

June 14, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Margret Aldrich 612-203-6856 maldrich@littlefreelibrary.org

Big Fun with Little Free Library at ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago

The book-loving nonprofit will be building and giving away Little Libraries and will announce its next Action Book Club theme.

Hudson, Wis. – [Little Free Library](http://LittleFreeLibrary.org)® will be a featured guest at the American Library Association (ALA) [2017 Annual Conference and Exposition](http://ALA.org) in a new interactive space called The Playground.

“The ALA Conference is exciting for us,” says Todd H. Bol, Founder and Director of Little Free Library. “Many of our stewards are librarians, and our programs complement the valuable services that traditional libraries provide.”

Little Free Library will be in **booth 3555** in the exhibition hall’s Playground area, providing attendees with the opportunity to build book exchanges. Many of the Little Free Libraries built during the conference will be donated to communities in need identified through the organization’s Impact Fund. **In addition, attendees who register will be eligible to win one of six Libraries that will be given away during the conference.**

Visitors to the Little Free Library booth at the ALA conference can:

- Enter to win a Little Free Library
- Participate in building Little Free Libraries
- Meet the creator of the first Little Free Library, Todd H. Bol, Executive Director of the Little Free Library nonprofit
- Add a book title to the “Books of Understanding” mural, a collection of books that foster empathy and compassion
- See Little Free Libraries on display, including the first one ever built; a Library decorated by artists of The Simpsons; and catalog models

Action Book Club Event: Sunday, June 25 at 12 Noon, Booth 3555

On Sunday Little Free Library will announce its next [Action Book Club](http://ActionBookClub.org) theme, and founder Todd H. Bol will give away a Little Free Library to a conference attendee.

Little Free Library’s Action Book Club invites groups to read books on a theme, discuss what they’ve read, and take part in a service project to benefit their community.

The most recent Action Book Club theme, *Good Neighbors*, drew 200 groups in the first 48 hours and generated dozens of community service projects including:

- A third-grade classroom in Cleveland, Ohio, read the book [Look Where We Live! A First Book of Community Building](#) by Scot Ritchie, then started a school recycling program. “We set a goal for 15,000 bottles,” says teacher Robin Palmore.
- A club in Minneapolis, Minnesota, read [A Man Called Ove](#) by Fredrik Backman, then collected healthy, nonperishable food for a food drive. “I see my Action Book Club as a way to embrace my new commitment to take local action to improve our community,” says member Jennifer Pierce.
- Another club in Ventura, California read [What’s the Buzz, Honeybee?](#) by Robin J. Smith, then gave away wildflower seeds to help restore bee populations. “You don’t need a large group, and you don’t need a huge project. Think of the ‘butterfly effect’ and how small changes can really help,” Smith says.

“We look forward to seeing what initiatives the new Action Book Club subject inspires among people,” says Bol.

To sign up for the club and learn more visit littlefreelibrary.org/actionbookclubsignup/.

Prime photo opportunities will be available with the founder of Little Free Library, Todd H. Bol and his team, at 12 noon in booth 3555 on Sunday, June 25.

About Little Free Library: In 2009, Todd H. Bol built the first Little Free Library book exchange and placed it in his Hudson, Wisconsin front yard to honor his mother. The idea for the handmade book exchanges with the motto “Take a book. Return a book.™” resonated with people, and today the number of registered book exchanges has grown to more than 50,000 around the world, in all 50 states and in 70 countries. Through these book exchanges millions of books are shared annually. Little Free Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and has received numerous honors, including the National Book Foundation’s Innovations in Reading Prize, the American Library Association’s Movers and Shakers Award, the Library of Congress Literacy Award, and “Top-Rated Nonprofit” status by Great Nonprofits. The organization encourages the volunteer stewards who manage the book exchanges to register their Little Libraries for listing on its world map and inclusion in a network that shares ideas and notices about events and programming. To obtain a Little Free Library and learn more, visit littlefreelibrary.org.

###

IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

CONTACT: Margret Aldrich 612-203-6856; maldrich@littlefreelibrary.org