



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SAN DIEGO PADRES/ASHFORD READING CORNER STORYTIME AT VALENCIA PARK/MALCOLM X BRANCH LIBRARY

Popular Padres Player Orlando Hudson Will Read to Children

San Diego, CA – The San Diego Public Library is pleased to announce an exciting storytime for children and their families featuring popular Padres player Orlando Hudson. Also appearing at the event will be the Padres' beloved mascot, the Swingin' Friar, as well as energetic members of the Pad Squad. This event will be held at the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library & Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, July 27 at 12:30 p.m. The program is free and open to the public.

This event is made possible by Ashford University and the San Diego Padres. The two organizations have teamed up to go to bat for literacy through their Padres Reading Corner campaign. This campaign is designed to promote literacy, education and teamwork among children. In addition to the appearance from a Padres player, Jennifer Love Bruce, director of community relations for Bridgepoint Education, which operates Ashford University, will present the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library with a \$1,000 grant towards the purchase of new books.

The Padres Reading Corner event is held in conjunction with the San Diego Public Library's annual Summer Reading Program that celebrates and encourages reading and library use during the summer months. Children, teens, and adults are all invited to participate in the Summer Reading Program. Registering for the Summer Reading Program can be done by visiting the library's website (www.sandiegolibrary.gov) or visiting any San Diego Public Library branch during open hours.

Participants in the Summer Reading Program are awarded free incentives once they read a specific amount of books or hours. The San Diego Padres have been a valuable partner in the Summer Reading Program and are longtime public library supporters. Over the last three years the Padres have donated 20,000 tickets each year that are award to program finishers. Their partnership has helped boost participation in the Summer Reading Program to record levels! "Education is one of our initiatives," says Nhu Tran, the Padre's community relations manager. "We believe in providing kids with an opportunity to have a safe-haven where they can develop their reading skills."

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Storytime with San Diego Padres Player Orlando Hudson

Don't miss this chance to share in the magic of reading with Orlando Hudson, the Swingin' Friar, and the Pad Squad! For more information, please contact the Malcolm X Library at (619) 527-3405. The library is located at 5148 Market St., San Diego, CA 92114.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.org

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