FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 16, 2020  

**Rockford Public Library will be issuing virtual library cards to better serve Rockford residents during COVID-19 crisis.**

Rockford, IL – In accordance with Governor Pritzker’s Shelter In Place order, Rockford Public Library [RPL] locations are closed to the public through the end of April. However, RPL’s service to the community continues without interruption. Not only is the Library offering remote services, but they have begun to issue Library cards through their website, to people at home. Please visit [www.rockfordpubliclibrary.org](http://www.rockfordpubliclibrary.org) and follow the link on the banner. After submitting a Pre-registration form a circulation manager will contact you via phone.

All events and classes have been canceled until further notice. Material holds will be honored and can be picked up at the time of reopening. Library staff continue to work remotely and serve customer needs through email and telephone services. Please direct all inquiries to [info@rockfordpubliclibrary.org](mailto:info@rockfordpubliclibrary.org), and include your phone number if you would like a telephone call back.

Eligible borrowed materials will be renewed according to RPL’s automatic renewal process. Patrons are encouraged to return borrowed materials to any RPL branch location through external walk-up/drive-up receptacles. The renewal of material loans can also be achieved by calling any RPL location or by visiting our website: [www.rockfordpubliclibrary.org](http://www.rockfordpubliclibrary.org), selecting “MY ACCOUNT” on the top navigation bar, and following the prompts. If cardholders are unable to travel to a location to return materials, fines will be waived.

Digital services available include:
Keeping up with current as well as researching historical news through NEWSBANK
The streaming of tens of thousands of digital materials including:
ebooks, audiobooks through CLOUD LIBRARY, HOOPLA, children’s audio and animated books through TUMBLEBOOK, music through HOOPLA and FREEGAL, movies, television programs through HOOPLA and KANOPY, magazines through FLIPSTER and RB DIGITAL.

Learn something new by taking one of our hundreds of digital courses through UNIVERSAL CLASS or one of dozens of “Great Courses” through KANOPY. Learn a new language through ROSETTA STONE. Stream hundreds of children’s video lessons through SCHOLASTIC GO. Students can keep up with their academics during the break from school by accessing HOMEWORK HELP as well as DMV PRACTICE EXAMS through our website.
All of these databases can be found at: [https://www.rockfordpubliclibrary.org/a-to-z-all-databases/](https://www.rockfordpubliclibrary.org/a-to-z-all-databases/).
About the Library

The Rockford Public Library, founded in 1872 as the second library in Illinois, currently has six facilities, including a performing arts and training center (Nordlof Center), the Hart Interim Library and four Branch Libraries. Rockford Public Library informs, educates, entertains, and provides cultural enrichment to the people of our community.

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