

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Member Gaffney, Jr.:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2024-338-A**

6 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE
7 JACKSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 2024 "ADVENTURE
8 BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY" SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM;
9 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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11 **WHEREAS**, libraries contribute to the intellectual growth of
12 children and teens during the summer through reading programs, and
13 students who do not participate in educational activities or
14 experiences during the school summer break period can lose up to two
15 months of reaching achievement; and

16 **WHEREAS**, two-thirds of the reading achievement gap between
17 high- and low-socioeconomic status 9th graders can be explained by
18 unequal access to summer learning opportunities, and one-third of the
19 gap is present before students begin school; and

20 **WHEREAS**, more than 60% of America's low-income children are
21 growing up in homes without age-appropriate books or reading
22 materials, leaving them an average of three years behind children
23 raised in homes with many books; and

24 **WHEREAS**, literacy is a top priority in this administration;
25 therefore Mayor Deegan's River City Readers challenge was created,
26 motivating people in Duval County to log more than 600,000 minutes
27 of reading, to date in the Beanstack app in pursuit of a goal of
28 reading 1,000,000 minutes as a city in 2024; and

29 **WHEREAS**, children and teens can benefit from summer programs
30 that combine elements of youth development principles with academic
31 enrichment, and visiting their local library provides children with

1 access to unlimited amounts of reading materials. Public libraries
2 supplement access to reading materials with fun and enriching events
3 and activities that are free and open to all citizens in their service
4 area; and

5 **WHEREAS,** adults who read regularly and use their public library
6 are role models for children, motivating them to become lifelong
7 readers and learners; and

8 **WHEREAS,** Jacksonville Public Library encourages a love of
9 reading through access to books both in libraries and by giving
10 children books during the summer so those children can build their
11 home libraries. These young library users will receive an opportunity
12 to become lifelong readers and learners by visiting the library
13 frequently; now therefore

14 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

15 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville recognizes and commends
16 the Jacksonville Public Library for its 2024 "Adventure Begins at
17 Your Library" Summer Learning at the Library program conducted between
18 June 3rd and August 3rd, 2024. During this time, all parents and
19 caregivers are encouraged to visit the library with their children
20 to participate in summer learning activities, read and borrow books,
21 track their reading in the Beanstack app to participate in Mayor
22 Deegan's River City Readers challenge and receive free books to build
23 their home libraries.

24 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
25 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
26 without the Mayor's signature.

1 Form Approved:

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3 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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