



Carnegie  
Library of  
Pittsburgh

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**For Immediate Release  
Media Alert/Photo Opportunity**

**Make a Splash @ Your Library! Read.**

*Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Kicks Off Summer Reading with its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Extravaganza*

**(PITTSBURGH, PA – June 2, 2010)** Local families are invited to catch a wave and join Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh for its annual Summer Reading Program. Now in its tenth year, Carnegie Library's Summer Reading Extravaganza sets in motion the excitement and encouragement of summer reading, which aims to involve the entire family—children, teens and adults—in reading and learning during the summer months.

On Sunday, June 6 nearly 4,000 children, teens and adults are expected to help Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh kick off the official start of summer reading. From 12-5 pm, the Main Library in Oakland will host a free outdoor Extravaganza with activities and entertainment for all ages. Families attending the Extravaganza will have the opportunity to register for summer reading and participate in numerous activities, including:

- Make a splash and soak someone in the Dunk Tank
- Create a River of Words during a poetry activity
- Watch a performance of *Mermaid Pollution Solution* courtesy of Gemini Children's Theatre
- Create balloon art with the Balloonatic Fringe
- Meet the Queen of Hearts during an afternoon storytime

Selected schedule of events:

12:00 - Hip Hop on L.O.C.K. (On the Front Steps)

1:00 - Pittsburgh Musical Theater (Performance Tent)

1:30 and 3:00 - Puppet Show: *The Little Red Hen* (Inside Library, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)

1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 - Storytime with KDKA-TV's Dave Crawley (KDKA-TV Tent)

1:45 - Ballroom Dance Performance and Lesson: Thomas Kolos, Ballroom Instructor from Pittsburgh Dance & Theatre Arts (On the Front Steps)

2:00 Storytime with the Queen of Hearts (WQED Tent)  
Gemini Children's Theater performance of "Mermaid Pollution Solution" (Performance Tent)

3:00 - Pittsburgh Junior Theater of Pittsburgh Dance & Theater Arts performance of "Once in Atlantis" (Performance Tent)

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## **ADD 1**

### **Make a Splash @ Your Library! Read.**

3:45 - Obama Academy Steel Band (On the Front Steps)

4:00 - Pittsburgh CLO Mini Stars perform (Performance Tent)

**WHEN/WHERE:** Sunday, June 6, 2010 / 12 – 5 PM  
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Main / 4400 Forbes Avenue (Oakland)

**WHAT:** The goal of the Library's Summer Reading Program is to create opportunities for children to continue learning in a fun, enriching environment. Special book lists, prizes and online discussion boards are available for teens and adults as well. Last year more than 9,000 readers participated in Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Summer Reading Program, reading more than 60,000 books.

Studies suggest that children who read during the summer months are more prepared and less likely to fall behind during the start of the school year. Summer reading helps children develop life-long reading habits and aids them in maintaining their literacy skills and education throughout the years.

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Reading Extravaganza is free and open to the public. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and libraries across Allegheny County will offer fun and educational reading programs and activities throughout the summer to encourage children to continue reading outside of the classroom, and parents to take an active role in promoting life-long reading and learning to their children.

For more information call 412.622.3114 or visit [www.carnegielibrary.org](http://www.carnegielibrary.org).

**WHO:** Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Reading Extravaganza sponsors include: Allegheny Regional Asset District, Giant Eagle, Dominion, Duquesne Light, K12 Charter School, Heinz North America, Eat'n Park, Maher Duessel, UPMC Health Plan, Verizon, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield and Colcom Foundation. Media Partners include: Comcast, Radio Disney AM 540 and The Saturday Light Brigade.

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#### **About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh** *Engaging our Community in Literacy and Learning*

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh contributes to the educational attainment, economic development, and cultural enrichment of the region. Through critical services such as early learning programs for children, job search assistance and computer and Internet access, the Library fosters lifelong learning and is a renowned leader among the nation's libraries. With more than 2 million visitors and 3.5 million items borrowed each year, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region's most visited asset and one of the largest public libraries in Pennsylvania. Established in 1895 by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie as a public trust to be funded by the community, the Library derives approximately 90% of its annual operating budget from public or government sources, including the Allegheny County Regional Asset District (RAD), the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City of Pittsburgh.