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Senator Daphne Jordan Encourages Students to Participate in the New York State Senate Summer Reading Program

ALBANY- "If you can read, you can do anything! It is my hope that parents and guardians from across the 43rd Senate District encourage their children to read all summer long. Getting lost in a book creates adventures of the imagination while building, and more importantly when school is out, retaining reading skills," said Senator Daphne Jordan

That's why Jordan is inviting parents and guardians from across the 43rd Senate District to participate in the New York State Senate Reading Program by going to <http://www.nyread.com/>. The program, hosted in conjunction with the **State Education Department** and the **New York State Library**, is partnering with 1,100 public libraries and neighbor branches statewide. This year's theme is "Oceans of Possibilities," which is meant to connect students of all ages to the theme of oceanography and water resources.

Libraries across New York State will host exciting activities, events, as well as fun and enriching programs like reading challenges throughout the summer. Library reading programs ensure that the joy of learning does not end with the school year, and children who participate in these programs can enhance their reading skills, prevent summer learning loss, and go back to school better prepared for a successful year. Studies have shown that 80% of the reading achievement gap between students can be attributed to summer reading loss, however, children who participate in summer

reading programs can enhance their reading skills, prevent learning loss, and go back to school better prepared for a successful year.

New York State Senator Daphne Jordan is a lifelong advocate of libraries, literacy, and lifelong learning, and was a driving force to establish the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library where she served as trustee and treasurer and currently serves as a Director of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library Foundation. She previously served as the Parent Representative to the Partnership Team at Shenendehowa's Shatekon Elementary. In this capacity, she helped launch a popular school-wide summer reading program and developed weekly neighborhood reading rooms during the summer for Halfmoon children, bringing together teachers, volunteers and books donated by the Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library. It is as important as ever to encourage our kids to keep reading, especially in the summer.

As the Ranking Republican Member on the Senate Libraries Committee, Senator Jordan worked to ensure that the Summer Reading Program received \$150,000 in funding from the *Love Your Library* Special Revenue Fund. Students who complete the program by reading three books will receive a Certificate of Achievement from Senator Daphne Jordan.

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