

## TOWN

# Zine project comes to Middle Country Public Library

The Middle Country Public Library celebrates literacy and learning with The Zine Project, its summer learning program for teens. Middle Country Public Library is one of 20 libraries nationwide selected to receive the Young Adult Library Services Association 2018 Summer Learning Resources Grant, which provides resources to build literacy skills. Summer learning programs are important for youth to participate in because they help mitigate the “summer slide,” which is when students lose literacy skills over the summer when their minds are not being stimulated educationally. Through its summer learning program, the library hopes to instill, as well as foster, positive learning habits and long-term literacy skills among youth.

As part of this initiative, teens entering grades 7-12 are invited to participate in The Zine Project, an opportunity to socialize in a fun, café-style setting with friends and be part of a collaborative art experience. Draw, write and collage about favorite topics or

interests and become the author of a zine, a magazine “with a twist.” Learn about comic drawing, layout, design, binding and more. Participants can also showcase zine creations at a reception for friends and family during the last session. A special teen “zine” collection will be developed in the underground teen space at the library in Centereach.

The Zine Project will be held Tuesdays, June 26, July 10, 17, 24 and Thursday, July 19 at the library from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Centereach location at 101 Eastwood Blvd.

Teens in grades 6-12 are also encouraged to register for Songs to Start a Fire, a songwriting workshop (Aug. 1, 8 and 15) and Comic Book Camp, a comic book design workshop (Aug. 7-10) to get the creative juices flowing.

Registration for these summer learning opportunities begins Friday, June 8, and is open to Middle Country Public Library cardholders. For more information about The Zine Project, contact the library at 631-585-9393,



Teens read together at a recent Middle Country Public Library book club.

ext. 107, or [www.mcplibrary.org](http://www.mcplibrary.org).

The Zine Project is supported in part by a grant from the Young Adult Library Services Association and the Dollar General Literacy

Foundation. Young Adult Library Services Association builds the capacity of libraries to serve teens. Learn more about the association at [www.ala.org/yalsa](http://www.ala.org/yalsa). The Dollar

General Literacy Foundation aids organizations in implementing and expanding literacy programs for youth. Learn more about Dollar General at [www.dollargeneral.com](http://www.dollargeneral.com).