



book harvest

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DUKE ENERGY MAKES GRANT TO SUPPORT
BOOK HARVEST SUMMER PROGRAM WITH LOCAL STUDENTS**

Duke Energy announced today that it will make a grant of \$5,000 in support of Book Harvest and its Books on Break program running at all 30 Durham Public Schools elementary schools this spring.

Books on Break, a cornerstone program of Book Harvest, invites participating children to select books to take home to keep in time for summer. Research shows that access to books combats summer learning loss and help participating children return to school in the fall ready to learn.

Book Harvest kicks off its sixth year of Books on Break this month. The Duke Energy funds will help ensure that the selection of books being shared with the children are high interest, culturally diverse, and language-appropriate.

“Access to books that students can see themselves in helps those students maintain reading skills through the summer and to push back – a lot -- against summer learning loss,” said Ginger Young, founder of Book Harvest, the non-profit organization that sponsors Books on Break in partnership with Durham Public Schools. “The nearly 1,500 brand new books that these funds will make possible will go far to help Durham’s young readers preserve the hard-won gains they are reaping in their classrooms this spring. We are delighted by and grateful for this investment by Duke Energy in our kids’ academic success.”

Indira Everett, District Manager of Government and Community Relations at Duke Energy, added, “It is often said that you can’t be what you can’t see. Providing books that are relevant to the lives of local students in grades K-5 will reap vast benefits for our community and help bolster the academic skills of our future workforce. We are delighted to help Durham’s children thrive with the nourishment of books.”

For more about Book Harvest and its Books on Break program, visit Book Harvest at www.bookharvestnc.org

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