The Great American Read

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

**2) Kick-off 2: Book Tasting at local café**

Tuesday, May 29nd 6:30PM- 8:00 PM

Location: Local community café: Hope Café, 305 Vine St #5, Liverpool, NY

Target audience: all ages, especially “starters”

Description: Join the library at The Hope Cafe for a "Book Tasting". At this fun and unique program, guests will have the chance to "taste" America’s 100 best-loved novels (as chosen in a national survey). Every 15 minutes, participants rotate between tables and discuss the books located on that table. Books will be grouped by theme. Select a book to take home! Light refreshments will be provided. The kitchen will be open if guests wish to purchase additional food on their own.

This program is part of THE GREAT AMERICAN READ, an eight-part PBS series that explores and celebrates the power of reading. It investigates how and why writers create their fictional worlds, how we as readers are affected by these stories, and what these 100 different books have to say about our diverse nation and our shared human experience.

The Liverpool Public Library is one of 50 libraries nationwide to receive a grant for this program through an ALA and PBS. Watch for additional programs in the summer and fall.

**Book Bike: Bringing Books to the Community**

June - September

Location: Many parks, neighborhood events, schools, and businesses in the Liverpool area

Target Audience: families, patrons of all ages

Description: Liverpool Library rides the very popular Book Bike into the community, towing a cart stocked with books and library materials. Patrons will be able to check out Great American Read books as well as vote and hear about related events.

**Summer Reading**

June 25 – August 31

Location: Liverpool Public Library

The 2018 Adult Summer Reading Club will include a set of challenges in which registrants can participate to increase their chances of winning a grand prize at the end of the summer. Several of these challenges will be directly tied to The Great American Read.

**Expressions of the Theme: Art and Essay Challenge**

August 1 – October 15th

Location: Liverpool Library

Target Audience: Teens and adults

Description: The Great American Read Art and Writing Challenge

The PBS Great American Read television and online series will feature 100 of the best-loved books in America. Five key themes are explored during the series. Liverpool Public Library challenges teens and adults to respond to one of the themes through art and/or writing. Your work will be displayed at the library and you will receive a free t-shirt for entering the challenge.

Enter your drawing, painting, collage, photography, graphic design, essay, or poetry. See lpl.org for details and submission.

**Bestsellers to Blockbusters Book Club**

Monday, August 13 – The Help

Location: Liverpool Public Library, Carman Community Room 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Target Audience: Adult

Participants read one of The Great American Read books (The Help) and come together to watch the film adaptation. Following the viewing, participants will discuss the book and film.

**Book Clubs and Book Club Kits**

Location: Liverpool Public Library and local community

Target Audience: Adult

Liverpool Library has created 5 Book Club and/or Book to Movie Club kits; each kit containing 12 copies of a Great American Read title and discussion questions. Movie kits will also have one copy of the film version. Patrons will be able to check out a kit and host a book club.

They can also join the library’s club on August 13th to discuss a preselected Great American Read book (Rebecca by Dame Daphne du Maurier).

**Debate: What is the best Great American Read book, and why?**

September 13th, 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Location: Liverpool Public Library, Carman Community Room

Target audience: Adults and teens

Description: This debate, hosted by Debbie Stack of local PBS station, WCNY, will encourage passionate, yet civil, dialogue. Defend your favorite Great American Read. How does this book challenge your view of social structure? How is a character/theme/situation a reflection of yourself, your fears or desires? Using some of the overarching questions, some lively discussion will connect community members.

**Top 10 Reveal: Finale Screening**

Tuesday, October 23rd

Location: Liverpool Public Library, Carman Room, 7:00PM – 9:00 PM

Target Audience: All ages

Description: This much anticipated event, in collaboration with our local PBS affiliate, WCNY, will be an exciting finale to our months of reading, voting, and programming. Book clubs will be encouraged to attend and dress or decorate in character of their favorite book. Liverpool Library’s very own top 10 Great American Books will be revealed before the live broadcast on PBS.

**Author/speaker event**

Date: October 18th

Location: Liverpool Public Library, Carman Room, 7:00PM – 9:00 PM

Target Audience: All ages

Description: Liverpool Library collaborates with Syracuse University, LeMoyne College, Onondaga Community College, and teachers in the school district. Once the book list is revealed, Liverpool Public Library plans to retain a related author or speaker.