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Newport Beach Public Library Ranked Best in Class

NEWPORT BEACH, Ca. – The Newport Beach Public Library received the highest ranking of California public libraries in its population category according to the recently released Hennen's American Public Library Rankings (HAPLR). The results were announced in the October issue of *American Libraries*, the magazine of the American Library Association.

Newport Beach placed first out of 44 public libraries in communities with populations from 50,000 to 100,000. The HAPLR Index identifies the public libraries in the United States with the highest input and output measures. The study focuses on 15 key factors, including funding levels, collections, staffing, hours open, number of visitors and reference services. Rankings are based on nationwide public library statistics collected from more than 9,000 public libraries.

"The Newport Beach community embraces our public library and this honor reflects that," explained Mayor Edward Selich. "It takes a great deal of commitment from a great number of people to have a library system like ours and we are fortunate to have outstanding leadership, staff, volunteers and community support."

The Newport Beach Public Library has traditionally finished within the top three libraries in its category, generally vying for top honors with Cerritos Public Library which tied for second this year with Mountain View Public Library. Both finished in the 95th percentile. Newport Beach Public Library finished in the 97th percentile. For the complete HALPR report, please visit www.haplr-index.com.

The Newport Beach Public Library system includes the Central Library and three branch libraries. It has a \$5.97 million budget and a staff of 85 employees in library services and cultural arts. The Library has two non-profit support groups, the Friends of the Newport Beach Public Library and the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation.

For more information about the Newport Beach Public Library, please visit www.city.newport-beach.ca.us/nbpl/ or contact Cynthia Pirtle, library services director, at 949-717-3801.