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Summer Reading Program Kickoff Event to Highlight Science Theme

New Braunfels, TX - The New Braunfels Public Library will hold its Summer Reading Kickoff on Saturday, May 31st from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The event, “Making Science Happen,” will offer children, teens and adults the opportunity to sign up for the program, as well as enjoy science craft projects, activities, and presentations.

During the same time, the Friends of the Library will hold their 4th annual Children’s Book Sale in the Friends building at the Library’s north parking lot. Thousands of children’s books will be sold for 50 cents each. The Children’s Book Sale will also feature the New Braunfels Police Department with the Kid Print program, face painting for kids, and entertainment by the clowns “Twinkle” and “Sparkle.”

The library programming will include Squishy Circuits (made with electrically conductive play dough), Art Bots (robots that draw pictures like a spirograph), and an introduction to the library’s Mini Maker Faire. The kickoff will also feature live music with violin performances by Shiree Kirby and her students. In the Large Meeting Room children and their families will make crafts and watch interesting short films on a variety of science topics.

The Summer Reading Program for Adults will give participants the chance to win passes to the San Antonio Botanical Garden, the Witte Museum, the Johnson Space Center in Houston, the San Antonio Zoo, Natural Bridge Caverns, the San Antonio Symphony, and the Scobee Planetarium.

Throughout the summer, the library will offer a wide variety of programs, activities and performances. Some highlights include:

- *Einstein Man*: a performance by Broadway and film veteran Duffy Hudson as Albert Einstein
- *Science, Statistics and Shakespeare*: How the science of statistics sheds light on the works of William Shakespeare, presented by statistician and actor Steve Zinkgraf
- Mr. Johnny & Sharon—an interactive concert for toddlers and preschoolers

- Hands-on classes on soldering, screen printing, magazine art, button making, and more
- *The Singing Zoologist*: Lucas Miller performing songs about the natural world for kids
- Space Memorabilia Show & Tell
- A lecture on the science of linguistics by Professor Don Berquist of Trinity University
- DIY classes on making family videos, amigurumi, and crochet
- *Summer Science Flicks*: Great feature films with science and nature themes, every Thursday evening

“We think this will be the best ever Summer Reading Program, for children, teens and adults,” said Library Director Gretchen Pruett. “The timely theme of science should appeal to all ages. We’ll be offering great prizes for readers, and great free programs that will teach and enlighten. This is definitely a summer to spend with the New Braunfels Public Library.”

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