YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE TO PORT'S LIBRARY



JANUARY 2018

CREATIVE READERS HONORED WITH NATIONAL AWARD

On November 9, Elise May and Jackson Hristoforatos visited Washington, D.C. to receive the 2017 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, given to PWPL for Creative Readers, an inclusion program recognized for engaging and promoting learning and life skills in young people of all abilities. The award is the nation's highest honor for programs offering creative youth development in after-school or community settings. In addition to national recognition, the Library will receive \$10,000 to support Creative Readers and engage more young people from the community.

Creative Readers, developed and led by Elise May, with valuable support from Port SEPTA, turns books into a multi-sensory experience for K-5 students, using theater, art, movement and music. It also offers a space for unique learners (some of whom are not schooled with their peers due to their disability) to socialize and work together creatively. High school volunteers are trained and paired with participants to model behavior and socialization skills, offering social, emotional and academic growth for all.

"Arts level the playing field, offering alternate means of communication, enabling all to explore their strengths and abilities," says May. "We hope this award shows that inclusion programs are essential investments not just in the lives of people with disabilities, but in our community as well." For more information, visit pwpl.org/childrensroom/creative-readers.



Elise May and Creative Readers student Jackson Timoleon Hristoforatos accept the 2017 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award from Paula Gangopadhyay, Deputy Director of the Office of Museum Services for the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

PHOTO: STEVEN E. PURCELL

QUICK READS

Holiday hours

The Library will be closed on Sunday, December 24; Monday, December 31 and Monday, January 1. On Monday, January 15 we will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Tax Help

Register beginning Tuesday, January 9 for a private tax help session, courtesy of AARP. Sessions are on Tuesdays, February 6 through April 10, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. You do not have to be an AARP member. To register, visit the Research Desk or cal 516-883-4400, ext. 111.

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