

February 8, 2014

Mr. Felton Thomas, Jr.
Executive Director/CEO
Cleveland Public Library
325 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I would like to thank you, and Cleveland Public Library's Board of Trustees, administration, staff and patrons, for recently selecting me to receive your 2014 Drum Major for Change Award. The award presentation at the Library's 29th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Program, held on Monday, January 20, 2014, at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch was truly awesome!

For the past several decades, in my hometown of the city of Cleveland, I have tried to dedicate my life to empowering the community. Specifically, I have sought to impact change through education, literacy, community service and youth leadership development. I have always believed that our community possesses many gifts and treasures, and, that the Cleveland Public Library is, indeed, one of our community's greatest assets!

Being selected to receive an award associated with the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and bestowed by such a wonderful community treasure as the Cleveland Public Library, was truly an honor and privilege. I was humbled. To be able to share the memorable experience with my children, parents, family, fraternity, employer, and community, including my third grade teacher, seventh grade science teacher, and high school band teacher from the Cleveland Public Schools was truly an incredible experience!

Thank you for the cherished recognition, and, thank you for what you and the entire Cleveland Public Library offers to our community, region, and nation. I will continue serving our community, as best that I can, as a "drum major for change", and will continue to promote and support the Cleveland Public Library, always!

Sincerely,

Kenneth D. Hale