



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

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: June 17, 2021  
Contact: Jennifer Smathers, Public Services Specialist  
360.963.2414; JSmathers@nols.org  
Re: Comic-Book Reality: Superheroes and the Power of Representation  
Attached: *Comic-Book Reality.jpeg, Humanities-WA-logo-high-rez.jpg*

As part of the Summer Reading Program, the North Olympic Library System (NOLS) presents *Comic-Book Reality: Superheroes and the Power of Representation*, presented by Humanities Washington speaker T. Andrew Wahl on Tuesday, June 29 at 6pm on Zoom. Register at [nols.org](http://nols.org) or your local NOLS branch to receive Zoom link.

Since their debut in the 1930s, comic books have been a regular part of the pop-culture landscape. While often dismissed as escapist entertainment, these pulp treasures also provide a fascinating lens through which to view our nation's past, present, and potential future. In this interactive presentation, Humanities Washington speaker, journalist, and educator T. Andrew Wahl explores how everything from social movements to business concerns to changing demographics have shaped the reality seen in the pages of comics. Drawing from comics including Black Panther, Wonder Woman, Captain America, and others, Wahl shows how four-color heroes aren't merely confined to paper—they shape the world we live in.

T. Andrew Wahl is a journalist who has worked as an editor and editorial cartoonist. Wahl is a lifelong comic book aficionado, focusing on the Bronze Age (1975-85) of the American comic book. Wahl studied comic-books as a part of his MA in the humanities at Fort Hays State University. He currently teaches journalism at Everett Community College.

## About Humanities Washington

Humanities Washington sparks conversation and critical thinking using story as a catalyst, nurturing thoughtful and engaged communities across the state. Speakers Bureau is one of Humanities Washington's oldest and most popular programs. For more about Speakers Bureau, visit [www.humanities.org/programs/speakers](http://www.humanities.org/programs/speakers).

## Take the Summer Reading Challenge!

Sign up at [www.nols.org/srp](http://www.nols.org/srp) or at your local NOLS library to join the Summer Reading Challenge. For every 30 days you read, you can receive an entry into the Grand Prize Drawing (up to two entries). Each Grand Prize Drawing winner will be able to select one of the following prizes: a \$100 gift card to a local book store or restaurant, or a LEGO® set (up to \$100 in value)! Read for 30 days and earn a color-by-number Summer Reading Challenge T-shirt-- express your creativity by filling it in yourself! Whether you read for 20 minutes or 20 hours, it counts as a reading day! Track your reading through August 20.

Summer Reading Program grand prizes, T-shirts, books, and events are generously supported by Friends of the Library groups at all four NOLS branches. For more information about the Summer Reading Program, visit [www.nols.org/srp](http://www.nols.org/srp), call 360.417.8500, or email [Discover@nols.org](mailto:Discover@nols.org).





*Humanities Washington presents "Comic Book Reality" Tuesday, June 29 at 6pm on Zoom  
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