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IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

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Yakima Valley Libraries to Host Children's Day (El Día de los Niños) Family Literacy Festivals

On Saturday, April 29, Yakima Valley Libraries will host two fun, family events at the Yakima Central and Sunnyside libraries, along with drop-in activities at all other community libraries, in celebration of Children's Day/El Día de los Niños.

In addition, thanks to funding from the Yakima Valley Libraries Foundation, children and teen attendees at the Yakima and Sunnyside events will be able to pick out a free book to keep! (Available while supplies last).

- **What is Children's Day/El Día de los Niños?**

Since 1925, Children's Day/El Día de los Niños, or Día as it is commonly known, has been celebrated in Mexico and several other Latin American countries on April 30 as a day set aside to focus on the well-being of children and the importance of childhood.

- **Why is YVL celebrating Día?**

In 1996, Pat Mora, a children's book author and leading figure in Hispanic literature, first learned about Mexico's Día celebrations. She proposed a similar, literacy-focused celebration in the United States, which quickly became a national initiative. Now, as celebrated by libraries and librarians, Children's Day/El Día de los Niños, focuses on literacy, children, families, multiculturalism, multilingualism, and the importance of reading together.

"Not only are these events an important reflection of the diversity and culture of the Yakima Valley, they provide an opportunity for Yakima Valley Libraries to better connect with the whole community," said programming librarian, Krystal Corbray. She added, "And, as library staff, we get to engage in one of the most fun and impactful parts of our work: promoting the value of strong literacy skills and the many ways the library can help turn young readers into lifelong learners."

- **How is YVL celebrating Día?**

- **Yakima Central Library – Día Event Schedule**

Saturday, April 29th from 10:00am to 2:00pm -- Drop-in crafts & activities, including:

- 10:30am-11:00am: Musical performance by the YAMA Youth Orchestra
 - 11:00am-11:30am: Storytime
 - 1:00pm-2:00pm: Musical performance by the YAMA Youth Orchestra, followed by an instrument show & tell with the students

(continued)

- **Sunnyside Community Library – Día Event Schedule**

Saturday, April 29th from 10:00am to 2:30pm -- Drop-in crafts & activities, including:

- 10:30am-11:00am: Bilingual storytime
- 11:15am-12:00pm & 1:15pm-2:00pm: Lotería (Mexican Bingo)
- 12:00pm – 12:30pm: Performances by students from Valley Performer Arts
- 12:45pm – 2:30pm: Family-friendly movie time

- **Community Library Drop-In Crafts**

In addition to Yakima Central and Sunnyside events, all other community libraries will have Children's Day/El Día de los Niños drop-in crafts available during regular open hours on the following dates:

- Friday, April 28th
Buena, Granger, Harrah, Mabton, Tieton, Toppenish, and Zillah community libraries
- Saturday, April 29
Moxee, Naches, Selah, Terrace Heights, Wapato, and West Valley community libraries

The complete schedule of events and activities is available here: <https://www.yvl.org/kids/dia/>

It is the mission of Yakima Valley Libraries to support lifelong learning and an informed citizenry by providing free, open, and full access to a vast array of ideas and information.

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