students to essential 21st century skills, challenging students to consider the source and format of the information that they are using, to be thoughtful participants in the research process, and to select the most appropriate source for given assignments. Review the class descriptions that follow, and invite an HCLS instructor to visit your classroom today.

BOOK CLUB
(LANGUAGE ARTS)
Allow HCLS instructors to provide up to eight copies of books for your book club, or facilitate the discussion with your students. Students demonstrate the ability to identify and explain an author’s use of literary devices, such as plot, setting, and characterization, as they determine the critical or central ideas of a text. Length, text selections and content determined by need. Grades 6 & up.

CAREER & COLLEGE BOUND*
(LANGUAGE ARTS, STUDENT SERVICES)
Students learn to conduct effective research about colleges and/or careers. Career presentations include details on job descriptions, salary expectations, and required educational achievement or training, as well as information about choosing a career and occupational outlook.

College presentations discuss school selection and admission requirements. Students learn how to access details about colleges and financial aid, manage time during the application process, and understand the goal of an essay question in order to develop effective college essays. Grades 6 & up.

* denotes classes appropriate for PTA and homeschool organization events.
ELL EXPERIENCE
(ESOL)
Students develop listening, speaking, language, and literacy skills through exposure to high interest, English language HCLS materials. Students reinforce existing skills using HCLS materials in their home languages. Materials can be borrowed from the classroom, or you can arrange a tour of your designated A+ branch. Length determined by need; grades 6 & up.

HISTORY DAY PROJECT PREPARATION
(SOCIAL STUDIES)
Students identify resources to formulate historical questions; access historical data including primary source material, secondary source material, and graphic organizers; and learn to identify the author or source of an historical document or narrative. Includes introduction to HCLS online research tools. 45 min.; grades 6 & up.

LIVE HOMEWORK HELP
(LANGUAGE ARTS, MATH, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, STUDENT SERVICES)
Students learn to access free homework support from trained educators via hclibrary.org. May be combined with another class. 45 min.; grades 6 & up.

RAISING READERS:
MORE THAN JUST READING THE WORDS
(EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION)
HCLS children’s instructors teach secondary students how to motivate emerging readers through the use of books and teaching tools. Students also learn about HCLS resources for children and educators. Learn how to engage a young audience from professionals who do it every day. 50 min.; grades 9 & up.

* denotes classes appropriate for PTA or homeschool organization events.
MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL
A+ CLASS DESCRIPTIONS
available October - April
Mondays - Thursdays

RECOMMENDED READS
(LANGUAGE ARTS)
Students develop a positive reading attitude and cultivate a personal interest in a variety of genres, as HCLS instructors promote the subject area of your choice, including some narrative nonfiction. Length determined by need. Grade 6 & up. Suggest a theme, or ask us to feature:

- BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIR
- BLACK EYED SUSAN NOMINEES
- FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION
- GREAT SUMMER READS
- HIGH-INTEREST TITLES FOR RELUCTANT READERS
- HISTORICAL NOVELS
- MATERIALS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS
- MULTICULTURAL TITLES
- MYSTERY FICTION
- NEW BOOKS
- REALISTIC FICTION

RELIABLE RESEARCH
(LANGUAGE ARTS, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, STUDENT SERVICES)
Students become familiar with methods for conducting reliable research as they develop skills to evaluate the quality and authority of sources and determine the most appropriate resources to meet an identified need. Includes an introduction to Howard County Library System’s online research tools. May be tailored to a specific class assignment. 45 min.; grades 6 & up.

STEM FAIR STARTERS
(STEM)
Students identify appropriate books, periodicals, and online research tools to generate meaningful scientific questions, design experimental approaches, and compare new data with previously discovered results. 45 min.; grades 6 & up.

* denotes classes appropriate for PTA or homeschool organization events.
Middle and high school students are invited to experience the latest technology and software in HCLS’ HiTech STEM education initiative. Students explore science, technology, engineering, and math via hands-on video, music, game app, and eBook projects.

Visit hclibrary.org/hitech_events for a calendar of classes.

Classes include:
- 3D Design
- Augmented Reality
- Bungee
- Carver Science
- Catapult
- Code Exploration
- Code-plosion
- Computer Illustration
- Curie, Radiology & Pathology
- CyberSecurity Camp
- DNA
- Green Energy
- H2O and You
- Hovercraft
- Infectious Diseases
- Intro to Engineering
- Math Runner 1
- Middle School Robotics Challenge
- Music Technology
- Periodic Build
- Programming with C++
- Quadrotor Flight Controller
- SAT Prep
- Unity Game Designer
- Using JavaScript
- Wearable Technology
- Weather Balloons
SPECIAL EVENTS

HCLS instructors can teach A+ classes, provide library card applications and books for borrowing, and discuss research tools at your school’s next special event, such as:

• Reading or Math night
• Science or STEM fair events
• Back to school night
• PTA presentations
• College night

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