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NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY TEAMS UP WITH DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY FOR SPECIAL-EDITION LIBRARY CARD

Card is free for new and existing cardholders, available at all 21 NPL locations while supplies last



NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Nashville Public Library is now offering a <u>special limited-edition library card featuring</u> Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

The Dolly Parton's Imagination Library mission is to inspire the love of reading by gifting books, free of charge, to children from birth to age five.

NPL's special-edition card featuring Dolly Parton's Imagination Library will bring awareness to the local Imagination Library of Middle Tennessee and the importance of getting books into the hands of children in their early years and throughout their lives.

This new partnership marks the first time NPL has offered a Dolly Parton's Imagination Library card to its entire service area, which includes Davidson and 40 additional Tennessee counties — plus 12 Kentucky and two Alabama counties.

The card is available at all 21 NPL locations beginning today and while supplies last.

"If Dolly Parton were just a musical legend and cultural icon, it'd still be a great honor to work with her. But she's also a reading ambassador, who understands and loves the power of books to transform lives. We couldn't ask for a better partner, and we're grateful to Dolly Parton and her team at the Imagination Library," said Library Interim Director Terri Luke.

As the book-gifting arm of Parton's non-profit organization — the Dollywood Foundation — the Imagination Library has delivered nearly 200 million free books since its inception in 1995 and currently mails to more than two million children each month. In fact, a book is mailed every 1.4 seconds.

Locally, the Imagination Library of Middle Tennessee serves more than 41,000 children in Davidson, Sumner and Williamson counties with nearly 500,000 books gifted in 2021.

How to Get an NPL Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Card

Patrons can get their NPL Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Card by <u>visiting any of NPL's 21 locations</u>. Both new and existing patrons must visit an NPL location to receive their physical card.

Davidson County residents can get the card free of charge, with unrestricted access to all of NPL's collections.

Existing cardholders can upgrade to the new design at no charge and keep their library card number.

Tennessee, Kentucky and Alabama residents within a certain radius of Davidson County can sign up for a free NPL Dolly Parton's Imagination Library card to check out physical materials, with an option to pay \$10 annually to access NPL's digital materials, as well.

A full list of the counties NPL serves is <u>available on the library's website</u>.

About Nashville Public Library

With more than two million books, movies and music items to choose from — plus great programming and resources to improve early and adult literacy, STEAM, ESL, and other key skills — NPL is Nashville's gateway to some of the best resources our city has to offer. Every year, across our 21-location system, thousands of visitors discover how our library lives up to our philosophy: At NPL, books are only half the story.

For more information, please visit library.nashville.org.

About Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Since launching in 1995, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has become the preeminent early childhood book gifting program in the world. The flagship program of The Dollywood Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has gifted nearly 200 million free books in the United States, Canada,

United Kingdom, Australia, and The Republic of Ireland. The Imagination Library mails more than 2 million high-quality, age-appropriate books each month to enrolled children from birth to age five. Dolly envisioned creating a lifelong love of reading and inspiring children to dream more, learn more, care more and be more. The impact of the program has been widely researched and results suggest positive increases in key early childhood literacy metrics. Penguin Random House is the exclusive publisher for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

For more information, please visit imaginationlibrary.com.

