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## NATIONAL LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH @ BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES



### MEDIA RELEASE

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### *National Library Card Sign-up Month @ Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries*

#### *“What my Library Means to Me” Contest Announced*

What’s the best way to prepare children for the school year? Make sure they have a library card! A library card means access to millions of books, periodicals, reference materials, e-books, homework help, and other tools needed to succeed. September is **“National Library Card Sign-Up Month”** and the Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries encourage you to visit one of the 37 libraries to get your free library card today.

“A Library card can open the door to discovery because you have access to information through books, computers, online resources, media, engaging programs, and much more,” said Mary Jean Jakubowski, director, Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System. “Just walk into any of our libraries and you will see how they are thriving centers of information offering story times, teen book clubs, free downloadable music, job readiness resources, author visits, WiFi – and a whole lot more.”

Getting a library card is easy. Library card applications are available at all 37 local libraries and can also be downloaded at: <http://www.buffalolib.org/content/borrower-information> and brought to the nearest library with a valid form of identification and proof of address. Those under 17 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian with valid identification to obtain a card.

Director Jakubowski also announced that each of the 37 Public Libraries will be giving away prizes for the best entry in the **“What My Library Means to Me”** contest running through the end of September. The contest is open to all and entries can be written or drawn. Winners receive a library book tote bag filled with goodies. Entries can be downloaded at: <http://bit.ly/17R4Pfl>.

Last year, 8.25 million materials were borrowed through the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System. Over 650,000 reference questions were asked; 857,828 computer sessions logged; and 3.2 million online database searches took place. The System wide door count was 3.65 million – which is higher than the combined attendance of all of the local professional sports teams and top cultural organizations.

To learn more about your Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries, visit: [www.BuffaloLib.org](http://www.BuffaloLib.org). Fall hours and library programs and events are also posted on the website. Become a “Fan” of the library on [Facebook](#), and follow us on [Twitter](#), [Pinterest](#) and [Flickr](#).

*Photo features political humorist Mark Russell & his wife.*

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**Tags:**

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