



PRESS RELEASE

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Leaves Are Falling, Stories Are Calling: Join DPLS' Fall Reading, Writing Challenges

[DEFIANCE] – Defiance Public Library System (DPLS) is offering up a pair of fun fall challenges beginning Nov. 1.

November is Picture Book month, and the Defiance County libraries are marking the occasion with the 'Celebrate Picture Books' Reading Challenge from Nov. 1-30.

Each day, read one picture book and log your reading on Beanstack (defiancelibrary.beanstack.org) or using the Beanstack Tracker app, available for download in the Apple and Google Play stores.

There will be weekly prize drawings throughout the month, and a grand prize drawing at the end for movie passes to Phoenix Theatres. Weekly prizes will consist of downtown Defiance gift certificates and book bundles.

This contest is open to all ages, and prizes are sponsored by the Friends of Defiance Public Library. For more information, visit defiancelibrary.org/celebrate25.

In addition, young writers, prepare your pens (or typing fingers): the Teen Fan Fiction Writing Contest returns Nov. 1-30.

This year's theme is *The Hunger Games*. Defiance County 6th-12th graders are invited to submit an original short story (1,000-3,000 words) via email to prellstab@defiancelibrary.org, or by dropping off the story at any DPLS location (Defiance Public, Sherwood Branch, or Hicksville's Johnson Memorial libraries). All submissions must be rated PG-13 and under.

The winner will be notified on Dec. 8 by phone. Prizes include *The Hunger Games* book series, printed copies of your winning story, and your story shared in the YA Squeeze newsletter.

Find complete contest rules online at defiancelibrary.org/fanfic.

For questions about either challenge, call the library at 419-782-1456.

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