

## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Cumberland County Libraries Join Longwood Gardens' 2024 Community Read

**Mechanicsburg, PA** – Cumberland County book lovers and garden lovers are encouraged to participate in Longwood Gardens' 2024 Community Read - a program designed to encourage reading for pleasure and to start a conversation surrounding gardens, plants, and nature.

To celebrate the eleventh year of the Community Read, readers can experience the inspiration and meaning found in the beauty of gardens. The 2024 selections include the featured book, *The Last Garden in England* by Julia Kelly. Just as Longwood Gardens has brought beauty to the lives of generations, so too does Highbury House—whose lovely gardens are at the center of this historical fiction spanning three generations. For younger readers, the selection is *The Secret Garden*, based on the novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett, adapted by Calista Brill, and illustrated by Adeline Lirius. This is a beautifully illustrated, condensed picture-book version of the classic children's novel.

"Cumberland County's public libraries enjoy a strong partnership with Longwood Gardens through the Community Read," said Carolyn Blatchley, library system executive director. "This year's books focus on the meaning and solace we can all find in gardens using historical fiction and an adaptation of a childhood classic to take us there."

Visit your local Cumberland County Library and check out and read one, or both books! Share with your family and friends. Start a discussion. Attend a virtual author event. And visit [www.CumberlandCountyLibraries.org](http://www.CumberlandCountyLibraries.org) for a complete list of Longwood Gardens' Community Read special programs taking place at libraries throughout Cumberland County in the Spring of 2024.

The Cumberland County Library System (CCLS) has seven local libraries, one branch facility, a system administrative office, and a non-profit foundation. The library system provides service to more than 262,000 people in Cumberland County and a small portion of Franklin County.

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*The Cumberland County Library System is a federated library system consisting of seven member libraries, one branch facility, an administrative headquarters, and a non-profit foundation. Member libraries include Amelia S. Givin Free Library in Mt. Holly Springs, Bosler Memorial Library in Carlisle, Coy Public Library of Shippensburg, East Pennsboro Branch Library in Enola, Fredricksen Library in Camp Hill, John Graham Library in Newville, New Cumberland Public Library, and Simpson Library in Mechanicsburg.*