

READ! FEST 2021 RETURNS WITH NEW PROGRAMMES, RECOMMENDED BOOKS AND INTERACTIVE LITERARY TRAILS TO REINVIGORATE THE LOVE FOR READING

24 June 2021

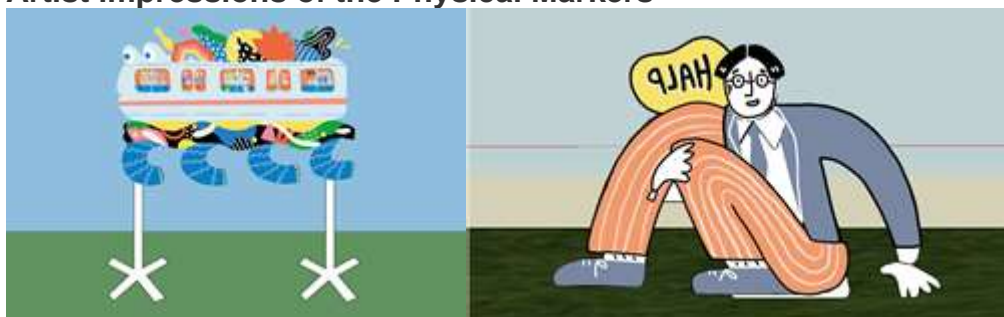
ANNEX A

Overview of Read! Fest 2021

Literary trails

- Titled 'The Curious Adventures of The Salaryman', the interactive trail will bring participants on a multi-sensory reading experience through the various pitstops of the trail at the following locations and starting points:
 - East Coast Park: East Coast Lagoon Food Village
 - West Coast Park: Near MacDonald's
 - National Library Building Plaza (ground floor)
- Led by a digital protagonist navigating his own adventure to reinvent himself from his tiresome routine, daring explorers will be invited to embark on journeys of self-discovery inspired by the festival theme of *Reboot*.
- The trails will be available from mid-July to September 2021.

Artist impressions of the Physical Markers



Reading Encounters at the Public Libraries

- *Reboot*-inspired installations will be set up at Woodlands Regional Library, Jurong Regional Library, Tampines Regional Library, Yishun Public Library, Seng Kang Public Library, Serangoon Public Library and Toa Payoh Public Library. Participants can engage with the mini activities at the stations meant to inspire Singaporeans to reflect upon the festival theme and gain new perspectives.
- Book displays will be put up across all public libraries to encourage Singaporeans to learn more about the 12 featured titles, related titles and topics of the festival.

Woodlands Regional Library (L3) Tampines Regional Library (L2)



Festival Programmes

- Festival programmes will be anchored by Read! Fest's 12 key books and topics. Curated in the English, Chinese, Malay, and Tamil, Read! Fest programmes comprise of talks, panel discussions, workshops by international and local authors, practitioners, artists and thought leaders.
- This year's Read! Fest offers over 60 programmes, mostly held online. Examples of featured authors this year are Elif Shafak (UK), Austin Kleon (US), Okky Madasary (Indonesia), Chen Qiufan (China), and So Dharman (India). From myths, minimalism to work and AI, join them to explore thoughtful ideas for our time.

Read for Books Charity Drive

- Read for Books is a charity book drive that aims to raise awareness in reading and share the gift of reading with the less privileged. From 10 to 26 July 2021, for every 10 people who read for 15 minutes, one book will be donated to selected beneficiaries from NLB's WondeRead programme and ItsRainingRaincoats.
- This year, members of the public may take part in the Zoom Read for Books where librarians will share their favourite books with the participants. Schools, companies, organisations, individuals are also encouraged to hold their own Read for Books session at their own time.
- After completing their session, participants may upload their photos of their reading activity or screenshots of their online session to www.go.gov.sg/rfb-submit by 6 August 2021, 11.59 pm.
- Read for Books 2021 is supported by Scholastic Education International (Singapore) Pte Ltd, Kinokuniya Bookstores of Singapore Pte. Ltd, and Popular Book Co (Pte) Ltd.

Big Book Giveaway

- To galvanise the community to read more, read widely, and read together, the Big Book Giveaway (BBG) is an annual community event by NLB where members of the public are given access to free pre-loved books that enrich their reading journey. These pre-loved books can be brought home for free on a while stocks last basis.
- In light of the pandemic, the sixth edition of BBG has transitioned to a series of smaller giveaways called “mini-BBGs”, held both by partner organisations and in public libraries. The mini-BBGs in public libraries will take place from 15 to 18 July.
- Partners will hold the mini-BBG on their own premises tentatively over the July period, depending on how each organisation is adapting to social distancing measures. Please visit www.go.gov.sg/nlb-bbg6 for more information.