

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, June 1, 2023

City of San Diego Public Library Swings Into Summer with Reading Challenge and New Padres Library Card

KIDS AND ADULTS CAN EARN PRIZES FOR READING AND COMPLETING LITERACY ACTIVITIES

SAN DIEGO – Grab a new library card and get reading during the City of San Diego Public Library's (SDPL) 2023 <u>Summer Reading Program</u>! This year's theme is "Discover Your Voice" and readers of all ages are encouraged to share their stories, express themselves and spark change.

For the first time, SDPL is offering a Padres-themed library card for patrons this summer. Starting Monday, June 5, new users can get the Padres card by signing up for a <u>library card</u> for free at any of the City's 36 <u>libraries</u>. Existing patrons can replace their current cards at no cost. The cards will also be available at the Padres game on Sunday, June 4, at the SDPL booth in Gallagher Square inside Petco Park.

"Teaming up with the Padres is a fun way to promote reading and to join the excitement San Diegans have for their home team," said Library Director Misty Jones. "We encourage everyone to visit their local library, pick up a library card and register for the Summer Reading Program. It's a great way to keep reading skills sharp for kids when they're out of school and for readers of all ages to find new stories to enjoy."

The Summer Reading Program begins Thursday, June 1, and runs through Thursday, Aug. 31. Participants can earn prizes by completing 10 books, 10 hours of reading or a combination of reading and activities. Activities include attending a library storytime or Summer Reading event, starting a journal or recommending a book to a friend.

The Summer Reading Program offers age categories for children (ages 0-5 and 6-11), youth (ages 12-17) and adults (ages 18 and up). After completing the program, readers will be eligible for prizes including free books, meal vouchers and passes to local museums. Reading and activities can be tracked online or on paper logs printed at home or picked up at any <u>SDPL location</u>.

Last year, more than 24,000 people participated in the Summer Reading Program, reading nearly 366,000 books. To register online and view lists of recommended books and activities, visit sandiego.gov/summerreading.

About the San Diego Public Library

With a vision of being the place for opportunity, discovery and inspiration, the San Diego Public Library is a hub for knowledge and lifelong learning. As the largest library system in the region, it serves a population of more than 1.4 million people. Learn about events at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan Λ Irwin Jacobs Common and 35 community branch libraries, find links to programs and resources or search for materials in the online catalog at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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