



**Stanislaus County Library**

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[www.stanislauslibrary.org](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org)

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Children and teens challenged to read without walls**

*Reading challenge at the Nick W. Blom Salida Regional Library encourages participants to expand their horizons by reading diversely*

Throughout the month of August, children and teens can take the “Reading Without Walls” challenge at the Nick W. Blom Salida Regional Library. To complete the challenge, participants must read three books: one about a character that doesn’t look or live like them, another on a topic they don’t know much about, and a book in a format they do not usually read.

The library’s Reading Without Walls challenge is part of a nationwide program that celebrates reading and diversity. The program was created by the former National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature, Gene Luen Yang.

“Children need to see themselves reflected in the books they read, but they also need to read about people and cultures that differ from their own,” said Jessica Geiss, children’s librarian at the Salida Library. “Expanding their worldview will help them learn empathy for others.”

The challenge is open to children and teens ages 0 to 18. Reading challenge logs will be available for pick up at the library Information Desk. Each participant who completes the challenge will receive a prize and a certificate of completion. The last day to receive prizes is Friday, Aug. 31.

Salida Library is located at 4835 Sisk Road. For more information, please call the Salida Library supervisor, Wayne Philbrook, at 209-543-7353. Information on regularly recurring library programs can be found at [www.stanislauslibrary.org](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org), under the “Events and Classes” tab.

#### **About the Stanislaus County Library**

The Stanislaus County Library engages all members of the community and offers access to information, knowledge, and the tools for innovation and personal development. With 13 locations throughout the county, the Library offers a diverse collection of free materials, computer access and Wi-Fi, Story Times, programming for all ages, and more. To learn more about the Library’s wide array of programs and services, visit [www.stanislauslibrary.org](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org).

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