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Children’s Literacy Foundation Awards Rural Libraries Grants

*Waterbury Center, VT:* The Children’s Literacy Foundation (CLiF) has awarded twelve public libraries across Vermont and New Hampshire its 2021-2022 Rural Libraries grant program. CLiF’s Rural Libraries grant program is for public libraries in New Hampshire and Vermont in towns with a population of 5,000 or less. The grant program provides two storytelling presentations by CLiF’s Vermont and New Hampshire authors/illustrators and storytellers, new books for the public library, new books for the local elementary school library, a mini-grant for library programming, and new books for each child to pick out for themselves.

CLiF Program Director Meredith Scott says, "During COVID, staff and volunteers of public libraries have worked so hard to offer their communities the services they count on from the library - computer use, research, books/movies/audio recordings, programming, connections, and gathering space. CLiF looks forward to working with these twelve libraries as they continue to creatively enrich the lives of kids and families."

The 2021-2022 libraries are:

* George H. Stowell Free Library, Cornish Flat, N.H.
* Olive G. Pettis Library, Goshen, N.H.
* Hill Public Library, Hill, N.H.
* Piermont Public Library, Piermont, N.H.
* Mansfield Public Library, Temple, N.H.
* Whitefield Public Library, Whitefield, N.H.
* Bradford Public Library, Bradford, Vt.
* John Woodruff Simpson Memorial Library, Craftsbury, Vt.
* Russell Memorial Library, Monkton, Vt.
* Cutler Memorial Library, Plainfield, Vt.
* Readsboro Community Library, Readsboro, Vt.
* Royalton Memorial Library, South Royalton, Vt.

These libraries will kick-off the Rural Libraries grant program with the first of two storytelling sessions this fall. The goals of the program are to improve access to high-quality children’s and young adult literature, to update libraries’ collections and increase circulation/use, and strengthen the connection between libraries and their communities.

**About the Children’s Literacy Foundation (CLiF)**

CLiF is a non-profit organization whose mission is to nurture a love of reading and writing among low­income, at­risk, and rural children up to age 12 throughout New Hampshire and Vermont. Since 1998, CLiF has supported and inspired almost 350,000 young readers and writers through its literacy program grants and has given away $9 million in new, high­quality children's books. For more information about CLiF and to apply, visit [www.clifonline.org](http://www.clifonline.org/).

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