



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 15, 2026
Contact: Karyn Bocko, Marketing and Communications Manager
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Re: Library seeks artist for Summer Reading design
Attached: *NOLS-Kaisa-Lemley-2025-T-shirt.jpg*

The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) is seeking to hire an artist to design a graphic for the 2026 Summer Reading Challenge T-shirt and tote bag. Applicants should complete the online form at NOLS.org/T-Shirt and share examples of prior artwork, ideally including an example of a one-color graphic. Submissions are due Monday, Feb. 9.

The selected artist will receive a \$500 stipend to create a new design inspired by the 2026 program theme, "Plant a Seed, Read." Rooted in the farm-to-table concept, the theme highlights how a farm grows food that nourishes our bodies, and a library grows ideas that nourish our minds.

During NOLS' Summer Reading Challenge, participants who read for 30 days can choose a T-shirt or tote bag featuring the new design. Some readers have been collecting the limited-edition shirts every year since they were first introduced as prizes in 2016. The tote bag option was added in 2025. The all-ages challenge makes it fun to track personal reading goals and keeps kids excited about reading while school is out, complementing the library's lineup of engaging, theme-based summer programs.

For more information, visit [NOLS.org/T-Shirt](https://nols.org/T-Shirt). The Summer Reading Program is supported by local Friends of the Library groups.



Local artist Kaisa Lemley designed the 2025 Summer Reading Challenge T-shirt and tote bag.

Artists interested in creating the 2026 design must apply by Feb. 9.

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