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**Talbot County Free Library announces summer reading program winners**

*The children and adult summer reading program included over 1,300 entries from Maryland residents.*

EASTON, MD (September 13, 2021) — Talbot County Free Library (TCFL) announced the winners of the Summer Reading 2021: Tails and Tales! children and adult programs, putting a bookend to the season.

The winners of the children summer reading program are Abigail Dethmers (7 years old), Jaxson Guth (9 years old), Milo Perry (4 years old), Clark McMullen (7 years old), Kylee Smith (11 years old) and Ada Speleos (8 years old). The winners had their choice of winning either a \$50 to Amazon or Crackerjacks Toys in Easton.

“I sincerely hope that participants had a good time with the summer reading program and enjoyed the fun activities,” said Laura Powell, senior youth services librarian. “Summer is a great time to get into the books you want to read because it cultivates empathy, and brings about an increased awareness of our shared human experiences, which alleviates feelings of isolation.”

The adult summer reading program winners are Joan Grumbach (Easton), William England (St. Michaels), and Melissa Baltz (Beanstack). The three winners received a \$50 gift card to Target for participating in the program.

Over 1,300 people participated in the program that took place from June 1 through July 31. During both summer programs, children and adults logged in each book that was read into the Beanstack website/app, and received badges in the process. Participants filled out an entry form for every book they read.

“With almost 800 (adult) participants in this year’s program, I would say this was the most successful (year) we have ever had,” said TCFL Outreach Services/Volunteer Coordinator Sabine Simonson.

All libraries throughout the state of Maryland have strived to foster a love of reading for all ages with their summer reading programs. Over 500,000 Maryland Residents participated in library summer programming in 2019, according to the Maryland State Library.

In order for adult participants to continue their strides in reading, the Talbot County Free Library invites you to stop by our Easton or St. Michaels location to check out this year's One Maryland One Book: *The Book of Delights: Essays* By Ross Gay. The book is a collection of lyrical essays in which Gay wrote one essay per day over a unique year, and took the time to find "delights" in his everyday life.

Patrons can then join Library Guy Bill Peak via Zoom for the Easton Book Group's Zoom discussion on Monday, Sept. 20 at 6:30 p.m.

There are also upcoming events for children to enjoy including the Outdoor Story Time! taking place on Tuesday, September 21 at the Easton location; and Wednesday, September 22 at the St. Michael's location.

Stop by one of the library's locations, or visit [www.tcfl.org](http://www.tcfl.org) for more information about programs, services, and upcoming events.

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### **About Talbot County Free Library**

*The Talbot County Free Library (TCFL) has been a fundamental center for knowledge through books and digital devices that is offered to locals and visitors alike. There are two locations: The main library in Easton is located at 100 W. Dover St.; and the St. Michael branch is at, 106 Fremont St. You can find the Maryland Room in the Easton location that holds a voluminous collection of genealogical resources and historical documents. Services both locations offer include free Wi-Fi, special talks, exhibits, and programs for adults and children. For more information, visit [www.tcfl.org](http://www.tcfl.org). Be sure to like the library on Facebook and follow on Instagram @Talbotcountyfreelibrary.*