

YOUR FIRST 2024 SUMMER READING NEWSLETTER!

ADVENTURE — BEGINS AT — YOUR LIBRARY™

Summer Reading Training

Summer Reading training is essential for staff and volunteers to assist guests effectively. All library members must understand the program's workings. **An all-staff video is mandatory and will be available April 1.**

Additional training is also available, required for managers and new staff, but open to all who want a refresher. "Summer Reading 2024 Manager and New Staff Training" on MetroU covers Beanstack, rules, prizes, and program overview for management and new hires since May 1, 2023.

In-person or Zoom sessions are available, with an on-demand recording option for those unable to attend. **Training will occur...**

- **April 2 at Belle Isle Library**
- **April 4 on Zoom**
- **April 22 at Bethany Library**
- **April 24 at Capitol Hill Library**
- **April 26 at Northwest Library**

Zoom recording will be available from April 5 until April 30.

Detailed registration instructions are in the [attached PDF](#). Contact Learning & Development for inquiries.



Summer Reading important dates

- **April 1–30**
 - Staff training
- **By May 15**
 - Pre-registration opens
- **June 1 – July 31**
 - Program dates
- **August 15**
 - Prize pickup grace period ends
- **Sept/Oct**
 - Read it Forward donation delivered



**COMMUNITY
GOAL =
12 MILLION
POINTS!**

Any summer reading questions? Contact engagement@metrolibrary.org

WHY DO WE DO SUMMER READING?

Summer Reading is a tradition that **fosters community unity and promotes reading for enjoyment for all ages**, forming a vital part of our literacy support strategy. The goal is for everyone in the community to be part of a reader community, engaging in various literacy activities such as book clubs, journaling, discussions, and sharing reading experiences on social media.

READ IT FORWARD

The Read it Forward recipient is the Latino Community Development Agency, with delivery in early fall. Guests' summer reading helps reach the goal of 12 million points and supports the community.



ALL ABOUT POINTS

Earning Points

Participants use Beanstack to track Summer Reading progress, with minutes read converted to points. The program promotes reading and diverse activities for all ages. Reading earns one point per minute, activities earn five points each, with a goal of 600 points for a prize. Tailored activities encourage exploration and literacy development. Logs outline activities, and the adult log resembles Book Bingo. Beanstack simplifies sign-up and logging, with recent updates improving usability. Paper logs are always accepted, too!

Prize Pick-up

Prize pickup for the Summer Reading program begins on June 1 and remains open until August 15

to ensure equitable access. The program runs from June 1 to July 31 annually, with pre-registration opening by May 15. Participants who achieve 600 points, equivalent to 10 hours of reading, earn their choice of prizes: **2 youth books, an MLS tote bag, or 1 adult book.**

Readers reaching 600 points are entered into drawings for wireless headphones and other prizes, with separate drawings for different age groups at each library and grand prize drawings systemwide. Additional reading beyond 600 points earns extra entries into the drawings and contributes to the community goal.



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TEEN VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Teen volunteers assist with various tasks such as signing up participants, awarding prizes, helping with events, preparing crafts, and more. Summer Volunteer Supers at your location are working to ensure enough interview slots are available for the teen volunteers at your location. You can help recruit by letting guests, friends and family know that Summer Volunteer Interview opportunities are now open.

This also means it's time for all of us to be aware of new volunteers, welcome them, and start building those relationships that will ensure a successful summer!

We will be rolling out trauma-informed tips like we did for last year. If you would like to review, [please visit this link](#). Posters advertising volunteer sign-up have been distributed, and locations can customize their own posters using the [provided link](#).

AND teen volunteers will receive special t-shirts for their participation.



NEIGHBORHOOD ARTS

Neighborhood Arts is back! There will be 8 weeks of arts performances featuring Lyric Theatre Kids' Academy, OKC Improv, Lucas Ross, Oklahoma Violin Ensemble, Groovemeant, RACE Dance Collective, Alegria Real, Clips & Hips Dance, and Painted Sky Opera. Below is a schedule of this summer's Neighborhood Arts programs! More details to come!



Mondays

- 10:30 AM – Northwest *with ASL Interpreter
- 10:30 AM – Southern Oaks
- 1:30 PM – Harrah Senior Center
- 2:00 PM – Midwest City

Tuesdays

- 10:00 AM – Downtown
- 10:30 AM – Ralph Ellison
- 2:00 PM – Almonte

Wednesdays

- 10:00 AM – Bethany
- 10:00 AM – Del City
- 2:00 PM – Belle Isle
- 2:00 PM – Choctaw



Thursdays

- 9:30 AM & 10:30 AM – Edmond
- 10:30 AM – Jones
- 2:00 PM – Village
- 2:00 PM – Capitol Hill

Fridays

- 10:30 AM – Nicoma Park
- 2:00 PM – Rodeo Cinema
- 3:00 PM – Warr Acres

Saturdays

- 9:00 AM – Scissortail Park Farmers Market

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DISPLAYS

Start brainstorming your Summer Reading Displays! If you would like to be featured in the Summer Reading newsletter, fill out [this form](#) with your reading recs and photos!

QUESTIONS?

The Summer Reading intranet pages will have all important information and will be ready and updated by April 1. The pages will be regularly updated throughout the summer, providing answers to most questions and access to helpful resources like the "Community and School Engagement Toolkit" and the "In-Library Engagement Toolkit," curated by dedicated teams to aid in Summer Reading preparation. When that page is live, you'll want to [check this link](#) for updates.

Consult your Library Management Team with other Summer Reading questions. If your supervisor cannot assist, contact OES.



For volunteer inquiries, Heidi Port in DVS is the point of contact. Teen volunteers should consult their teen volunteer supervisor for assistance.

STAFF SHOUTOUT



As we look forward to Summer Reading, we honor **Emily Williams** for winning the Special Meritorious Award at OLA. As Teen Services Manager, Emily has shown exceptional dedication to librarianship and community service, especially in teen services and the Sequoyah Book Awards. Active in professional organizations, she advocates for statewide library teen services and coordinates the Oklahoma County Juvenile Justice Center library. Thank you, Emily, for your invaluable contributions not just to our Summer Reading program but to everything you do to keep this library running!

Thank you all, and we can't wait to get started with Summer Reading so soon!

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