



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Louisville Library and JCPS Partner to Provide Extended Adult Literacy Services**

### *Classes Held in Newly Renovated Main Library*

**Louisville, KY (May 4, 2010)** ----- The Louisville Free Public Library and Jefferson County Public Schools have joined forces to present a new and more expansive series of adult literacy classes and services as announced today by Mayor Jerry Abramson, JCPS Superintendent Sheldon Berman and Library Director Craig Buthod.

The partnership grew out of an increasing demand for additional educational services to adults entering and re-entering the workforce or seeking higher education attainment. Currently, the JCPS Adult and Continuing Education Division is funded by Kentucky Adult Education to serve more than 9,000 adults annually. More than 800 adults earn their GED through the Jefferson County Program each year.

The Library will dedicate the second floor of the historic Carnegie Library's west wing and include furnished classroom and administrative space as well as state-of-the-art wired learning services and resources. The area was already under renovation as part of the Main Library's repair and restoration activities resulting from the August 2009 flood. Funding for the project is provided by the Library Foundation as part of the Main Branch Landmark Initiative.

JCPS is providing professional staffing, nationally approved curricula and assessment services and will offer a regular schedule of classes as well as selected classes on demand, particularly those associated with GED attainment and college preparation. The program also provides opportunities for trained volunteers.

"We need to support all of our residents who want to prepare for new or better jobs or want to attend college," said Mayor Abramson. "What better way to accomplish these goals than to bring together two of our community's finest educational institutions, both with the mission and resources to support such important work."

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“We are committed to bringing our students of all ages and levels together with the resources they need where they need them,” said Superintendent Berman. “When we reach out to provide educational attainment to our challenged students of today, we are reaching across generations to better ensure that their children will seek and be served by lifelong learning.”

Together, the two organizations will identify and recruit potential participants through their daily work with students who have had their education interrupted or adults who are in a challenging and volatile job market.

“Many of our patrons at the Main Library are working on furthering their education,” said Buthod. “We’re excited to be able to offer greater resources to help them reach their educational goals. As in so much of what we do, JCPS is a natural partner.”

While the designated space for the classes is still under construction, it is expected that the adult literacy program will be fully operational by this fall.

The Main Library is hosting a Grand Re-Opening of its new renovations and restoration on Sunday, May 15, from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm. The entire community is invited.

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The Main Library was built in 1908 and the north side section added in 1969. The library on York Street sees an average of 2,200 visitors per day. It is open Monday through Thursday from 9 am until 9 pm and Friday and Saturday from 9 am until 5 pm.

The Louisville Free Public Library connects the residents of Louisville and Jefferson County to knowledge and information at 18 locations and on the Web at [www.lfpl.org](http://www.lfpl.org). For more information, go to [www.lfpl.org](http://www.lfpl.org) or call 502-574-1611.