

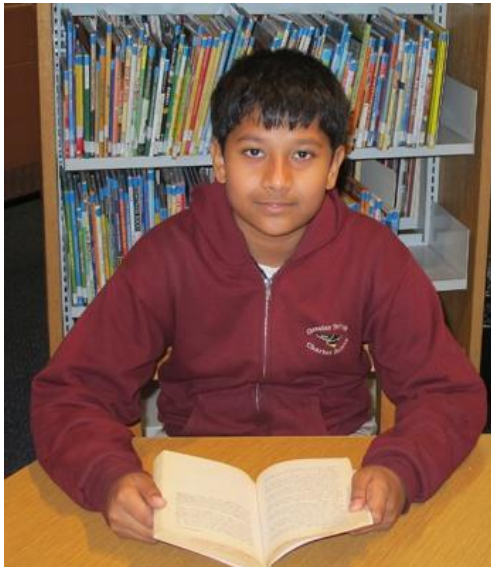
THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY  
5 WASHINGTON STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

## PRESS RELEASE

June 18, 2014

Please Contact: Heidi Cramer 973-733-7837, hcramer@npl.org

### **Young People go Fizz! Boom! Read! for Newark Public Library's Summer Reading Challenge**



Anubhab Roy

Anubhab Roy, a sixth grader at the Greater Newark Charter School, has participated in the Newark Public Library's Summer Reading Challenge since—well it has been so long he's honestly lost count, but every summer he's back to get more books. This aspiring nano-scientist's favorite genres are science fiction and humor, and his all-time favorite book is *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein.

Marsha Davis in the Main Library's Children's Room noted that Anubhab is so enthusiastic about his reading that he will often write up reports on the books and also engage staff in conversation about his latest reads. Anubhab says what he likes best about coming to the

Library is that, "There's a lot of books that you can read and that there's never something repeating; there's not the same plot. It's very different, each book."

Funded by The Prudential Foundation, the Summer Reading Challenge runs from June 23 through August 2 and is geared towards children ages three through twelve. This year's theme is **Fizz, Boom, Read!** Students entering eighth grade and above are invited to participate in the teen Challenge on the theme, **Spark a Reaction.**

Another avid reader, Osu Cofie, an eleventh grader in Newark Technology High School's nursing program participates in the teen Challenge. Last summer she

became engrossed in literary classics naming Tolstoy and Jane Austen as two authors who piqued her interest. This summer she plans to read contemporary young adult fiction. Osu also volunteers in the Children's Room at the Main Library because she loves to read and finds the Library to be a great environment and a great place to help out in.

Summer Reading Challenge participants are encouraged to read a minimum of five books. Children may report on up to 200 books and teens may report on a maximum of sixty titles. Extra credit is given for theme books such as science and science fiction, as well as award winning books. All readers receive incentives for participating, and are awarded certificates of achievement at the Challenge celebrations in August.

Many studies have shown that recreational reading over the summer helps prevent summer reading loss. Library Director, Wilma J. Grey stated: "We are extremely grateful to the Prudential Foundation for funding another summer of reading programs at the Library. It means a lot of fun for readers like Anubhab and Osu and it is reassuring for their parents that their children will keep progressing academically during the summer."

Daily educational FUN activities such as arts & crafts, story times, and puzzles & games are offered at all Library locations through August 30. For additional rules, information, and a complete schedule please see: [www.npl.org/Pages/KidsPlace/New/programs/src.html](http://www.npl.org/Pages/KidsPlace/New/programs/src.html) or visit any Newark Public Library location.

The Essex County Environmental Center will present educational science programs that include a story time at all Newark Public Library locations. All programs last approximately one hour:

At the **Soda Bubbles** program children will learn why a soda bottle loses its fizz once it's opened. They will conduct fun experiments that show the amazing properties of water and then make a watercolor craft. The program is appropriate for children ages 7-10. Each program can accommodate a maximum of 20 children. Please RSVP to the locations below to reserve a place.

Soda Bubbles will be presented at the Weequahic Branch on Wednesday, July 9 at 1:30 pm; the Vailsburg Branch on Tuesday, July 29 at 2:00 pm; the North End Branch on Wednesday, July 30 at 2:00 pm; the Van Buren Branch on Tuesday, August 5 at 2:00 pm; the Main Library on Wednesday, August 20 at 10:30 am, and the Springfield Branch on Tuesday, August 26 at 2:00 pm.

At the **River Riffles** program children will find out what a river riffle is, why it occurs and what kinds of creatures are found in the *riffly* parts of the river. They will take a close look at the tiny river creatures that like fizzy bubbly

water spots and will make a riffle-loving insect to take home. The program is designed for children ages 7-10. Each program can accommodate a maximum of 20 children. Please RSVP to the locations below to reserve a place.

River Riffles will be presented at the Branch Brook Branch on Tuesday, August 12 at 2:00 pm and at the Clinton Branch on Tuesday, August 19 at 1:30 pm.

The Library's Summer Hours will be in effect from Monday, June 23 through Saturday, September 6, 2014.

**Main Library**, 5 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07101 (973) 733-7797  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday Friday 9:00 am to 5:30 pm; Wednesday, 9:00 am to 8:30 pm; Saturday 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Branch Library** hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30 am to 5:30 pm; Wednesday 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm; Saturday 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

**Branch Brook Branch Library**, 235 Clifton Avenue, Newark, NJ 07104  
973-733-6388

**Clinton Branch Library**, 739 Bergen Street, Newark, NJ 07018  
973-733-7754

**North End Branch Library**, 722 Summer Avenue, Newark, NJ 07104  
973-733-7683

**Springfield Branch Library**, 50 Hayes Street, Newark, NJ 07103  
973-733-7736

**Vailsburg Branch Library**, 75 Alexander Street, Newark, NJ 07106  
973-733-7749

**Van Buren Branch Library**, 140 Van Buren Street, Newark, NJ 07105  
973-733-3897

**Weequahic Branch Library**, 355 Osborne Terrace, Newark, NJ 07112  
973-733-7752

All programs are free of charge and open to the public.

For a larger/high resolution photo, please visit:  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/newarkpubliclibrary/14245746537/in/set-72157644783641988>