



THE
PUBLIC
LIBRARY
of Cincinnati
and
Hamilton County

800 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio
45202-2071

Contact
Richard Helmes
Phone•369•6959
or
Phyllis Hegner
Phone•369•4571

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Fax 513•369•4565

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Delhi Township Branch Library to Host Mardi Gras Family Night February 20

A costume contest, King Cake Bake-Off, and Gumbo Cook-Off are just three events that will take place at the Delhi Township Branch Library, 5095 Foley Road, for its *Mardi Gras Family Night* at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, February 20. The festivities will include:

- Decorating wagons and strollers as floats in the Mardi Gras Parade
- Costume Contest: Winners will be the King & Queen of Mardi Gras Night.
- King Cake Bake-Off Contest
- Gumbo Cook-Off Contest

There will also be plenty of activities for all ages:

- Storyville: Button Making and Storytelling for children
- Face Painting for all ages
- Mask & Hat Making Craft
- Karaoke Machine
- Fortune Telling
- Pancake Race or Toss
- Clown Toss
- Book Cart Races

History of Mardi Gras

Mardi Gras is a traditional holiday celebrated in many of the southern states of the United States. The official 2004 Mardi Gras date is February 24, the day before Ash Wednesday. The most famous celebration takes place in New Orleans, Louisiana, where people enjoy this celebration by going to parades to catch beads, doubloons, cups, and trinkets that are all thrown from floats. They have masquerade balls and dress up in costumes, and King Cakes are eaten during this holiday. Mardi Gras is known as the “biggest free show on earth.”

Mardi Gras means “Fat Tuesday.” Traditionally, it is the last day for Christians to indulge—and often overindulge—before Ash Wednesday starts the sober weeks of fasting that come with Lent. Formally known as Shrove Tuesday, Mardi Gras has long been a time of extravagant fun for European Christians.

For more information contact the branch at (513) 369-6019.

✓ **Interpreter for the hearing impaired available upon request. Please call the ADA Coordinator at 513-369-4406 (TDD 513-369-4409) at least one week before program.**

✓ **Information about events at the Main Library and 41 branch libraries is available on the Internet site: www.CincinnatiLibrary.org.**