



**NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**LIBRARY CHALLENGES NASHVILLE TO FIGHT SUMMER SLIDE**

*Nashvillians of All Ages Encouraged to STEAM up Summer, Earn Prizes*

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** – Nashville Public Library (NPL) challenged Nashvillians to read, learn and “STEAM” things up this summer when the Library today opened registration for its [2017 Summer Challenge](#). Nashvillians of all ages can register at any NPL location or at [www.library.nashville.org/SummerChallenge](http://www.library.nashville.org/SummerChallenge).

Summer Challenge is a series of reading and other easy activities that can help prevent “**summer slide**,” the learning loss that occurs when children stop reading over the summer months. This loss can add up each year, leaving children who don’t read over the summer two to three years behind their peers by fifth grade, according to the National Summer Learning Association.

This year’s Summer Challenge theme is “Build a Better World,” focused on science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM). Children, teens and adults are encouraged to read, build structures, conduct science experiments, volunteer, create art and help others.

Each activity earns participants points toward prizes, including a “**Choose Your Own Prize**” certificate for admission to one of nine area attractions, including the Country Music Hall of Fame, Wave Country and Adventure Science Center. Points also earn registrants entries into drawings for other prizes, such as gift cards and gaming systems.

Summer Challenge 2017 runs now through Aug. 12. NPL Summer Challenge is made possible through the support of the [Nashville Public Library Foundation](#).

**About Nashville Public Library**

A Nashville Public Library (NPL) card is free, but it’s also priceless. A [2016 study](#) by the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce calculated the value of NPL’s services and collections at \$2,951 per Nashville family and the direct impact of NPL on Davidson County at \$94 million. NPL maintains a collection of millions of items, including books, periodicals, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks, and streaming and downloadable books, movies and music. The Library also offers more than 800 public-use computers, free art exhibits, educational programs, events for all ages, 24/7 reference assistance, online

databases, interlibrary loan and special collections. Metro Archives, located at the Main Library, houses 5 million historic documents. Equal access is provided by the Talking Library audio reading service for the print disabled and Library Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. For more information, call 615-862-5800 or visit [library.nashville.org](http://library.nashville.org).

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