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## DELAWARE COUNTY LIBRARIES

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### ***Read a Book! See a Show!***

*Delco's StoryWalk Book Comes to Life at Upper Darby Summer Stage*

Delaware County Libraries is collaborating with Upper Darby Summer Stage this summer by giving library patrons special sneak peeks of shows and exclusive ticket discount offers on their performances of: *The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley, Jr.*, *Freckleface Strawberry the Musical*, and *A Year with Frog and Toad!*

From now until August 3, Delaware County residents can visit StoryWalk at Rose Tree Park and read *Frog and Toad are Friends* written by Arnold Lobel. Upper Darby Summer Stage's production of *A Year With Frog and Toad* is a musical written by Robert and Willie Reale based on Lobel's *Frog and Toad* children's stories.

"We are excited to once again launch a new StoryWalk book in Rose Tree Park this summer," said Delaware County Council Chairman John McBlain. "This year's collaboration with Upper Darby Summer Stage gives our young residents two places to enjoy this summer. We know that success in literacy begins at an early age and we not only want to encourage that, we also want to foster a love for reading among our youth."

Children and their parents are invited to stroll along the 19 plexi-glass panel displays posted on a .25-mile circle located behind the Parks and Recreation office, and up the hill from the amphitheater. They can read each colorful page and then walk, skip or run to the next page.

After completing the *Frog and Toad are Friends* StoryWalk, patrons can use their smartphone to scan a QR code and receive an exclusive \$2.00 off discount code for Upper Darby Summer Stage tickets.

"We're excited to give our young readers the opportunity to read *Frog and Toad are Friends* at StoryWalk before seeing the show come to life at Upper Darby Summer Stage" said Delaware County Libraries Director Catherine Bittle. "Strengthening relationships with community partners like Summer Stage creates unique opportunities for residents of Delaware County and we are thrilled to be collaborating with this wonderful organization."

“We appreciate having the opportunity to partner with Delaware County Libraries,” said Lauren Stevenson Yacina, Marketing Manager for Upper Darby Summer Stage. “Our organizations are passionate about creating meaningful opportunities for family learning and cultural growth. Our partnership enables young learners to experience Arnold Lobel's beloved *Frog and Toad* stories in a multi-dimensional way through reading, nature and live theater.”

StoryWalk is the creation of Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vt. Delaware County’s StoryWalk panels were installed at Rose Tree Park with assistance from students at Williamson College of the Trades. StoryWalk at Rose Tree Park is free and open during park hours. The StoryWalk is geared for children ages 1 to 7.

Delaware County Libraries is an agency of county government that provides support services for 26 independent member libraries. For information about the wide range of library services available to all county residents, visit: [www.delcolibraries.org](http://www.delcolibraries.org).