

Patriots champion Malcolm Mitchell, 754 Haverhill first graders to kick off the summer reading season

Patriots wide receiver, children's book author and youth literacy champion Malcolm Mitchell will hold a reading rally at the Haverhill YMCA on Monday, June 18 at 6 p.m.

Mitchell and his youth literacy initiative, [Read with Malcolm](#), and non-profit, [Share the Magic Foundation](#), organize "Reading Rallies" designed to boost reading skills and provide access to books for students in under-resourced communities. The program features a "big-game" pep rally atmosphere that fosters enthusiasm for reading and reinforces Mitchell's key philosophy: students must "Read to Succeed."

Every first grader in the Haverhill School District will receive a copy of Mitchell's book, "The Magician's Hat," at school on or before June 18. This will happen thanks to the generosity of Gold Sponsor Pentucket Bank, Silver Sponsors Covanta Energy, Holy Family Hospital, the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center, and Bronze Sponsors the Stories Podcast and Riverside Church. That evening, the Haverhill Education Coalition will host a Reading Rally with Mitchell where students will enjoy a magic show and participate in a read aloud program. The community event is open to all students and parents in the Haverhill School District and the first 75 students (who are not first graders attending the event) will also receive a copy of Mitchell's book.

Event highlights: Read With Malcolm/Haverhill Education Coalition Reading Rally

June 18 - Haverhill YMCA, 81 Winter St., Haverhill, MA 01830

3 - 5 p.m.: Students are welcome to use the Y facilities at no cost

3-3:45 p.m.: Open Swim and Open gymnastics

3:30 - 4:45 p.m.: Bounce House, Gaga Ball, Face Painting, and Arts & Crafts

5-5:30 p.m.: Students enjoy pizza from Haverhill House of Pizza

5:30-5:55 p.m.: Story reading hosted by "Stories Podcast"

6-6:45 p.m.: Malcolm Mitchell's presentation and a magic show

6:45-7:30 p.m.: Children enjoy Carter's Ice Cream

Media to RSVP to John Zoccola: 267.664.2759 / john@readwithmalcolm.com

"There is no offseason for literacy. It is critical that students maintain their reading skills over the summer, to be ready to go for the school year and to tackle the 'summer slide' learning gap. We 'Read to Succeed 365 days a year;' and I am very excited to make it happen with the students of Haverhill."
- Malcolm Mitchell

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“It’s an honor to contribute to this event. Pentucket Bank is proud to support programs that provide better opportunities to improve the lives of young people through enhanced educational benefits.”

- *Scott Cote, CEO of Pentucket Bank*

About Share the Magic Foundation: Author, Super Bowl Champion and New England Patriots professional, Malcolm Mitchell considers a love of reading to be his greatest achievement. In 2016, he founded Share the Magic Foundation with a sole purpose: to transform children’s lives through literacy. The Foundation’s mission is to inspire young people to read by bringing book ownership to students in Title I schools and under-resourced communities. Whether a student is a striving reader or learns differently, Read With Malcolm literacy programs provide both inspiration and motivation, and carry the message that reading is the key to achieving one’s goals. To learn more about Malcolm’s vision to inspire young and striving readers, please visit www.readwithmalcolm.com.

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