

# NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC LIBRARY

## PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Contact: **Linda Santi**  
Phone: 504-596.2602  
Email: [lsanti@gno.lib.la.us](mailto:lsanti@gno.lib.la.us)

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### **NOPL Summer Reading Program**

**Kick-Off Party: Saturday, May 20**

**1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Latter Library**

**5120 St. Charles Avenue**

*food, stories, music, free books*

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## **NOPL's Summer Reading Program Continues**

*NOPL Friends, Shell Exploration & Production Co. Again Underwrites Program*

Beginning Saturday, May 20, kids of all ages are invited to stop by their nearest New Orleans Public Library branch to register for the 2006 Summer Reading Program. Presented by *Shell Exploration & Production Company* and the *Friends of the New Orleans Public Library*, this year's program invites kids to read for fun from May 20th to July 22nd. Everyone wins by reading (or having read to them) eight books or 800 pages over the summer. Winners are then invited to a party in their honor July 22<sup>nd</sup> where they will receive their very own certificate of merit.

Readers young and old are encouraged to stop by the Summer Reading Program Kickoff Celebration at Latter Branch Library, 5120 St. Charles Avenue, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Saturday, May 20. Accommodating librarians will be on-hand to welcome and register all readers. There will be food, stories, music, and free books provided by *Feed the Children*, one of the world's largest private, faith-based organizations which is dedicated to helping hungry and hurting people throughout the world. Kids may join at any time during the nine-week period.

Throughout the summer, special guest programmers will entertain young people, including singer/storyteller Philip Melancon, Uncle Wayne's Porta-Puppet Players, and Irwin Royes, the "World's Smallest Magician." Special appearances by the pets of the SPCA and the Audubon Zoomobile reflect this year's Summer Reading Program theme, "Paws to Read."

The New Orleans Public Library suffered damage at all 13 system sites. However, all libraries currently capable of being open (Main Library downtown, Latter on St. Charles, Nix on Carrollton, Hubbell in Algiers Point, and the Children's Resource Center on Napoleon) are available for circulation, computer access, and programming. Most branches are available six hours a day, five days a week (including Saturday hours at Latter and Hubbell). The System is operating 38% of its libraries with about 20% of its staff. The NOPL web site, *nutrias.org*, has images of the devastated sites, offers further information on ways people can support the Library, and updates the community with current service and programming information.

Library Locations and Hours:

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**Main Library**

*219 Loyola Avenue*

11:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F

596-2560

**Children's Resource Center**

*913 Napoleon Avenue*

11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. M-F

596-2628

**Hubbell (Algiers Point) Branch**

*725 Pelican Avenue*

11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. M-Th; 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Sat

596-2640

**Latter Branch**

*5120 St. Charles Avenue*

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. M-Th & Sat

596-2625

**Nix Branch**

*1401 S. Carrollton Avenue*

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F

596-2630

***And On The Web***

[www.nutrias.org](http://www.nutrias.org)

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