EASTERN SHORE PUBLIC LIBRARY ONE OF TWENTY LIBRARIES

IN U.S. TO RECEIVE SUMMER TEEN GRANT



CHICAGO, ILLINOIS (April 23, 2018) The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA) has chosen Eastern Shore Public Library to be one of twenty public libraries in the United States to receive its 2018 Summer Teen Intern Grant. The grant will allow these public libraries to hire teen interns to assist in the implementation of their summer learning programs, while also helping teens gain real world work experience and develop professional skills. Each grant is worth \$1,000. The grant is possible through the generous sponsorship from The Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

Janice Felker, the Youth Service Librarian of the Eastern Shore Public Library, is very grateful and excited to be awarded this grant. "With the generous support of YALSA and the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, the library will be able to set the stage to develop a strong teen intern program," Felker announced. "Internships lead to many growth opportunities for our community teens including volunteer or employment positions in the future and the creation of a Teen Advisory Board to help us plan young adult programs." The new regional library will have a room designed specifically for teens that includes space for graphic novels and young adult books, comfortable seating, and access to a technology makerspace.

Two teen interns will be hired, one for the Accomac and one for the Nassawadox location. Students interested in applying for the part-time, temporary summer internship program should visit the library's website, www.espl.org, to register or stop by one of these two libraries to get the form. The student must be between sixteen and eighteen years old, a resident of either Accomack or Northampton County, and have transportation to the library.

For years, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has provided Youth Literacy Grants to schools, public libraries, and nonprofit organizations in hopes to provide assistance in implementing and expanding literacy programs for youth. For more information about Dollar General and its Youth Literacy Grants, visit www.dollargeneral.com.

The mission of the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) is to support library staff in alleviating the challenges teens face, and in putting all teens – especially those with the greatest needs – on the path to successful and fulfilling lives. For more information about YALSA or to access national guidelines and other resources go to www.ala.org/yalsa.