



PRESS RELEASE

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May 11, 2021

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PLEASANTON LIBRARY KICKS OFF 2021 SUMMER READING PROGRAM MAY 29

This Year's Program to Feature Virtual Performances, Craft & Game Nights, Prize Drawings, a Book Cover Art Activity, and More

PLEASANTON, Calif. — The City of Pleasanton Library and Recreation Department will kick off its free annual Summer Reading Program on Sat, May 29, as summer vacation begins for students in the community, and will run through Sun, Aug. 8, 2021. The program will continue the successful virtual elements of last summer, with some special new features for readers of all ages.

“*Reading Colors Your World*” is the theme of this year’s summer program. The broad motif of “colors” provides a context for exploring humanity, nature, culture, and science, as well as developing programming that demonstrates how libraries and reading can expand your world through kindness, growth, and community. Library patrons of all ages will be encouraged to join Pleasanton Library and Recreation in its mission to “Start your journey here: Discover, connect and share”. New elements of the program encourage participants to be creative, try new things, explore art, and find beauty in diversity. Just some examples of that beauty could be: reading books by Black authors like Octavia Butler, Maya Angelou, or Ta-Nehisi Coates, or learning about the Ohlone and completing an activity badge visiting the Alviso Adobe Community Park.

Pleasanton Library and Recreation is committed to identifying and enhancing programming to encourage exploration, intellectual curiosity, and life literacy. While children are earning rewards and virtual badges tracking their reading throughout the summer, they’re not the only ones who

can get in on the fun. Teens and adults can also turn their reading hours into a chance to win prizes. All prizes for children, teens and adults are sponsored by the Friends of the Pleasanton Library.

Summer reading participants are also welcomed to submit a drawing of their favorite book cover to be featured on the Library and Recreation Department's social media platforms. Entries should be no bigger than a standard sheet of paper (8.5"x11"), done by hand, and colorful and include the names of the author and publisher. Entries can be submitted before the end of the academic school year and throughout the entirety of the Summer Reading Program. Participants may drop off their submissions to the Children's Desk at the Pleasanton Library 400 Old Bernal Ave or email attachment to KDelang@cityofpleasantonca.gov. Drawings posted online with #PleasantonBookCovers, may also be featured.

There are more ways to participate this year, with both in-person and virtual opportunities and events. Readers of all ages are welcome to visit the Pleasanton Library—which reopened in March 2021 for select “Grab & Go” services—to discover new books and materials. Additionally, those who don't have access to the program's online reading logs can pick up a print version inside the Library, including reading log options in multiple languages.

With the aim of engaging as many participants as possible, the Pleasanton Library will host a variety of virtual events, including craft and game nights, as well as special performances. Bill Harley will join the Library for “Songs and Stories for Kids.” Carlos Nieto III will host an “Anime Your Way” virtual session for teens. And adults who need a little more magic in their lives are invited to attend “A Magical Night” with Alex Ramon. And the Firehouse Art Center's local improv troupe, Creatures of Impulse, will present a virtual show called “A Different Shade of Fairytale.”

For information on the summer program and library services, participants can visit the library's webpage at www.pleasantonlibrary.org.

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