

# Program unmasking teenagers' passion for reading

By Teaona Monroe



Erin Stevens with Ruth Lynn and their masks.

For Ruth Lynn, letting kids know that the library can be fun is a passion.

The Richmond County Public Library Outreach Program Coordinator has held a summer teen reading program for two years now. Her main focus: to get teen reading to ensure that what they've learned all school year won't disappear during the summer.

She believes it's important to constantly keep your mind stimulated. Her goal is to remind youth that the library

is not all about schoolwork.

This summer's theme is "the mask" with a focus on giving teens the opportunity to get in touch with their creative side.

Lynn urges more teens to get involved and reach out to her with their interests and suggestions so that she may be able to provide a place for them to come and enjoy themselves while learning.

The need for the program came from the absence of teens and young people in the library. Teenager Erin Stevens is very active in the program. She heard

about the program through school and immediately became interested. She visits the library often with her mother and is very grateful for the opportunities this program has presented.

The program is steadily increasing, having doubled in size since it started last year.

The next event hosted by the outreach program will be movie night on July 11 and they plan on working and reading to the elderly later this month.