

Reach Out and Read Colorado
1355 S Colorado, Suite 108,
Denver, CO 80222
reachoutandreadco.org



NEW MEDIA RELEASE

Reach Out and Read Colorado and Little Man Ice Cream Host Authors and Ice Cream Summer Series

DENVER (June 20, 2024) – Reach Out and Read Colorado, in partnership with Little Man Ice Cream and select Colorado children’s book authors, is hosting a series of Authors and Ice Cream events at various Little Man Ice Cream locations throughout the summer to promote early literacy in our communities! Attendees are invited to enjoy ice cream from Little Man while listening to a local author read aloud one of their picture books.

The Authors and Ice Cream events are family-friendly, free and open to the public, and the read-aloud stories will be suitable for any preschool to elementary age children. In addition to live storytime, there will be fundraising opportunities and a gently-used book drive to support Reach Out and Read Colorado’s mission and deepen its impact. CEO of Reach Out and Read Colorado, Patty Fontneau, shares, *“We love collaborating with like-minded businesses and individuals who are passionate about having a positive presence in the community and supporting families. We are thrilled to be partnering with Little Man Ice Cream and local authors throughout the summer! These events will foster positive family and neighborly bonding through a love of books, and, let’s be honest – is there any better combination than ice cream and storytime?”*

The kick-off event will be held at Little Man Ice Cream (The Can) in LoHi from 4pm-7pm on Sunday 6/23, and the following events will alternate between Sweet Cooie’s in Congress Park and DANG Soft Serve in Park Hill throughout June - August. See below for a complete schedule with dates, locations, and times.

- Sunday 6/23 - Kick Off Event at Little Man Ice Cream in LoHi: The Can (4pm-7pm, with storytimes at 4:30pm and 5:30pm)
- Thursday 6/27 – Sweet Cooie’s Ice Cream in Congress Park*
- Thursday 7/11 – DANG Soft Serve in Park Hill*
- Thursday 7/25 – Sweet Cooie’s Ice Cream in Congress Park*
- Thursday 8/8 – DANG Soft Serve in Park Hill*

**5:30pm-7pm, with storytimes at 5:30pm and 6:15pm*

As part of Little Man’s Scoop for Scoop philanthropic program, a portion of ice cream sales from the kick-off event will go to Reach Out and Read Colorado to support early literacy in Colorado. At all events, Reach Out and Read Colorado will be collecting gently-used children’s books that will be redistributed to children in need throughout the state to build their home libraries.

Paul Tamburello, founder of Little Man says, *“Through our Scoop for Scoop program, we are committed to community collaborations that focus on education, child welfare, and hunger relief. Reach Out and Read Colorado’s mission is perfectly aligned with our vision. We look forward to hosting this exciting summer series that brings books into the hands of young children and families throughout Colorado.”*

About Reach Out and Read Colorado

Reach Out and Read Colorado gives young children a foundation for success by incorporating books into pediatric care and encouraging families to read aloud together. They do so by providing a new language- and developmentally-appropriate book and empowering pediatricians to talk with caregivers of young children about the importance of reading aloud at regular check-ups, with a special focus on children growing up in poverty. By building on the unique, trusted relationship between caregivers and healthcare providers, Reach Out and Read Colorado helps families and communities encourage early literacy skills and healthy family connections from birth, so children enter school prepared for success.

The Reach Out and Read program is backed by extensive research and is the only national pediatric literacy model endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics. To learn more, visit www.reachoutandreadco.org or find us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).

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For more information:

Katie Malone | Senior Manager of Marketing & Communications
katie@reachoutandreadco.org | 763-218-7439