



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### GRAND ISLAND MEMORIAL LIBRARY YOUTH READERS WIN 2024 BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

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BUFFALO, N.Y. – (August 30, 2024) – The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System is pleased to announce the winners of the 25th Annual *Battle of the Books* summertime reading trivia competition for students entering grades 6 - 9.

The *Battle of the Books* reading team from **Grand Island Memorial Library** won the prestigious top honor. Team members Maggie H., Lizzie L., Maddie L., Hadley D., Sophia W., Hailey M., and Parker P. were awarded red ribbon medals and a trophy for the Library. Marie Volpe and Stephanie Pritchard were coaches.

The runner-up team from City of Buffalo Branch libraries includes Kara R., Clark R., Jax K., Brad B., Emily L., Evangelina W., and Gus S. They were coached by Danielle Ptak.

*Battle of the Books*, an initiative organized by Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries, is designed to encourage youth to read over the summer months. When school is out, it is important for children to continue reading to help prevent summer learning loss, improve overall reading comprehension and vocabulary skills, and to help them develop a love of books to last a lifetime.

Participants join a library team, prepare for the big Battle event by reading the same three books, discuss the chapters during team practices, and then answer trivia questions about each at the final competition, a virtual event, which took place last weekend.

The following libraries participated in *Battle of the Books*:

- Audubon (Amherst Public Library with 2 teams),
- Boston Free Library,
- Buffalo Branches including the Leroy R. Coles Jr. Library and Crane Library,
- Elma Public Library (2 teams),
- Grand Island Memorial Library,
- Kenmore Branch (Town of Tonawanda),
- Lancaster Public Library (2 teams),
- Newstead Public Library, and
- Orchard Park Public Library.

This year's books were *Ghostlight* by Kenneth Oppel, *Elatsoe* by Darcie Little Badger, and *Aru Shah and the End of Time* by Roshani Chokshi. Additionally, two art contest awards went to siblings Clark and Kara R. of Buffalo.

To learn more about free library cards and all-ages library programs, call 716-858-8900 or visit: [www.BuffaloLib.org](http://www.BuffaloLib.org).

Photos below: Courtesy of Buffalo & Erie County Public Library



Grand Island Memorial Library takes the gold at the **2024 Battle of the Books** reading competition.



The City of Buffalo Branch Libraries team took second place in the *2024 Battle of the Books* youth reading competition.

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