

## Record-Breaking Turnout at ELC's Storybook Street as Event Returns with New Twists



On Saturday, February 24, 2024, Storybook Street reached new heights with a record-breaking number of attendees as 6,600 children's books were distributed in 2 hours. Hosted by the Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County at State College of Florida's Venice Campus, the fourth annual Storybook Street delivered an "Imagination Destination" designed for tiny tots, with an exciting new twist—science!

Nearly 350 families with children aged birth to seven were treated to a FREE whimsical, interactive event that combined literacy, art, and science into one unforgettable experience. Over 20 community partners brought books to life through captivating performances and creative activities, showcasing everything from art and drama to music and movement.

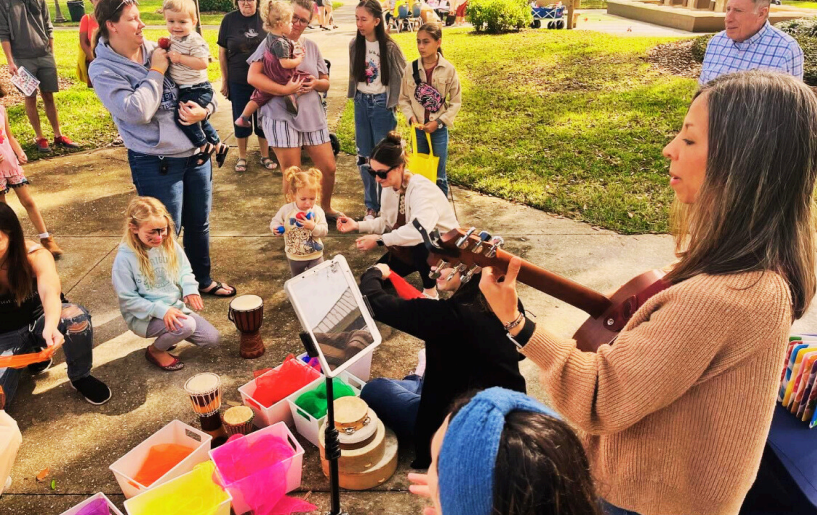
The ELC proudly distributed 20 books per family, ensuring each child left with not only wonderful memories but also a treasure trove of reading materials to inspire a lifelong love of literacy. More than just a day of fun, this event offered families opportunities to engage deeply with stories, sparking the imagination of Sarasota County's youngest learners.

From the sweet sounds of Gulf Coast Music Therapy, animal encounters with Big Cat Habitat, to scientific discoveries with the Sidewalk Science Center, Storybook Street delighted families at every turn. Children, dressed in costume as their favorite storybook characters, danced through the event, embracing a day filled with joy, creativity, and knowledge.

A huge shout out to all of our partners:

Sarasota Orchestra  
Venice Theatre  
Gulf Coast Music Therapy  
The Circus Arts Conservatory  
Nailed It DIY Sarasota  
Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium  
Little Medical School Suncoast  
The Ringling Museum, ROAR Program  
SCF's Sigma Kappa Delta English Honors Society  
Big Cat Habitat  
Irish Dance Academy of Sarasota  
Wholehearted Education  
Sidewalk Science Center  
The Venice Symphony  
SCF's STEM Club  
Sarasota Children's Museum  
All Faiths Food Bank, Education Team  
The Sarasota Players  
Sarasota Performing Arts Foundation

A heartfelt thank you to State College of Florida Venice Campus for providing the beautiful setting and to the Knights of Columbus Council 13341 for their generous support of the book purchases, making this magical day possible. With record attendance and growing community support, Storybook Street 2024 was a resounding success, leaving all involved eagerly awaiting next year's adventure!

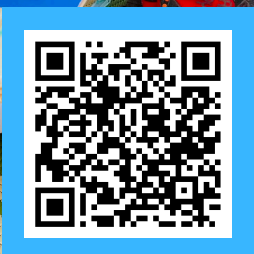


# STORYBOOK Street 2024



Every family received  
20 FREE books

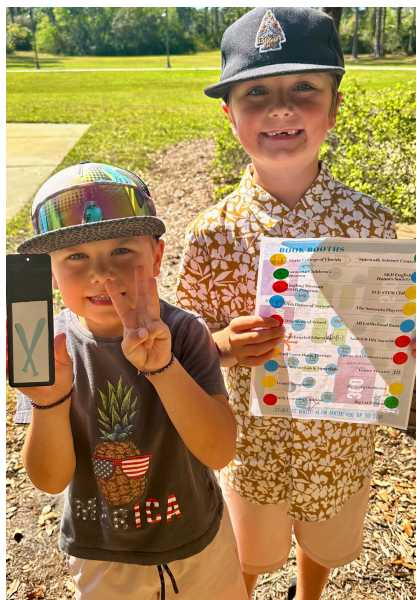
Literacy-meets-the-arts  
event for ages birth to 7





Scan for information or visit The Venice

The Venice Symphony Youth Orchestra in part by the State of Florida



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