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San Diego Public Library Plans Virtual Celebration for Pride 2020

ONLINE CONTENT INCLUDES STORYTIMES, CRAFTS AND UNVEILING OF NEW PRIDE LIBRARY CARD DESIGN

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library's Pride celebration is going virtual this year with online programming that highlights the City's vibrant LGBTQ community. The Virtual Pride celebration kicks off on Tuesday, June 16 and runs through Friday, July 17.

To mark June as LGBT Pride Month, the Library has created the SDPL Pride Facebook page. The page will be the hub for "Together Tuesdays" and "Fabulous Fridays" featuring LGBTQ-themed storytimes, author discussions, make-at-home crafts and more.

"The San Diego Public Library is committed to inclusion and reflecting the diverse communities we serve," said Library Director Misty Jones. "While we can't mark Pride in the usual way this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Virtual Pride programming provides a place to come together to celebrate San Diego's LGBTQ community."

As part of the Virtual Pride celebration, the Library has chosen the winner of its first Pride library card design contest. Close to 90 designs were submitted and the winning entry came from 10-year-old Jasmine Nguyen. Her card design features several rainbows along with the word "Pride" and hearts with equal signs inside. The Pride library card design contest is a partnership between the San Diego Public Library and San Diego Pride.

"Libraries play such a vital role in our communities throughout the year, preserving and presenting truth, wisdom and the human experience," said San Diego Pride Executive Director Fernando Z. López. "It is an honor to partner with such an important institution to create visibility around the LGBTQ community and showcase local artistic talent, all the while inspiring inclusion, literacy and education."

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, San Diego Pride has canceled all in-person gatherings and taken its Pride programs <u>online</u>.

The winning library card design is featured on the Library's Virtual Pride 2020 page along with a full list of Pride programming, book recommendations and LGBTQ community resources. Visit the Library's EAQ page for information on e-resources and contact-free pickup service.

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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