

GEORGIA★READS



Purpose:

Georgia Reads is dedicated to uniting and empowering a fragmented literacy ecosystem, driving literacy forward to ensure economic prosperity in every Georgia community. By bringing stakeholders together and guiding literacy initiatives, we can unlock a brighter future for all Georgians.

Georgia Reads Will Make a Difference:

Georgia Reads, a statewide initiative backed by the Georgia Council on Literacy, aims to transform the state's literacy ranking from almost worst to first by 2030. Supported by the Georgia General Assembly, state, community and school leaders, this effort unifies literacy programs and resources across Georgia. Improving reading outcomes will drive economic growth, reduce poverty, and strengthen communities, helping everyone turn the page to a brighter future.

Partners:



Highlights:

- Georgia Reads launched on June 24, 2024 at the Georgia Municipal Association's (GMA) Annual Conference. GMA and its nonprofit, Georgia City Solutions, Malcolm Mitchell, and Share the Magic Foundation are partnering with the Georgia Council on Literacy to amplify the Georgia Reads messaging.
- **September 30, 2024 is Georgia Reads Day**, a time when every Georgian can partner with Georgia Reads by creating awareness about the literacy crisis, participating in activities and initiatives promoting reading and encouraging educators to share reading tips with students and parents. On this day, the Georgia Reads Community Awards application will open and be available at www.georgiareads.org. These awards will recognize 10 community partnerships who, over the last three to five years, set goals for literacy improvements and made progress meeting these goals. Applications will be due on November 26, 2024.
- Each of the communities selected to receive the Georgia Reads Community Award will receive:
 - A \$25,000 award to continue literacy improvement efforts; and
 - A visit from Georgia Reads Coach Malcolm Mitchell and the Share the Magic Foundation to recognize Georgia Reads Communities, host a "Reading Rally," and distribute Mitchell's book, *Hey Georgia*, to students.
- **Beginning November 4, 2024**, Georgia Reads, with the help of Malcolm Mitchell's Share the Magic Foundation, will host **READBowl**, a statewide reading challenge. Georgia's elementary, middle, and high school classrooms/teams with the highest average reading minutes will win state recognition, a visit to the Georgia Capitol, and the READBowl state championship trophy.
- **February 2025 (date TBD) is Georgia Reads Day at the Capitol** when 10 community partnerships will be recognized as Georgia Reads Communities. Share the Magic Foundation will also announce Georgia school winners of the READBowl competition.

Important Dates:

September 30, 2024

Georgia Reads Day and Georgia Reads Community Awards application opens

November 4, 2024

Virtual READBowl challenge opens - Sign up now!

November 26, 2024

Georgia Reads Community Awards applications due





January 13, 2025

READBowl kicks off

February 2025

Georgia Reads Day at the Capitol when 10 Georgia Reads community partnership awards will be announced and READBowl Champions recognized and honored

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Support Georgia Reads and Play a Role in Improving Literacy in Georgia!

Be a part of something transformative! The Georgia Council on Literacy and Georgia Reads are seeking committed and passionate local government leaders, school districts, chambers, churches, businesses and other stakeholders to become literacy partners.

Scan the QR code now to sign up and receive more information about how you can start a community partnership, receive the Georgia Reads newsletter, attend special events, and create awareness about Georgia Reads.

Scan to sign up

