



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 22, 2019

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Prime Time Family Reading Time Awarded Grant from OBT Development Board, GAI Consultants

(Orlando, FL) The Orange County Library system has been awarded a \$750 grant in support of Prime Time Family Reading Time by the OBT Development Board with a matching \$1,000 awarded by GAI Consultants' Community Solutions Group. Prime Time Family Reading Time promotes thought and conversation between children and families using award-winning children's books. These grants will help the library continue to provide experienced storytellers and nutritious meals to participating families.

Developed by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, Prime Time Family Reading Time is a six-week reading and discussion program for families with children. For each session, a storyteller guides the families through the reading of award-winning children's books that focus on a specific theme. Following the story, a scholar asks questions to the families that promotes critical thinking. The families are also provided with a healthy meal and information about library resources. The goal of Prime Time is to increase family bonding and reading time, strengthen community bonds and encourage library use by the families. For more information about Prime Time Family Reading Time, visit www.floridahumanities.org/what-we-do/partnership-programs/primetime-family-reading-time-2017/.

Since 2009, the Orange County Library System has hosted 25 Prime Time series at individual branches, with a total participation of nearly 6,000 people. Many of the participating working families had not been to the library before, nor had they had much experience in interacting with their children with vital discussions of themes like neighborhood, friendship, kindness, acceptance, differences in backgrounds and languages, and working within your community. All of the themes that the families talk about through stories that they read help to build solid communities and foster cooperation and friendships with their neighborhoods, as well as fostering literacy and positive parent child interactions. The next Prime Time Family Reading Time will begin at the Alafaya Branch on Wednesday, March 27, from 6:30–8:30 p.m., with weekly sessions ending on Wednesday, May 1. The family reading time continues at the South Trail Branch on Thursday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit https://www.ocls.info/classes-events?search_api_views_fulltext=prime%20time&sort_by=timestamp

The OBT Development Board, Inc. works as a conduit between local governments, property owners, developers and technical groups with the sole purpose of improving the lives of our residents. For more information, visit www.obtdb.com.

GAI's Community Solutions Group (CSG) is a cross-functional team of professionals that helps create sustainable, livable places. They plan and design public spaces, sculpt landscapes and parks, reimagine streets and roads, and provide the regulatory and economic insight necessary to bring projects to life. For more information, visit www.gaiconsultants.com/industry/community-solutions/.

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