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Summer Reading 2017 @ Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries

New Passport Program, Read Down Your Fines & More

What do libraries, passports, maps, race cars, radio DJs, Canalside and millions of good books have in common? They are all a part of the 2017 Summer Reading program announced today by the Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries. All 37 Libraries and the *Library on Wheels* Bookmobile are ready to welcome children and families to dozens of free, motivating Summer Reading activities and events designed to foster a love of reading and a sense of discovery.

Library System Director Mary Jean Jakubowski said, "This year's Summer Reading theme is **Build a Better World!** which is perfect for children of all ages to learn about the amazing community and world we live in." Jakubowski added, "Reading year-round is important – especially in the summer. Study after study shows that summer reading programs raise students' learning levels and help children, teens and young adults retain and enhance their reading skills – meaning they are much better prepared to return back to school each fall."

This year the Library System is unveiling a new **Passport to Reading** contest which encourages families to travel the highways and byways of Erie County to visit all of the public libraries. Library travelers can pick up a special commemorative Passport and have it stamped for a chance to win great prizes including family passes to the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens and the Buffalo Museum of Science. Details: <https://tinyurl.com/ydauc44m> and <https://tinyurl.com/ydd6vsbp>.

Other highlights of the **Build a Better World!** Summer Reading program include:

- **Summer Reading Fun with WYRK & WBLK Radio Announcers** - Beginning Tuesday,

June 20 and running throughout the summer, Disc Jockeys from WYRK and WBLK radio stations will be visiting select libraries and reading to children.

- **Reading Logs, Reading Competitions and Great Prizes** - Children track their summer reads. Incentives and prizes are provided when predetermined reading milestones (number of books read) are reached.
- **Summer Online Reading Challenge** - Adults and teens - Exercise your mind by reading a book or two or three! Then write a short review and post it to the Library's online contest website to win some terrific prizes. One lucky participant will win an Amazon Kindle Fire HDX tablet e-Reader. Children and summer camps can enter as well.
- **Library Night at the Races** - For the fifth year, *Library Night at the Races* takes place at Holland Nascar MotorSports Complex. Saturday, August 19th is the big night. Children read two books and earn a free pass. Libraries will also have discount coupons for adults to attend.
- **Read Down Your Fines** - Children ages 16 and under have an opportunity to pay down overdue library fines through reading. For every 15 minutes of reading, a child earns one Library Buck toward reducing or eliminating overdue fines, now through September 2.
- **Battle of the Books** – Readers are winners in the annual Battle of the Books on Saturday, August 5 in the Erie Community College – South Campus Gym. Now in its 19th year, this popular team trivia competition is open to youth entering grades six through nine. Currently there are 28 teams with over 200 participants registered and reading! Interested in joining a team? Travel to your local library for details. Team members read the same five books to prepare for trivia questions about those books while vying for the coveted Battle title and trophy. Last year Amherst Public Library took the gold medal after competing in a fast-paced lightning round before 500+ fans.
- **Canalside** - Tuesdays, beginning June 27 through August 29, the Library will be stationed outdoors at **Buffalo's Canalside** for **Build a Better World!** super storytelling and craft programs from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 - **Open eBooks** – This is a great reading app just for kids! Thousands of children's books are available to download for free for a period of up to eight weeks. Visit your library for details on the Open eBooks app.
 - **Mayor Byron Brown's Reading Rules Summer Challenge** – Visit your library to learn about this program for children and teens.
- The **Library on Wheels** Bookmobile will be on the road this summer including at Canalside Buffalo, as well as at the Eden Corn Festival Parade on Sunday, August 6 and the Elmwood Avenue Festival of the Arts on Sunday, August 27. See the bookmobile schedule here: <http://www.buffalolib.org/content/bookmobile-event>.

Free library cards are available in all libraries and applications can be downloaded from www.BuffaloLib.org. Parent/guardian with identification must accompany the child to obtain a card. Schools are encouraged to share with the Library their list of Summer Reading assignments per grade. For more information about Summer Reading activities, visit your Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, call 716-858-8900 or visit www.BuffaloLib.org. You can follow the Library on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#) and [Flickr](#).

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Summer Reading is funded, in part, by Ciminelli Real Estate Corporation, Rich Products Corporation, National Fuel, Holmes Elementary School students, The Buffalo News, WGRZ TV 2, WBLK Radio, WYRK Radio and Holland Nascar MotorSports Complex.

Special thanks to In Jest with Nels Ross.

For a New York State Summer Reading overview and additional information for educators, parents and caregivers, go to <http://www.summerreadingnys.org/>.

Alden Ewell Free Library – Building & Construction Magic Show, August 22

Angola Public Library – Aquarium of Niagara Touch Tank, August 12

Audubon Library (Amherst) – The Wondermakers, July 12

Aurora Town Public Library – Brain Games, July 5

Boston Free Library – Digging Dinosaurs, August 3

Central Downtown Library (Buffalo) – Mike Randall and Friends, July 19

Clarence Public Library – Summer Reading Fun, All Summer Long!

Clearfield Branch (Amherst) – The Checkers Show, June 21

Collins Public Library – Popsicle Stick Simple Machines, June 20

Concord Public Library – Zoo Tails with the Buffalo Zoo, August 24

Crane Branch (Buffalo) – Kidding Around Yoga!, July 15

Dudley Branch (Buffalo) – Summer Reading Carnival, August 22

East Clinton Branch (Buffalo) – Ice Cream Social & Chalk Party, July 15

East Delavan Branch (Buffalo) – Lego Club, July 11

Eden Library – Let's Build It, June 27

Egbertsville–Snyder Branch (Amherst) – Niagara University Repertory Theatre, July 26

Elma Public Library – Talk on the Wild Side with Hawk Creek, August 3

Grand Island Memorial Library – In Jest, July 6

Hamburg Library – Family Movie Night, July 14

Kenilworth Branch (Tonawanda) – Primate Sanctuary, August 8

Kenmore Branch (Tonawanda) – Pee Wee Puppets, August 1

Lackawanna Public Library – Summer Reading Fun, All Summer Long!

Lake Shore Branch (Hamburg) – Cookbook Club for Kids, August 22

Lancaster Public Library – Nickel City Reptiles, July 6

Marilla Free Library – Gravitational Bull, August 8

Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library (Buffalo) – Lego Club, August 21

Newstead Public Library – Zoomobile, July 11

Niagara Branch (Buffalo) – Crafty Madness, July 17

North Collins Public Library – Buffalo Animal Adventures, June 21

North Park Branch (Buffalo) – Ice Cream Party, August 23

Orchard Park Public Library – Summer Reading Kickoff with Nitro Magic!, July 7

Anna Reinstein Memorial Library (Cheektowaga) – JumpBunch Sports & Fitness for Kids, July 10

Julia Boyer Reinstein Library (Cheektowaga) – Mobile Star Dome, August 3

Riverside Branch (Buffalo) – Make a Fairy Garden with Botanical Gardens, July 8

City of Tonawanda Public Library – Aquarium of Niagara Touch Tank, June 29

West Seneca Public Library – WYRK DJ, June 20

Williamsville Branch (Amherst) – Bingo and Books, August 7

Library on Wheels Bookmobile – See them all summer long around Erie County!

Programs are subject to change - please call your library first to confirm program.

For more detailed information, visit the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library website at www.BuffaloLib.org. Call our info line at 716-858-8900 or friend/follow the Library on

[Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#) and [Flickr](#).

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