FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Merrimack Valley Library Consortium – Symphony Library Software Press Announcement

Turn up the volume - Symphony[®] delivers a great performance for the Stevens Memorial Library

NORTH ANDOVER, MA -

Whether you like to browse in the Library or download an e-book, Stevens Memorial Library and the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium (MVLC) are pleased to announce Symphony[®], your new online catalog. The Symphony catalog will be available May 18th at the Stevens Memorial Library along with all 35 public libraries in the MVLC.

Why the change? Libraries increasing dependence on computers and the need to keep pace with technology advancements used by our patrons warranted a review of existing software. Recognizing this future, the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium is upgrading the central library software that services its 36 public library members to a system from a company that has the resources and a development plan to support such a future.

Symphony enriches your library experience by providing improved search functions, personalized lists and suggestions, multiple language capabilities, 24/7 mobile-friendly accessibility, and online payments for fees and lost materials now, with a list of more features to come.

When will the change occur? Conversion has already begun. Stevens Memorial Library will be closed for 2 short periods next week as final conversion steps occur. The Stevens will be closed Wednesday evening, May 17^{th} , 5-9 pm and Thursday morning, May 18^{th} , 10 am – 1 pm.

Beginning May 18th, anyone with a current MVLC library card will be able to check out all that Symphony has to offer, simply by logging in to the new online catalog via the Stevens Memorial Library home page. Don't have a library card? Residents of MVLC towns may visit their home town library with a current photo ID and proof of residency to register for an MVLC library card — your ticket to the library's ever-expanding collection of books, ebooks, audio books, music, videos, magazines, and more.

For more details on the software conversion as it pertains to Stevens Memorial Library patrons, read the Stevens' *Library Services Announcement* posted on our website; <u>www.StevensMemLib.org</u>, visit the Library, or contact the Reference Desk at 978-688-9505, ext. 42016. Watch the Stevens website for times for *Introduction to Symphony* sessions for patrons.