



Sacramento Public Library Authority

May 26, 2011

Agenda Item 3.2 2011 Sacramento Public Library Summer Reading Initiative

TO: Sacramento Public Library Authority Board Members
FROM: Sarah Dentan, Branch Services Manager
RE: 2011 Sacramento Public Library Summer Reading Initiative

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S): None. Information only.

The 2011 Summer Reading Program is shaping up to be the best one yet. The theme "One World, Many Stories" lends itself well to Sacramento's vibrant and diverse community. Running from June 1 through August 31st, the Library will present more than 600 programs across the county, made possible by the generosity of the Sacramento Public Library Foundation and the Friends of the Sacramento Public Library. All programs are offered at no cost to participants. From special story times to messages in a bottle to treasure maps, from writing workshops to international dance to cooking locally, the Library has a program for everyone this summer!

The summer starts with a bang – the system-wide kickoff, scheduled for Sunday June 5th at the Central Library, will feature Matthew Gollub, the award winning author of the book ***Jazz Fly***. Matthew's high-energy bilingual performance will be complemented by a world instrument petting zoo, as well as crafts and activities for the whole family.

Summer Reading won't stop at the library, however. In addition to increasing outreach to classrooms this school year, the Library is partnering with Head Start programs, Summer Enrichment programs, and other organizations to bring the Summer Reading Program to people and families who can't get to the Library.

Attendance at Library events is free open to anyone, but those who register with the Summer Reading Program are eligible for some exciting incentives. Everyone signing up for the program receives a pencil to track his or her progress. For completing the program, those under 18 receive the book of their choice, while adults receive a Sacramento Public Library book bag. Those who finish the program are also entered in to our grand prize drawing, with prizes including iPads (one each) for adults and teens, a color nook e-reader for children, and a \$100 gift certificate to Target for pre-readers.

Students need to practice what they've learned over the summer to maintain their abilities, and reading for fun as part of the Summer Reading Program is a great way for kids to keep their reading muscles in shape. The benefits don't stop there, though – reading for fun leads to reading more, and reading more can help anyone read better, as well as increase vocabulary, improve writing skills, and even reduce stress.

Summer Reading – it is free, easy and good for your brain! Please join library staff for the Kickoff Event on June 5th, and any number of events in neighborhoods this summer.