

new york state senator Patty Ritchie

## Ritchie: Share a 'Shelfie' Through My Winter Reading Program

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In an effort to promote literacy among young students, Senate Select Committee on Libraries Chair Senator Patty Ritchie is encouraging students to 'check out' their local libraries during the month of February through her Winter Reading Program.

This year, the program is inviting students in grades kindergarten through eighth to visit their local library and take a 'shelfie', which is a 'selfie' taken in a library with a favorite book.

"Our libraries are where students can explore not only books, but also their imaginations," said Senator Ritchie. "I hope that this program encourages students, and their families, to visit our local libraries and check out books that will help young people improve their

reading skills and expand their horizons."

All participating students will receive a special certificate and bookmark from Senator Ritchie. Three winning entries—one each from Jefferson, Oswego and St. Lawrence Counties—will receive a special 'book basket' filled with books and other educational materials.

To enter, visit your local library, take a 'shelfie' with a book you have or plan to read this winter and submit the photo through the online form available here. You can also submit entries by emailing your name, your parent's name, your address and your 'shelfie' to ritchie@nysenate.gov. Entries must be received by February 28<sup>th</sup>.