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## ARL Announces Launch of Humane Education Program, Partnership with Boston Public Library

BPL locations to host monthly youth educational events

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is pleased to announce the launch of its Humane Education Program, which coincides with a special partnership with the Boston Public Library (BPL) to help create the next generation of compassionate animal advocates.

The monthly series entitled *The Fun and Exciting World of Working with Animals*, aims to educate and inspire, and we invite members of the media to attend the next presentation to see this innovative partnership in action.

**Media Availability** 

When: Tuesday, April 11 @ 3:30 p.m.

Where: BPL Codman Square Branch, 690 Washington St., Dorchester, MA

What: Do Cats Visit the Doctor Too?

The BPL events are free and open to youth ages 6-12, and future presentations will feature a variety of topics including the inner workings of an animal shelter, introduction to veterinary care, animal behavior, and being kind to animals. For more information on upcoming events, please visit the events page on the Boston Public Library website.

"For many, our love of animals began at a young age, and this innovative program and partnership with the Boston Public Library allows the city's youth to learn directly from those who work with animals every day, and perhaps begin to forge a path for their own future," stated ARL President and CEO Dr. Edward Schettino. "ARL cannot thank the Boston Public Library enough for the opportunity to inspire the next generation of animal advocates."

"The Boston Public Library is thrilled to partner with the Animal Rescue League of Boston to bring engaging, impactful programming to the youth of Boston," said BPL President David Leonard. "A major focus for the BPL is youth engagement, and we're dedicated to teaming up with organizations in our community that can help our youngest patrons discover their passions, explore their interests, and chart their futures, all in free, safe, and exciting new ways."

Along with ARL's partnership with the Boston Public Library, ARL's Humane Education Program will also offer opportunities at the organization's Dedham Animal Care and Adoption Center for area youth to help build confidence around and to show empathy for all animals in our communities.

ARL's experienced and knowledgeable staff and volunteers will present interactive activities for both children and adults focused on topics related to animal welfare and care. Programs are tailored to the goals, ages and needs of each group and will include a Friday night teen group and youth reading programs, where young people will actually get the chance to have hands-on experiences with the animals in ARL's care, while learning important life lessons.

For more information about ARL's Humane Education Program, please log onto ARL's website.

## ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high-quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2022, ARL served 20,601 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Animal Rescue League of Boston does not receive government grants or public funding and relies on the generosity of our supporters to help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at <a href="mailto:arlboston.org">arlboston.org</a>; and be sure to follow us on <a href="mailto:Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a>, and <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>.

## **About the BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Established in 1848, the Boston Public Library is a pioneer of public library service in America. It was the first large, free municipal library in the United States; the first public library to lend books; the first to have a branch library; and the first to have a children's room.

The Boston Public Library of today is a robust system that includes the Central Library in Copley Square, 25 neighborhood branches, the Norman B. Leventhal Map and Education Center, the Kirstein Business and Innovation Center, and an archival center, offering public access to world-class special collections of rare books, manuscripts, photographs, and prints, along with rich digital content and online services.

The Boston Public Library serves nearly 4 million visitors per year and millions more online. All of its programs and exhibitions are free to all and open to the public.

The Boston Public Library is a department of the City of Boston, under the leadership of Mayor Michelle Wu. To learn more, visit <u>bpl.org</u>.

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