**Upcoming Youth Events**

**Please join LBPH as we host several events across the state. There will be lots to be learned, enjoyed, and remembered.**

**Water Quality Test Kit**

Looking for families who want to be part of some innovative family fun!

In collaboration with Cornerstones of Science (COS), The National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) is offering a new resource to public libraries to help library staff support citizen science outreach efforts in local communities through a fun, accessible, loanable kit for families. “Test the Waters” Family Exploration Kit will be available starting in April 2020. Cornerstones of Science have been working with public libraries for over 20 years to create science experiences that spark curiosity and foster a deeper understanding of the world around us.

The Maryland State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in partnership with Cornerstones of Science wants to make these kits accessible to those who are visually impaired. We are looking for a few families who would be willing to try the Water Quality Kit at home and offer feedback. The feedback will give COS insight as to the accessibility of the kit and ways to improve its content before its release in April. The kits are geared towards children in grades 5 and up. Additionally, we would like families with parents or children who are visually impaired.

Requirements to Participate:

1. The family must be willing to complete the activities within the kit at home by February 21st.

2. Return the kit to MD LBPH and complete a user survey.

3. Participate in an interview session with MD LBPH and COS on Saturday, February 22nd to offer feedback. The session will be a 30-45 minute face to face interview. Time will be set between (10 a.m. – noon).

4. Location of the Interview:

Enoch Pratt Library Central Library

400 Cathedral Street

Baltimore, MD 21201

Families who participate will be compensated with a $25 Visa gift card. If you are interested in participating, please contact LaShawn Myles, MD LBPH youth librarian, at [lashawn.myles@maryland.gov](lashawn.myles@maryland.gov%20) or 410-230-2455.

**Make and Take Braille Book**

Location:             Glen Burnie Regional Library

                           1010 Eastway, Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Time:                   **10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

Date:                    **Monday, March 9th**

Reading stimulates the imagination, stirs the emotions, and provokes thought. As many sighted children are exposed to letters, words, and books each day from a very young age, a child who is blind or visually impaired should be exposed to braille within his or her environment long before beginning to read.  Join the youth librarian from The Maryland Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, as we learn helpful tips and make an accessible braille book.  Each family that attends will receive an assortment of free braille books to encourage early literacy.

**Build a Better Book Workshop**

Location:             Anne Arundel County Public Library

                           Linthicum Community Library

400 Shipley Rd, Linthicum Heights, MD 21090

Time:                   **6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

Date:                   **Monday, March 16th**

How do you make a book better for all? The Maryland State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) will partner together with public libraries to execute the Build a Better Book Project. The purpose of this project is to help middle and high school youth develop technology skills and learn about STEAM careers. Youth will learn about Universal Design Principles to design and create accessible, multi-modal picture books, graphics, and games that can be seen, touched, and heard. Join us and learn more.

**LBPH + MSB Spring Job Fair 2020**

The Maryland Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped &

The Maryland School for the Blind

**Location:** MSB Campus – 3501 Taylor Ave. – Baltimore, MD 21236

**Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Date: Saturday, March 28th**

This is a family event for students that are visually impaired or blind preparing for the transition from high school. Job, Career and Secondary Education resources available from DORS (Division of Rehabilitation Services), The Disabilities Department at UMBC, MSB’s Career Education and Transition Programs and other community organizations.

It’s never too early to start thinking about your future. Join us for a day packed with opportunities for networking and creating a game plan for your future. It’s time to make those connections for the next steps.

Register at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1nNjcl_wiclH_C1nDjS0bRAPZIYhKGtQ-Osh4rPAsN6o/edit>

**Maryland Black- Eyed Susan Book (BES) Tasting**

The BES Award honors outstanding picture books, chapter books, and graphic novels. Each year 15 picture books, 10 chapter books, and 10 graphic novels are nominated for the award. Students in the state of Maryland vote for the winning book in each category.

Come and share your thoughts about your favorite (BES) book. Sample a few books, **cast your vote** and enjoy some family fun.

**Location:** MD Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

415 Park Avenue

Baltimore, MD 21201

**Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Date: Saturday, April 4th**