

## **Media Alert**

Date: July 20, 2022 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Stephanie Bonestell Library Public Relations Officer

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## Durham County Library Wins National Association of Counties Award for Innovation League Program

**Durham, NC** — Durham County Library is pleased to announce its receipt of a National Association of Counties (NACo) award for its cutting-edge program, Innovation League. NACo brings together more than 3.6 million employees from over 2,500 counties to promote and recognize excellence in county government. Innovation League was among seven units of Durham County Government recognized for winning a NACo award at the July 11 Board of County Commissioners meeting.

Composed of four individual month-long sessions over the course of a year, Innovation League provides adaptable, themed learning experiences for underserved and low-income youth throughout Durham. Innovation League empowers participants to collaborate, think critically, and solve problems through hands-on learning. With the benefit of Durham County Library's abundant resources, Innovation League participants integrate physical and digital resources to learn, be, and create whatever they dedicate their minds to.

"It was such an honor to receive a national-level award for our work with Innovation League," said Gracey Gordon, senior librarian and STEAM Services Manager. Teen Services Librarian Ciera Williams shares her colleague's enthusiasm, saying "I'm so proud not only of the work the library has done, but also of the achievements of the participants in this program. We can't wait to see this initiative continue positively impacting and empowering our staff and community."

For more information about Innovation League, please contact Gracey Gordon at <a href="mailto:ggordon@dconc.gov">ggordon@dconc.gov</a> or call 919-560-9318.

Durham County Library encourages discovery, connects the community, and leads in literacy. As a department of Durham County Government, the library furthers Goal 1 of the county's Strategic Plan by enhancing cultural, educational, and creative opportunities. For more information about the library, visit <u>DurhamCountyLibrary.org.</u>

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