



THE  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

of Cincinnati  
and  
Hamilton County

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
**Press Release**

July 13, 2006

### **Jump & Thump at Area Branches with Two-Time Double-Dutch World Champion Ben Clark**



Kids will flip over two-time Double-Dutch World Champion Ben Clark from Happen Inc. as he presents *Thump & Jump* Double-Dutch jump rope demonstrations at several branch libraries this month. The demonstrations are part of the Library's 33<sup>rd</sup> annual summer reading club, **ReadQuest: Get in the Game @ Your Library**, which continues through July 31.

Clark grew up in Richmond, Indiana and received an M.F.A. in ceramics from Wichita State University. Aside from working with clay, he spends a lot of time demonstrating and teaching the sport of jump rope to kids everywhere. Happen, Inc. is a non-profit organization that allows adults and children the opportunity to grow and explore the ways of art together.

#### **Branch Schedule**

- Thursday, July 20, 2:00 p.m.: Elmwood Place, 6120 Vine Street, 369-4452
- Friday, July 21, 3:00 p.m.: Greenhills, 7 Endicott Street, 369-4441
- Wednesday, July 26, 2:00 p.m.: Loveland, 649 Loveland-Madeira Road, 369-4476
- Friday, July 28, 2:00 p.m.: North Central, 11109 Hamilton Avenue, 369-6068

#### **History of Double Dutch**

In 1973, David A. Walker, then a New York City Police Community Affairs Detective, joined by his partner Detective Ulysses Williams, developed the street game of Double Dutch into the World Class Sport that it is today. With the assistance of physical education instructors, they revitalized the game by developing it into a competitive team sport. On February 14, 1974, the first Double Dutch tournament was held with nearly 600 fifth, sixth, seventh and eight grade students participating. Since that initial tournament, competitive Double Dutch has expanded with citywide and national championships. Nearly 100,000 girls and boys representing schools and community centers throughout the United States and world compete for team positions at the national and international events.

✓ **Our goal is to make our programs accessible to everyone. Please request ADA services one week in advance at (513) 369-4400 (TTY-4409)**

✓ **Information about events at the Main Library and 41 branch libraries is available on the Internet site: [www.CincinnatiLibrary.org](http://www.CincinnatiLibrary.org).**