

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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Summer Reading Returns to the Yolo County Library May 20

(Woodland, CA) – Join the Yolo County Library's annual Summer Reading Program from May 20 through August 31. All eight library branches will celebrate this year's theme, It's Showtime at Your Library, by hosting programs throughout the summer that include reading incentives for children, teens, and adults and special activities related to the theme.

Participants who sign up for the Summer Reading Program in person at their local library branch or online will receive a free book and a game board to track their summer challenge progress. Participants can choose their own summer challenge, reading 10 books, 10 hours, or 10 days throughout the summer. Participants who complete their summer reading challenge will receive a prize, a drawing entry for additional prizes, and a coupon for a free meal at Chipotle. Children ages 0-12 will also receive a free pizza coupon for Round Table Pizza and a coupon for Joe's Crab Shack. Participants can earn additional drawing entries by reading more or completing further activities. Finisher prizes may be picked up through the end of September; participants must present their completed game board by August 31 to be entered into the drawing for additional prizes.

This year, Yolo County Library is offering Read Off Your Fines for adults as part of the Summer Reading Program. Adults who complete their challenge can choose to have up to \$10.00 in late fees removed from their account in place of their prize.

This year's theme, It's Showtime at Your Library, celebrates all varieties of performance, from movies and theater to puppetry, dance, poetry, videos, and more. Participants of all ages can expect a wide variety of free activities including programs from local attractions such as Explorit Science Center, along with wildlife shows and regional performers including magicians, circus acts, and musicians.

"Research shows that summer reading programs help children and teens retain and enhance their reading skills over the summer, provide a haven for community readers, and develop reading enthusiasm," said Early Learning Coordinator Laura Benn. "Additionally, adult participation encourages parents to play a strong role in their child's literacy development by reading aloud with their child and modeling good reading behavior."

In summer of 2018, over 770,000 Californians signed up for a public library summer reading program and more than 1.77 million Californians attended summer reading events and activities. The Yolo County Library joins libraries across the nation and state of California to encourage adults, youth and

families to read over the summer. The Summer Reading Program is a project of the California Library Association and part of California's statewide summer reading outcomes.

The Summer Reading Program is free and sponsored by the various Friends of the Library groups and local donors. For more information or to sign up, visit your local Yolo County Library branch or: <u>www.yolocountylibrary.org</u>. Connect with the Yolo County Library on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/yolocountylibrary.org</u>.

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