

PRESS RELEASE

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TEENS CAN EMBRACE THEIR INNER PHOTOGRAPHERS WITH IGNITE YOUR SUMMER PHOTO CONTEST

The Stratford Public Library will be adding some sparkle to summer with a series of themed photography challenges beginning July 5th. Each week in July and August, teens will have a chance to compete for weekly and end-of-summer prizes. The call to action reads:

Teens (12-19 years old) can follow SPL's teen Instagram @SPL.Ignite to compete in Ignite Your Summer. Each week we will announce a photography theme (like summer scenery, food, or animals). Photographs will be submitted through direct message to @SPL.Ignite or via email to bwindsor@pcin.on.ca. EVERY photo submitted is a ballot in the end-of-summer grand prize draw for a \$100 Amazon gift card. The photo that is deemed to be the BEST (according to the librarians at SPL) for each week's theme will also receive a prize pack worth \$40. Players can also score additional end-of-summer grand prize draw ballots for playing games posted to the Instagram feed -- including trivia, riddles, and more!

Ignite Your Summer will give teens the opportunity to have a creative adventure and to show off their talents. Brooke Windsor, the Teen Services Librarian says,

"This program is the perfect way for teens to show the world through their own eyes. It isn't the camera that creates the perfect photograph, it's the artist behind the lens. Teens will have a whole week to submit their photos so it's great for those who are busy working or volunteering over the summer. They can do it on their own schedule."

Beginning July 5th, contest themes and weekly winners will be announced Mondays on the @SPL.Ignite Instagram account. Players will have until Sunday night to submit as many photos as they want.

The end-of-summer grand prize draw will happen during the last week of August just before school resumes. The odds will favour those who have submitted the most photos and participated in the games posted periodically on the Instagram feed.

Only those between the ages of 12 and 19 years old are eligible for the weekly prizes for best photo and the grand prize at the end of the game.

"We hope that offering a flexible summer program for teens will allow everyone to play whenever they want. Despite Covid-fatigue, there is still beauty in the world. We want local teens to head outdoors with their camera and find it", says Windsor.

For more details about how to play, visit splibrary.ca/igniteyoursummer.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact

Brooke Windsor, Teen Services Librarian at 519-271-0220 x131 or bwindsor@pcin.on.ca.

