

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



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2024

**CONTACT:**

## **Erie County Public Library selected to participate in PA Humanities' Youth-led Humanities Program.**

**Erie, PA**— Erie County Executive Brenton Davis is proud to announce that the Erie County Public Library is among the 22 distinguished recipients of a Youth-Led Humanities funding. These sites, representing both rural and urban communities across the state, have demonstrated a strong commitment to fostering youth leadership and engagement through the humanities.

“Young people have valuable insights and creative ideas that can profoundly impact their communities for the better,” said Julia Katz, Education Programs Manager at PA Humanities. “By centering youth voice through the humanities, we’re not only empowering young people but also enriching the cultural and civic life of Pennsylvania.”

As Youth-Led Humanities Cohort members, Erie County Public Library is set to receive \$5,000, to support projects and activities that reflect the interests and needs of young people. Participants will also gain access to professional development opportunities, including individualized coaching, community of practice meetings, and workshops led by library leaders and humanities professionals.

With this funding, Erie County Public Library will continue the Teen Reading Lounge—a teen-directed book club program in which participants develop their own creative pursuits and goals for exploring the humanities. The Teen Reading Lounge program bolsters adolescent development and supports teens as they discover their identities and their roles in the community.

Visit [erielibrary.org](http://erielibrary.org) for more information about Erie County Public Library and its upcoming projects.

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