

Words

Imagine Your Story





Julie Sieg

MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM DIRECTOR

Imagine Your Story

The theme for this summer's reading program is "Imagine Your Story". Recent months have certainly tested my imagination. Never would I have imagined that our community story would see the shuttering of public places to protect our health. At the library, as part of our imaginings, we have worked through an efficient way to provide curbside pickup of library materials, how to offer library programming when we couldn't gather together and how to keep us all safe while in the library.

We thank each of you who have used the curbside pickup service and given staff words of encouragement and thanks! Everyone has been so appreciative for the pickup service, access to the library collection, selections made by our librarians and the precautions library staff have taken to keep them safe. Because of the overwhelmingly positive response and the continued need for this service, we plan to continue to offer curbside pickup during limited hours.

Library staff have been very creative in their imagining of program ideas, filmed in small, bite-sized pieces and offered on [Facebook](#). Staff have been creative and careful in their selection of both themes and content because in a regular story time, librarians have a vast world of material from which to choose. When posting and archiving to Facebook, unless we obtained prior approval for use, we are restricted to books, stories and songs that are out of copyright. Providing for closed captioning is a whole other layer. Librarians throughout the system are also conducting book discussion groups via Zoom. We hope you have been able to enjoy the content staff have put together for your enjoyment!

Staff are ever diligent to create a safe environment by screening patrons, practicing social distancing, wearing facial coverings, washing hands, using hand sanitizer and quarantining returned material. We hope you all are practicing safety as well!

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Find the Library on Facebook & Twitter!



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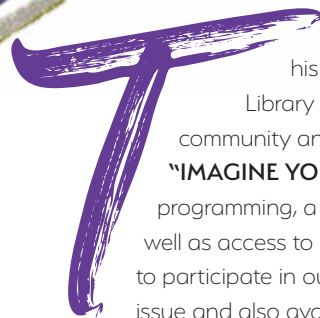


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Marion County Public Library System Summer Reading Program to offer virtual programming and reading opportunities for all ages.



This summer and throughout the year, your Marion County Public Library System is committed to helping you stay connected to your community and the world around you. Our 2020 Summer Reading Program, **"IMAGINE YOUR STORY,"** kicks off system-wide June 7–July 31 with virtual programming, a **MILLION MINUTES OF READING** community challenge, as well as access to library materials and resources for all ages. Details about how to participate in our Million Minutes of Reading challenge are included in this issue and also available on our library's website at library.marioncountyfl.org.

Although this year's Summer Reading Program has a different look due to COVID-19 social distancing realities, you can still enjoy many of your public library resources in the comfort of your home. E-books, audio books, educational databases and other digital offerings are available 24/7. And you'll want to schedule your calendars for our live weekly virtual programming on the library's Facebook page, including Safer At Home storytime, craft and science projects, tips on how to tackle that DIY task that's on your "to do" list, or the latest best seller for your personal reading enjoyment.

Stay tuned to our website at library.marioncountyfl.org and our social media outlets for weekly updates of special programs and services.

The staff at all of your Marion County Public Library System locations are here to support our Marion County community. Happy reading!



START IMAGING
Your STORY