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The Library announces partnership with HATCH

Workforce program will run café at the new South Huntsville Public Library

HUNTSVILLE (August 9, 2021) – The Huntsville-Madison County Public Library announced today that HATCH, Huntsville’s new hospitality workforce training program, will run a full service café at the new South Huntsville Public Library, opening next month.

“We are so excited about this partnership,” said Cindy Hewitt, HMCPL’s Executive Director. “One of HMCPL’s focus areas is increasing workforce trainings through our libraries and this partnership with HATCH is a natural fit, as we have similar missions.”

HATCH is a nonprofit organization that offers an eight-week job training program that combines life skills workshops and industry-standard culinary and hospitality training to empower youth to lead self-sufficient lives. Trainees work with a professional chef, receive one-on-one job coaching, mental health support, and gain personal finance and workforce readiness skills all while earning a stipend.

"This partnership exemplifies what community is all about," said Garrett Coyne, HATCH’s co-founder. "The new South Huntsville Library will be a pillar of the community for generations and Hatch is grateful to play a small role in that." The cafe will be named the HATCH Café at South Huntsville.

The first cohort of HATCH students starts on August 16. Students from the program will prepare some of the food and will be given the opportunity to work in the café during the program as an externship. Exact operational hours will be announced at a later date, but the café is expected to be open earlier than the library to serve customers during commuting times.

Menu highlights include a variety of salads, wraps, coffee drinks, kid-friendly bento boxes and homemade cookies.

"While developing the menu we've been very mindful of how to best serve our customers," said HATCH Chef Ruth Mercado. "Our kid's bento box perfect for a quick snack is one example of that."

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The new South Huntsville Public Library is located at 7901 -L Bailey Cove Road and is expected to open within the first two weeks of September. The Bailey Cove Branch Library's staff and collection are moving into the new library to begin set up next week.

For more information on HATCH, including on how to apply to the program, visit hatchhsv.com

About Huntsville-Madison County Public Library

This is the public's library. Huntsville-Madison County Public Library (HMCPL) is a nonprofit 10-branch system that serves all of Madison County, Ala. For 200 years, the library has been dedicated to enriching the educational, recreational and cultural lives of communities in Madison County through materials, information and programs that foster a lifelong love of learning. In addition to the collection of over 500,000 items, HMCPL also provides outreach services, a BookMobile and BookBike, online services, training, an extensive digital collection, public-use computers, free Wi-fi, meeting spaces and much more. For more information about HMCPL and its services, please visit hmcpl.org.

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