

Introduced by Council Member Johnson:

RESOLUTION 2024-338

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, children and teens can benefit from summer programs that combine elements of youth development principles with academic enrichment, and visiting their local library provides children with access to unlimited amounts of reading materials. Public libraries

1 supplement access to reading materials with fun and enriching events
2 and activities that are free and open to all citizens in their service
3 area; and

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

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

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

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

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

26 Form Approved:

27
28 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

29 Office of General Counsel

30 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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