



TOM MCCALL
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE CAPITOL
SALEM 97310

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TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF TROY:

Books are essential in the life and development of the child. They are a stimulus to his intelligence and imagination, an incentive to independent thinking and a source of information and enjoyment. It is in childhood that the use and enjoyment of books should be learned.

The purpose of a children's library service is to make it possible for all children, according to their needs and circumstances, to enjoy all the benefits which access to books can bring.

In one of the classics about children's literature, The Unreluctant Years, Lillian Smith states "the miracle of the children's library is their 'magic casement', their 'open sesame', their 'looking glass' through which they can push their way into whatever inexhaustible country of the mind and imagination so full of wonder, beauty and delight."

Congratulations on the opening of your new library, a facility which will give not only you, but your children as well, pleasure in the years ahead.

Tom McCall
Governor of Oregon