

MEDIA RELEASE



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CLARENCE READERS WIN *BATTLE OF THE BOOKS*

The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System is pleased to announce that two teams from the Clarence Library took first and second place in this year's *Battle of the Books* competition held last Saturday, August 6 at Erie Community College South.

More than 250 young people, representing 21 Buffalo and Erie County Public Libraries, showed their quick wit by answering challenging questions about five pre-selected books they all had read. Eligible participants, entering grades six through nine, have participated in study sessions with their team members in local libraries for the past few months.

Two of the four teams from Clarence, coached by librarian David Fairlie and his wife Donna, took the overall competition coming in first and second place. In all, the Clarence Library had 31 participants representing four teams. Members of the top scoring team, ranging in age from 10 to 14, were Emma Cremean, Linnea Cremean, Maggie Durwald, Zack Frey, Eric Johnson, Jaime Ponicki, Elisabeth Rott, and Victoria Tobin. Nine former team members who assisted with the coaching were Eileen Bennett, Victoria Butler, Melanie Johnson, Colin Mutton, Mitchell Pawlak, Emma Storr, Hannah Storr, Dorotka Tou, and Lillia Woodbury.

Battle of the Books, now in its 13th year, takes place every summer as part of the Library System's Summer Reading program. Library System Director Mary Jean Jakubowski said "Battle of the Books brings out the best in all of us, working together to provide excellent programs while fostering the love of reading for the young people of Erie County."

This year's titles were *The Alchemyst* by Michael Scott, *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin, *No More Dead Dogs* by Gordon Korman, *Skulduggery Pleasant* by Derek Landy, and *Waiting for Normal* by Leslie Connor.

For more information on Battle of the Books or any free library program, visit www.BuffaloLib.org.

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