| For Immediate Release:      |
|-----------------------------|
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## **Library Summer Reading Program Returns**

Natchitoches, LA, May 7, 2020 – This summer will undoubtedly look different from any we have lived through. Leaving your home is an infrequent affair. The kids can't go over to play with their friends. And barbecues probably won't include extended family and friends. It is all a lot to adjust to, and a summer at home might seem more like a daunting task rather than a time for fun, but there are still things being offered in our community during this strange time to provide some semblance of normalcy.

One such example is the Natchitoches Parish Library (NPL). Your local library has begun implementing changes that will allow the community to continue to enjoy its services.

"As the library is becoming more and more of a social, economic, and educational community center, we are always looking for ways to better serve our community," says Alan Niette, NPL Community Outreach Coordinator. "This is especially important this year as it is common for kids to experience a 'summer slide' that hampers their success in the following school year and COVID-19 could make that even more pronounced. That's why we are implementing changes to continue providing services to our parish and doing so with public health safety in mind."

The NPL is nearing the launch of its annual Summer Reading Program (SRP), with sign-ups beginning online on May 18. This year's SRP will be different as state and federal safety guidelines are constantly evolving, however, the NPL is ready to adapt as needed to have a summer of fun and success. Adults, teens, and children will still be able to register and read for rewards. Participants may enroll at natlib.org and can then complete and turn in bookmark logs for every two hours of reading. Entrants may read their way through six prizes followed by multiple grand prize drawing entries for their age group.

The NPL and Northeast Branch are both currently offering curbside pickup to facilitate library access. Curbside requests may be made by calling the NPL at 318-238-9224 or emailing <a href="info@natlib.org">info@natlib.org</a>, Monday through Friday, 10 am-5 pm, and Saturday, 10 am-2 pm. Digital checkout is available 24/7 through the NPL's Hoopla and Libby apps. Those without a library card can get a card number for digital and curbside checkout at natlib.org.

For more info on summer reading events visit natlib.org and follow the NPL on Instagram and Facebook.

PHOTOS:

- -Curbside Pickup.jpg
- -NPL Logo.jpg

## About the Natchitoches Parish Library

Knowledge. Connection. Community. The Natchitoches Parish Library serves the public and community through its competent and friendly staff by providing services and programs aimed at meeting the informational, recreational, and educational needs of our patrons. We seek to provide a beneficial and usable collection of information and activities to connect Natchitoches Parish residents to the world.