

## **NEWS RELEASE**

North Olympic Library System 2210 South Peabody Street Port Angeles, WA 98362

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 1, 2023

Contact: Clair Dunlap, Youth Services Librarian

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Re: Teens can explore interests, meet friends at NOLS

Attached: Sequim\_TeenGameNight.jpg, Teens\_CollaborativeWriting.jpg

The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) is offering several opportunities for teens in grades 7-12 to take part in fun activities at their local library and to help shape future events.

All NOLS branches are seeking new members for the **Teen Advisory Board**. Members will gain leadership skills and earn volunteer hours while collaborating with library staff and peers to plan teen events and help make the library a fun, supportive, and engaging place for teens. Sign up online at nols.org/tab or by talking with library staff.

Teen Advisory Board members meet once per month at their local NOLS branch. Sequim Branch Library meetings begin Sept. 7 and are held on the first Thursday of each month from 3:30-4:30pm. Port Angeles Main Library meetings begin Sept. 12 and are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 3:30-4:30pm. Applications are now being accepted for the West End, with meetings scheduled to start in January.

The Port Angeles Main Library is launching **Teen Tuesdays**, a new after-school program with activities and snacks every Tuesday from 3:30-4:30pm. Activities alternate between Game Club with board and card games, Teen Advisory Board meetings, Book Club, and the Free Association creative writing club. "Teen Tuesdays incorporates things teens have repeatedly

asked for – a book club just for them and space to play tabletop games – and activities I've noticed teens gravitating toward," said Clair Dunlap, youth services librarian. "Our songwriting workshop for teens this summer had many creative writers in attendance who appreciated being in a room with other teens who shared their interests. I hope that Teen Tuesdays gives everyone a safe, free spot after school to explore their interests and make new friends."

The Sequim Branch Library continues its popular **Teen Board Game and Art Night** on the second Friday of each month, 6-7:30pm, beginning Sept. 8. The building stays open afterhours for teens only and free pizza is served. Teens can play board games from the Library's collection or bring their favorites to teach others. Art supplies and origami paper are on hand for a creative outlet.

At the Forks Branch Library, **Anime and Manga Club** gives teens in grades 7-12 a chance to meet with other Japanese animation and graphic novel fans, and learn about Japanese culture. Beginning after school on Sept. 8, the club meets on the second Friday of each month from 3:30-4:30pm to watch anime, enjoy snacks, and discover new manga titles.

For more information about these teen programs and others, visit <u>nols.org/teens</u>, call 360.417.8500, or send an email to teens@nols.org. Teen programs are generously supported by local Friends of the Library groups.



The Sequim Branch Library opens afterhours monthly for Teen Board Game and Art Night.



Collaborative writing in this summer's Teen Songwriting Workshop helped spark the idea for weekly Teen Tuesdays activities at the Port Angeles Main Library.