



City of Arts & Innovation

Board of Library Trustees

TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES **DATE: AUGUST 9, 2021**
FROM: RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY **WARDS: ALL**
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2021 AT THE RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ISSUE:

Receive an update of the Summer Reading Program 2021 at the Riverside Public Library.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Library Trustees receive and file the update of the Summer Reading Program.

BACKGROUND:

The Riverside Public Library's Summer Reading Program (SRP) has been a long-standing offering to enthusiastic customers of all ages. In 2019, 2,728 customers signed up for the SRP (Juvenile: 1714, Teen: 274, Adult: 740).

According to the California Library Association, research has shown summer reading loss is cumulative. By the end of 6th grade, children who consistently lose reading skills over the summer will be two years behind their classmates. The Riverside Public Library tries to help by providing an enriching summer reading program to prevent this reading loss over the summer, reduce the size of the achievement gap between those children who read and those who do not and encourage reading for pleasure.

DISCUSSION:

The Summer Reading Program 2021, themed "Reading Colors Your World," will run from June through August. The theme is designed to facilitate participants to explore humanity, nature, culture, and science through the use of library developed programs. This program help demonstrate how libraries and reading can expand your world and the power of lifelong learning.

The Summer Reading Program kick-off event took place on June 2 at 10:00 a.m. at the www.riversideca.gov/srp. Attendees were able to sign up to receive prizes for reading books over the summer. Various local businesses intend to provide in-kind gift card donations. A full list is attached with a total estimated in-kind donation valued at \$65,526.95.

On July 20, 2021, the City Council is scheduled to authorize acceptance of the in-kind donations for the Summer Reading Program.

This year's Summer Reading program allows children to earn a different prize each week by logging any reading they have done on the Summer Reading website. Teen and Adult members will earn raffle tickets for participating in online programs and logging their reading.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact is the value of approximately \$65,526.95 of in-kind gift card donations for the Summer Reading Program.

Prepared by: Erin Christmas, Library Director
Certified as to
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by: Kris Martinez, Assistant City Manager

Attachment: In-kind donation list