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KENMORE BRANCH LIBRARY WINS BATTLE OF THE BOOKS TEEN READING COMPETITION

Young readers from the **Kenmore Branch Library** won the 2023 **Battle of the Books**, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library's exciting annual summertime reading trivia competition.

The Kenmore Library's winning team members were: Jackson E., Jade M., Cooper P., Evey S., Lucy S., Carter (CJ) D., Oliver S. and Joseph R. They were coached by librarian Jill Jablonski. The runner-up team was from the Lancaster Public Library with participants - Nathan C., Malcolm M., Ari S., Leo W. and Emma Z. They were coached by librarian Michael Green.

The fast-paced lightning round was held this past weekend at the downtown Central Library, following a week of virtual competitions. Team Kenmore won both the lightning round and the overall Battle competition.

This year's participating teams were from:

- Amherst Public Libraries (2 teams)
- Boston Free Library
- Downtown Central Library (2 teams)
- Elma Public Library (2 teams)
- Grand Island Memorial Library
- Town of Tonawanda Public Library – Kenmore Branch (2 teams)
- Lancaster Public Library (2 teams)
- Leroy R. Coles, Jr. Branch Library
- Newstead Public Library
- Orchard Park Public Library
- West Seneca Public Library

Battle of the Books features teams of enthusiastic young adults entering sixth through ninth grades who read the same pre-selected books. Teams and their coaches spend months practicing challenging trivia questions pertaining to each book before the big Battle showdowns. This year's titles were *Amari and the Night Brothers* by B.B. Alston, *Pie in the Sky* by Remy Lai, and *The House with Chicken Legs* by Sophie Anderson.

This year's **Battle** also featured an art contest. Participants created artwork based on three books. Grand Island's Riley M. won the drawing category, with runners-up Elizabeth W., Clark R. and Jade M. from the Central, Coles and Kenmore branch libraries, respectively. Delaney B. from the Central Library won in the photography category.

Battle of the Books is part of the NYS Summer Reading initiative *All Together Now*, taking place at all 37 Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries. Summer Reading is sponsored by Rich Products; WNY Family Magazine, WGRZ and The Buffalo News.

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



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