
YOUNG VOICES READ WELCOME PACKET



Young Voices Read



HELLO & WELCOME!

Welcome to Young Voices Read! I am so excited to invite you into this joyful, inspiring program that celebrates the voices, imaginations, and stories of our youth. These stories make us who we are, and stay with us forever.

My name is Layla Salinas and I am the Youth Ambassador for Young Voices Read. I am so excited for us to get started, but you should know a few things about me before we get going:

1. I'm a senior in high school and honestly, I love school. I love to learn new things and surround myself with like-minded individuals.
2. I grew up visiting my grandpa in the gorgeous Pine Mountain Club, mostly for our annual "Christmas at Grandpa's" celebration. It is the event of the year, when my family gets together in my grandpa's cabin to exchange gifts, eat too many cookies, and celebrate the holiday season.
3. I thrive off of chai lattes. (yes, this is important)

4. And finally, I've always LOVED to read. My mom once told me that while other kids had security stuffed animals, I've always had a security book. Everywhere you can find me, you can find books, and in those books, stories that have changed how I see the world.

Every story has a beginning. And not every child's journey is going to be the same. We are so glad that your child's journey brought you here with us at Young Voices Read. This is a space for creativity, growth, and celebration. Through each season, we'll offer support, encouragement, and free books to spark curiosity and confidence in young readers. I can't wait to see how your children grow through this program.

Thank you for being here- and for supporting your child's voice.

Warmly,
Layla Salinas
Youth Ambassador, *Young Voices Read*

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

THE PROBLEM

California falls toward the lower-middle portion of states when it comes to literacy. Less than half of California K-12 students meet English language arts proficiency, signaling a pressing challenge.

Young Voices Read aims to battle this, and make our state better, one book at a time. We are a quarterly youth literacy initiative that celebrates the power of storytelling, encourages self-expression, and nurtures a life-long love of reading.

THE PEOPLE

We believe that in order to solve a problem, we need to start at the root. Our program is designed for students in grades K-12 to inspire a love of reading from the earliest of ages.

THE PROMISE

Our goals drive us to work harder and dream bigger here at Young Voices Read. We aim to support reading at home, provide access to free and engaging books, and celebrate progress with fun community events.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

01

Program sign ups for Young Voices Read and Teen Zine



02

Light snacks and a warm community welcome



03

2:00pm performance by storyteller Jim Cogan, a nationally acclaimed oral storyteller sharing engaging, interactive stories for all ages



04

Browse the Frazier Park Library calendar for more free programs and workshops year-round



TIMELINE

FALL KICK OFF (Sept. 6, 2025)

Meet the team, sign up for *Young Voices Read*, enjoy storytelling and snacks, and learn about the year ahead.

WINTER BOOK BOX PICKUP (December 2025)

Receive your full *Young Voices Read* book bundle (2–3 age-appropriate books) along with fun literacy goodies. Begin logging reading progress at home.

SPRING READING REFRESH (March 2026)

Check-in to share progress, participate in an optional creative activity, and update your reading log.

SUMMER CELEBRATION & RECOGNITION (June 2026)

Celebrate with certificates, giveaways, and optional participation in our Teen Zine showcase.

TEEN ZINE PROGRAM



Led by *Charlotte Haggin*, our talented YA Program Lead with a background in writing and digital art, this initiative gives teens the tools to write, design, print, and publish their own zines.



Offered for students in grades 7-12 interested in writing, poetry, comics, and art.



This program contains monthly workshops hosted at Frazier Park Library to help teens cultivate their own creative zines.



Teen Zine gives students unique mentorship and publishing opportunities!



PROGRAM CONTACTS



Layla Salinas
Youth Ambassador



Gisa Seeholzer
Vice-Chair

BOOKS IN THE WOODS

Books in the Woods, a 501(c)3 charitable nonprofit organization (EIN: 99-1928719) based in Pine Mountain Club, CA, is more than just a community space. It's a beacon of hope for literacy development. Our programs and events are designed to inspire engagement with reading, writing, and creative expression for families, children, and teens, making a positive impact on our community.

Website: <https://www.booksinthewoodsnonprofit.org/>

Email: info@booksinthewoodsnonprofit.org

Instagram: [@booksinthewoodsnonprofit](https://www.instagram.com/booksinthewoodsnonprofit)

YVR Survey



YVR Website

