



COUNTY of CUMBERLAND



*Public Library & Information Center*

*Winner of the National Medal for Museum and Library Service*

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – Dec. 2, 2016  
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### ***Library Recognized by NC Public Library Directors Association*** *Library receives three distinguished awards*

Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center has received three awards from the NCPLDA. The library received outstanding awards for Teen Library Programming with the Vocational Job Fair for teens and young adults, the Adult Library Programming for It's a WRAP! Winter Reading & Activity Program and Staff Development Program for Calculating the Caldecott. These awards are the result of library staff's hard work planning programs that improve serving the evolving needs of Cumberland County residents. The awards were presented to the Library Director, Jody Risacher, at the annual banquet on Dec. 1.

The Vocational Job Fair was designed for teens and emerging adults with little or no job experience. It provides a place to connect with prospective employers, to explore potential careers and gain valuable job seeking skills. The Vocational Job Fair offered résumé review, help with online applications and interview tips and practice. Over 600 people attended three fairs held in 2015 and 2016.

It's a WRAP! (Winter Reading & Activity Program) was a fun way to encourage customers to interact with their library during a traditionally slower time of year. The library had 485 children and 465 adults participate in the inaugural It's a WRAP! Program in 2015-2016. A second program is planned for January 2017.

Calculating the Caldecott is a three-part staff training that earned the Staff Development Project Award. The Caldecott Medal is awarded to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children published in the U.S. during a given year. Fifteen library staff members attended this training designed to enhance Youth Services' ability to assess children's literature critically and make age-appropriate recommendations based on the Caldecott award criteria. The varied sessions encouraged participants to actively read and suggest children's books for the Mock Caldecott award while continuing to develop their skills in book evaluation.

For more information about these awards and free library programs, call 483-7727 or visit [www.cumberland.lib.nc.us](http://www.cumberland.lib.nc.us).

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*The North Carolina Public Library Directors Association is a 501(c)4 organization made up of the directors of the state's eighty public libraries. Its mission is to share professional knowledge and experience for the good of all members, to serve as advocates for public libraries with the state legislature, to give voice to the aspirations of the public library community, and to serve as the primary liaison between the state library agency and the public libraries.*

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