



defiance public library system
Defiance • Sherwood • Hicksville

REVISED

For immediate release, 5/11/2023

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Defiance Public Library

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Defiance, OH 43512

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Johnson Memorial Library

116 W High St.

Hicksville, OH 43526

ph. 419-542-6200

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Sherwood Branch Library

117 N Harrison

Sherwood, OH 43556

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www.defiancelibrary.org

This summer, 'Imagine Your Story' at DPLS

2023 Summer Reading Challenge kicks off June 1

[DEFIANCE] – Defiance Public Library System's (DPLS) annual Summer Reading Challenge for all ages will take place June 1–July 31, 2023, and will feature events, activities, reading contests, and free summer fun for all ages.

This year's theme, "Imagine Your Story," celebrates fairytales, folklore, fantasy and mythology, as well as the importance of sharing our own unique voices and stories.

Summer library programs enhance lifelong learning, and provide meaningful, enjoyable experiences for the community. For school children, it can be a key tool in helping to prevent "the summer slide"—learning loss that may occur during the summer months.

For Kids

Both reading and activities count toward your Summer Reading goal. Beginning June 1, children can pick up an activity sheet at any library location (Defiance Public, Sherwood Branch, Johnson Memorial), print one at defiancelibrary.org, or log their progress online using Beanstack (defiancelibrary.beanstack.org) and the Beanstack Tracker app (earn coupons just for registering!) Kids can complete the activities on their own, or with the help of a caregiver.

Children from birth to age 3 will receive a toy link to accompany their activity sheet, while children ages 3–12 will take home a dog tag "Brag Bead" necklace, plus a few beads to get started. Once goals are met, return to the library to collect your earned rewards, including additional links or beads, and books. Patrons in Defiance and Sherwood also will earn an entry into a grand-prize drawing for tickets to King's Island.

For Teens & Adults

Teens and adults participating in the Challenge can log their reading minutes each day on Beanstack to win prizes too. Every 60 minutes read and logged earns the reader an entry into a weekly prize drawing for a \$5 gift card to a local coffee or ice cream shop. Those who log at least 480 minutes/8 hours of reading will be entered to win the grand prize of a \$40 gift card to Meijer and two \$5 gift cards to the winner's chosen coffee or ice cream shop.

Activities & Events

For a complete list of Summer Reading events and activities, visit defiancelibrary.org/summer. Some 2023 highlights include:

June 1: Summer Reading Challenge Kickoff Party, 12:30–6:30 p.m. at Defiance Public Library.

June 5: Summer Reading Challenge Kickoff Party, 1–4 p.m. at Sherwood Branch Library.

June 5: Jingle Bell June, 5–7 p.m. at Defiance Public Library (Fort Grounds). Storytime with Santa, plus real reindeer.

June 5: Short Story Writing Workshop with Dr. Mary Catherine Harper and Eva English, 5–6 p.m. at Defiance Public Library (Adults 18+, register: defiancelibrary.org/workshop).

June 12: "Drawn Together" ft. artist Jeff Nicholas, 1 p.m. at Sherwood Branch, 3:30 p.m. at Johnson Memorial, 6 p.m. at Defiance Public. Learn the basics of cartooning.

June 24–25: Great Lakes Fur Trading Reenactment Group's Living History Encampment, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. both days at Pontiac Park.

June 26: Cirque Amongus, 1 p.m. at Sherwood Branch, 3:30 p.m. at Johnson Memorial, 6 p.m. at Defiance Public. Prepare for circus fun and comedy tumbling.

July 6, Wild Canids of North America, 5 p.m. at Defiance Public Library (Fort Grounds).

July 17: Magic Nate, 1 p.m. at Sherwood Branch, 3:30 p.m. at Johnson Memorial, 6 p.m. at Defiance Public. A truly one-of-a-kind magic act.

July 24: The Exotic Zoo, 10 a.m. at Sherwood Branch, 2 p.m. at Hicksville Parks Pavilion, 598 N. Bryan St., 6 p.m. at Defiance Public. Meet some animals you might not have seen before.

In addition to these, the libraries will be hosting events with the Andrew L. Tuttle Memorial Museum, Defiance Soil & Water Conservation District, Defiance Karate, and more, including special MakerSpace classes & themed Teen Night Thursdays at Defiance Public Library.

The Summer Reading Challenge is supported by the Friends of Defiance Public, Sherwood Branch, and Johnson Memorial Library. For a complete list of sponsors and related events, visit defiancelibrary.org/summer.

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