



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Durham Region's Battle of the Books Returns!

22 February 2021 - Durham Libraries annual Battle of the Books offered in partnership with local schools is back for 2021 with a new twist!

The longstanding event which challenges teams of readers from schools across Durham Region is redirecting to a virtual format, but continuing to promote a lifelong love of reading.

Battle of the Books often draws participation from dozens of schools and hundreds of students each year. First started in 1991 by Ajax Public Library, Battle of the Books has grown to encompass all of Durham Region in an annual event with local and regional competitions at both Junior (Grades 4 – 6) and Intermediate (Grades 7 – 8) levels. Battle of the Books was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19 and the resulting school and library closures.

Recognizing that schools, classes and friend groups, homeschool groups and individual families continue to adjust to new learning models, the redesigned program has a variety of options for participating. Using a new platform, readers are encouraged to join individually or as part of a team, read from a curated booklist, and participate in a variety of activities to test their knowledge.

This modified Battle of the Books offers a number of ways to participate:

- Read the books off the curated lists; all titles are available in a variety of formats from your local library!
- Track the books you've read from the lists to earn badges and ballots towards prizes.
- Submit reviews of books from the reading list, and;
- Participate in a mini-Book Battle by voting for your favourite title from each genre!

Other activities such as online quizzes connected to the reading lists will be available to help test and strengthen readers' knowledge and memory skills.

Battle of the Books officially launched on February 1st, but readers can join and participate through until April 30th. On May 3rd, a special event recognizing reading champions will take place online, with special guest and local author Wesley King.

Register and find everything you need to get started online at www.bookbattle.ca. For more information, questions, or additional assistance, connect with your local library.

Participating Libraries include: Ajax, Brock, Clarington, Oshawa, Pickering, Scugog, Uxbridge, and Whitby Public Libraries. Battle of the Books is generously sponsored by TD Bank.

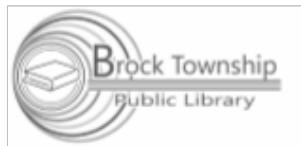
-END-

Contact:
Kiley Percy
Coordinator of Marketing and Communications
Ajax Public Library
905-683-4000 ext. 8819
kiley.percy@ajaxlibrary.ca

Supported by:



Battle of the Books Durham Region Libraries:



SCUGOG
MEMORIAL
PUBLIC LIBRARY



WHITBY
PUBLIC LIBRARY