



SUBMITTED PHOTOS *Elmhurst Independent*

K's find 1,000 reasons to celebrate library

"1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" encourages parents and caretakers to read 1,000 books to their infant, toddler, or preschooler before they start Kindergarten. Each 100-book milestone is celebrated with a fun activity, capped off by the 1,000 Books graduation party held each year. Here, everyone gathered to hear a story read by 6th grader Alyssa Hall, a long-time fan of storytimes at the library over the years. For more information about the program, visit elmplib.org/1000books.

power our communities," said Melissa Washington, vice president of governmental and external affairs at ComEd. "That's why we are proud to partner with the League to support local arts and cultural institutions in their efforts to enrich the lives of residents who may otherwise have limited exposure to the arts."

This is the second year that ComEd and the League, an alliance of more than 200 Chicago theatres, have partnered to support arts and cultural institutions through the Powering the Arts Program.

All 13 ComEd 'Powering the Arts' Program grant recipients for 2019 are:

Citadel Theatre in Lake Forest, Shattered Globe Theatre in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood, Adventure Stage Chicago in Chicago's West Town, Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre in the Chicago Loop, Esperanza Community Services in West Town, Repertorio Latino Theater in Chicago's Bridgeport, Warehouse Project & Gallery in Summit, Chimera Ensemble in Chicago's Wicker Park, CircEsteem Inc. in Chicago's Uptown, Experimental Station in Chicago's Woodlawn, Faubourg Theatre in Hanover Park, and Side Street Studio Arts in Elgin.



More than 30 children celebrated their completion of the "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" program at Elmhurst Public Library on Saturday, Aug. 24. The children listened to a story, paraded through the Library applauded by staffers, then enjoyed activities and treats on the Library's south lawn. Here, students enjoyed playing with a parachute.