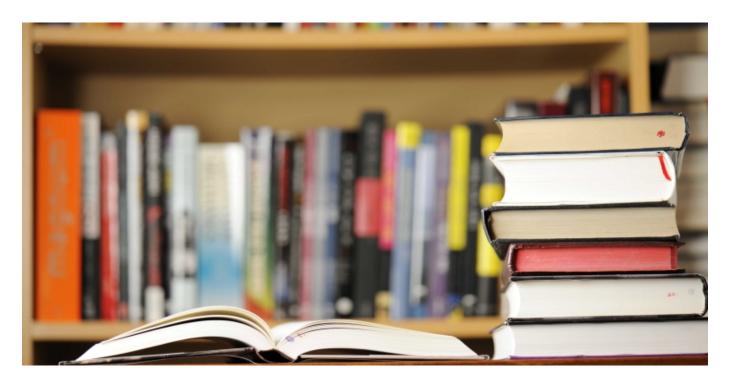


Read All About It! Ritchie Announces Winners Of Winter Reading Program

PATTY RITCHIE April 13, 2017



As part of National Library Week, State Senator Patty Ritchie is announcing the winners of her "Make Libraries Your Winter Break Destination" program. The effort was designed to encourage children to visit their local libraries while away from the classroom.

"As the Senate Select Committee on Libraries Chair, it's a priority for me not only to support our libraries, but also to encourage young people to use them," said Senator Patty Ritchie. "I want to thank all of those who participated in this program, as well as the local libraries that

strive each day to connect children with opportunities for enhancing their reading skills and expanding their imaginations."

All program participants will be sent a special certificate and bookmark from Senator Ritchie. The following students will receive a basket, filled with books and other educational materials:

Robin Monette (Oswego)

Madelyn Hirschey (Massena)

Elizabeth Eggleston (Theresa)

Storm Mack (Deferiet)

Allie Herron (Heuvelton)

Afton Riley (Richville)

Jack Riley (Richville)

Landon Daymon (Oswego)

All student submissions are available for viewing on Senator Ritchie's Facebook page.

A member of the Senate Select Committee on Libraries since 2012, Senator Ritchie was named Chair of the committee in January. The newly enacted state budget contains more than \$95 million in overall funding for public libraries across the state, which includes \$4 million more than the Governor proposed. The budget also contains \$24 million for important library capital projects and upgrades. Since 2011, Senator Ritchie has secured nearly \$350,000 in special funding to bolster libraries across Central and Northern New York.