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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 05/21/2025** 

## LIBRARY KICKS OFF SUMMER READING CHALLENGE THIS WEEK!

**ST. TAMMANY** — St. Tammany Parish Library (STPL) will launch the 2025 Summer Reading Challenge (SRC) — Color Our World — for all ages starting on Thursday, May 22! Patrons can register in person at any of the Library's 12 branches or online through <u>Beanstack</u> starting May 22.

Budding artists and fellow creatives are invited to the Library's two Summer Reading Kickoff Parties. This year, the parties will be themed as Art Festivals with plenty of fun and artsy opportunities for event goers. The first party will be held on May 22 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Slidell Branch (555 Robert Blvd.) and the second will be on May 23 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Madisonville Branch (1123 Main St.).

Both events are free and open to the public. Event attendees will get a sneak peek of some of the events offered this summer, as well as special guests and performances. Local agencies will also be in attendance, with the St. Tammany Parish Department of Animal Services hosting an adopt-a-thon at the Slidell party, and the Northshore Humane Society will bring shelter pets to the Madisonville party for potential adopters. The St. Tammany Fire District 1 will be at the Slidell branch on May 22, and the St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 2 will be on site at the Madisonville branch on May 23 for any attendees who want to touch a truck and meet our local heroes!

All of St. Tammany Parish Library's branches provide the community with an enriching opportunity during the summer months. Through the Summer Reading Challenge (SRC), all residents are encouraged to engage in creative and literary activities. The SRC aims to address the detrimental impact of the "Summer Slide," a commonly defined term for the loss of academic progress or knowledge over the summer months for school-aged children. Not only do children benefit from the SRC, but adults and teens do as well with age-curated classes and special guests throughout the summer. Patrons can learn about all of the upcoming SRC programming by checking out the Summer Reading Guide, which is available for viewing at sttammanylibrary.org/SummerReadingGuide.

## Resources

- <u>Summer Reading Challenge</u>
- Summer Reading Challenge Event Guide
- Beanstack
- <u>Library Apps</u>
- St. Tammany Parish Library Website

The St. Tammany Parish Library has been serving the citizens of St. Tammany Parish for over seventy years. Our twelve branches offer over 542,000 loanable items, including books, CDs, DVDs, audiobooks, and magazines. The library's website offers 24/7 access to downloadable audio and e-books, music downloads, research tools, magazines, and newspapers. Our programs and services are designed to meet residents' cultural, informational, educational, and recreational needs.