

COUNTY OF MERCER

McDADE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
640 SOUTH BROAD STREET
P.O. BOX 8068
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08650-8068

BRIAN M. HUGHES
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DATE: Dec. 5, 2017
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Julie Willmot
(609) 278-7137

MERCER COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM EARNS NINTH PRESTIGIOUS FIVE-STAR RATING

TRENTON, N.J.—Mercer County’s acclaimed library system once again has been recognized for excellence. Library Journal, a monthly publication for library professionals, recently released its 2017 ratings for the nation’s public libraries and ranked the Mercer County Library System among the nation's best libraries for the 10th consecutive year.

The Library Journal Index of Public Library Service rated 7,409 public libraries using a variety of data, and only 259 received star designations. The Mercer County Library System earned a five-star rating, the prestigious designation that was awarded for the first time in 2008, then again from 2009 through 2013, and in 2015 and 2016.

The Mercer County Library System was one of just three libraries in New Jersey to receive this top honor, and the only public library in New Jersey to receive a five-star designation within its budget category, where it placed seventh out of 30 libraries nationwide.

“The Mercer County Library System works very hard to meet the needs of a diverse population, so it is an honor to have the library system’s extensive collection, service to the community, and numerous program offerings recognized,” said Mercer County Executive Brian M. Hughes. “I’m delighted that our library system has once again been recognized as a five-star library.”

The criteria for ranking the libraries were measures that indicate public service — per capita circulation, visits, program attendance and public Internet computer use.

“Receiving a five-star rating from a publication such as Library Journal is an honor and means that we are nationally recognized as a public library that delivers high service and excellence to our patrons,” said Library Director Ellen Brown. “We are all very proud to be able to offer these types of services to our communities.”

The Mercer County Library System, made up of nine conveniently located branches, is committed to providing the materials and services that satisfy the educational, informational, recreational and cultural needs of its diverse community and strives to encourage a lifelong interest in reading. For information about programs and services, please visit your local branch or www.mcl.org.