



## ESCAPE THE ORDINARY: Adult Summer Reading 2015

Sponsored by the Texas State Library  
and Archives Commission  
Aubrey Sanders  
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### Why Adult Summer Reading?

Adults often accompany any youth who are visiting your location, why not engage them while they are there?

- Good role modeling for youth
- Stimulate circulation for adult collections
- Building community ties
- Adults should have Summer fun, too




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### How do YOU do it?

Think of your public. . .  
What are their interests?  
What were past successes?  
Where can you go from there?

brainstorm with staff – get buy-in – find funding  
seek partnerships – use the CSLP manual and TSL’s offer of promotional materials – make a plan early




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### True Heroism

- The last Monday in May and, for some, the start of Summer, Memorial Day, is a great time to remember those who serve.
  - Remembrance Wall with pics and stories
  - Gathering
  - Mayoral Speech
  - Parade beginning/ending at the library
  - Genealogical program with focus on Vets
  - Book Displays
  - Author Event




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### True Heroism

Other local hero/ines may include:

- Police Officers
- Firefighters
- EMS Workers
- Aid Workers
- Sports Figures
- Survivors of ?

\*Bonus if they are authors, too.

Or just find regular people with extraordinary stories to share with others.




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### I Need a Hero!

Make an effort to inspire heroism, too.

- drives for food, toys, coats, and whatever people need
- library can be a dropoff, distribution, or application site
- partner with local organizations
- volunteering (even at the library)




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## Incentives and Promotion

What do people gain from it?

- deductible donations for taxes – host an event for all participants at the end
- recognition board/wall – good feeling
- bookclubs can read philanthropic selections
- crafting programs where all items are for donation
- booksale with donated proceeds
- pledge drive and read-a-thon competition
- bookmarks, pins/buttons, small prizes




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## Gratitude and Inspiration

Make a wall, physical or digital, where people can write about the extraordinary folks in their lives

- remembrances – short stories – artwork
- photos – articles – notes of thanks

Your team can decide what ‘heroism’ means.

Set boundaries and make sure to monitor for rude/inappropriate content.




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## Heroic Storytelling Event

Host an event where people are encouraged to talk about and appreciate their hero/ines.

- Read passages from great works of literature
- Have an open mic for people to speak
- Have an authoritative speaker or invite local heroes
- Pull stories from your wall to share
- Seed the stories with local history research
- Display medals and awards for public




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## Heroic Bookclub

Start up a special bookclub for Summer or add to the scope of an existing one with inspiring titles.

- Tuesdays with Morrie by Albom
- Unbroken by Hillenbrand
- Eat, Pray, Love by Gilbert
- Invincible by Papale
- Lean In by Sandberg
- Wild by Strayed

Check the manual for more great, non-fiction titles.




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## Please, don't forget your villains!

Redemption is a strong theme and well, sometimes it is just so GOOD to be BAD, right?

Good and Evil – Protagonist and Antagonist  
Light and Dark – Hero and Antihero

Film Series or Battle Royales (tournament style) would be great for comparing "bad" qualities.




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## Super - Heroic

Mythological – Legendary – Pop Culture

Superheroes have been around in stories, comics, movies, video games and all kinds of media since we've had communication.

There are so many great films!  
Host a screening or series.

[movlic.com](http://movlic.com)      [mplc.org](http://mplc.org)




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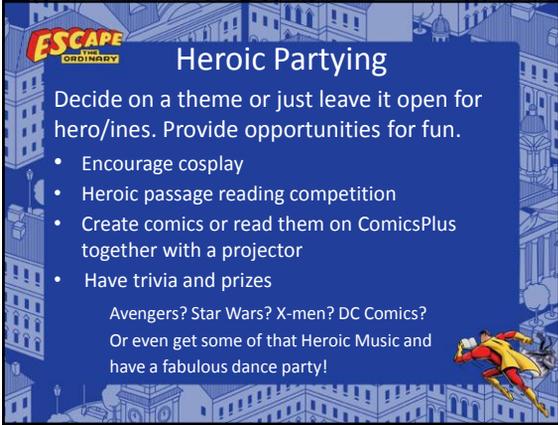
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## Heroic Partying

Decide on a theme or just leave it open for hero/ines. Provide opportunities for fun.

- Encourage cosplay
- Heroic passage reading competition
- Create comics or read them on ComicsPlus together with a projector
- Have trivia and prizes

Avengers? Star Wars? X-men? DC Comics?  
Or even get some of that Heroic Music and have a fabulous dance party!

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## Help your patrons to Escape the Ordinary

TRY NEW THINGS!

- Encourage Experimentation
- Host "Fresh" Programs
- Get Out While Staying In
- Take It To The People
- Inspire Creativity
- Be Your Own Hero/ine

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## TRY NEW THINGS!

BOOKS - EXPERIENCES - FLAVORS – CRAFTS - MUSIC  
FILMS - ACTIVITIES - RELATIONSHIPS - HOBBIES

The manual has a tic-tac-toe card for trying new items in the collection.

Play Book Bingo!

Or create a 'bingo' card for trying new foods, places, activities, etc.

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### Take it to the People!

Be brave and have library programs  
OUTSIDE of the library branch.

- Comic Shops – Senior Centers
- Coffeehouses – Bars – Rec Centers
- Parks – Bookstores – City Functions

Take the library out of the branch and  
**OUTREACH!!**




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### Inspire Creativity

Innovative Crafting ideas like

- Needle felting
- Crazy quilting with scraps, t-shirts, old jeans
- Decorative nail art that makes a statement
- Upcycling just about anything
- Life hacks

Or host something for a special community interest  
Writing workshops – Painting – Computer Gaming




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### Be Your Own Hero/ine

Get some momentum for next year, Fitness and  
Health, by inspiring heroic things for bodies to do.

- Have a fitness challenge @ the library
- Super Librarian/Patron Challenge or Scavenger Hunt
- Host a 5K with your Parks Department
- Have a Bike Ride from branch to branch
- Geocaching in strenuous places




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**Comments? Questions? Concerns?**

I'm always happy to hear about programming!

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Chair of Adult Programming at

Austin Public Library

Asst. Branch Manager of

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THANKS!!



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