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Information: Joy Testa Cinquino, Assistant Deputy Director
Development & Communications, 716-858-7182

18th ANNUAL BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Teen Reading Competition Hosted by Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries

Free, Family-Friendly Event on Saturday, August 6 @ E.C.C. South

Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries are gearing up for the exciting, annual teen reading trivia competition, ***Battle of the Books*** featuring nearly 250 pre-teen and teens representing 30 different local libraries. ***Battle of the Books*** takes place on **Saturday, August 6** at **Erie Community College-South Campus Gymnasium**, 4041 Southwestern Blvd. in Orchard Park. The public is encouraged to attend and support their favorite library team(s) during the fast-paced, nail-biting final round competition which begins at approximately 11:30 a.m. ***Battle of the Books*** is geared toward families and is free and open to the public.

Now in its 18th year, ***Battle of the Books*** pairs participating library teams against one another. Teams comprised of dedicated young readers, entering sixth through ninth grade, read the same five preselected books and then spend months practicing challenging trivia questions pertaining to each book before the big Battle showdown event in August. This year's book titles are: *NERDS: National Espionage, Rescue, and Defense Society* by Michael Buckley; *Tesla's Attic* by Neal Shusterman; *The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt; *Wild Magic* by Tamora Pierce; and *Chomp* by Carl Hiaasen

2016 *Battle of the Books* teams represent the following libraries:

Amherst Public Library

Boston Free Library

Crane Branch Library in Buffalo

Cheektowaga Public Library

Clarence Public Library

Eden Library

Elma Public Library

Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library in Buffalo

Grand Island Memorial Library

Hamburg Public Library

Lackawanna Public Library

Lancaster Public Library

Newstead Public Library

North Collins Public Library

Orchard Park Public Library

West Seneca Public Library

In 2015, the team from Lancaster Public Library took home the Gold Medal. Marilla Free Library was runner up. **Battle of the Books** is part of the overall New York State Summer Reading initiative – On Your Mark, Get Set, Read! – taking place at all 37 Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries. Summer Reading focuses on fun activities and programs for school-aged children. Summer Reading programs encourage children to read during the summer months in an effort to advance their academic performance. Rich Products, National Grid, National Fuel, The Buffalo News, WGRZ Channel 2, WKSE and WBEN are sponsors of the Library's 2016 Summer Reading programs.

For more information call 858-8900 or visit the Library System's website www.BuffaloLib.org or Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest.

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Buffalo & Erie County Public Library * 1 Lafayette Square * Buffalo, NY 14203 * (716) 858-8900 * Fax: (716) 858-6211

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