

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY®

TAKE A BOOK, SHARE A BOOK™

Our mission is to inspire a love of reading, build community, and spark creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world.

The Creator—and the Heart—of a Global Sharing Network

Little Free Library (LFL) is an entrepreneurial nonprofit that facilitates 24/7 access to books in all 50 states and 91 countries. The organization is the backbone of a global network of impassioned and action-oriented volunteers, patrons, and friends who establish and support community book-exchange boxes. Since the first book exchange was set up in 2009 by founder Todd H. Bol, Little Free Library has garnered universal praise for its original and inclusive book-sharing platform that promotes a culture of reading and community-building.

- There are more than 80,000 LFL book exchanges worldwide—that's three for every public library in the U.S.
- Tens of millions of books are shared each year through Little Free Library book exchanges.
- About 250,000 people connect with Little Free Library (and one another!) through a variety of social media and email channels

How it Works

An inviting “Take a Book, Share a Book”™ concept is what activates LFL book exchanges. Visitors may discover a book to bring home or leave a book for someone else to find—often meeting neighbors and making friends in the process. These miniature Libraries are tangible expressions of a thriving community.

- LFL book exchanges may be found in front yards or public places like parks, bus stops, and community centers in rural and urban settings—and everywhere in between
- Volunteer stewards establish and maintain book exchanges to build community and increase literacy through book sharing
- LFL book exchanges express the creativity of their stewards by their unique designs and themes; the books they contain reflect the interests of their neighborhoods

A Vision of Service and Sharing

Little Free Library envisions a world in which everyone shares a common bond through a love of books and a concern for neighbors. LFL empowers stewards through resources and ongoing support to make a difference in their communities. LFL book-sharing boxes spark conversation and connect neighbors in personal and meaningful ways. Little Free Library is committed to providing fun and easy access to books for all people—regardless of age, reading level, ability, or socioeconomic status—and doing it in a way that strengthens neighborly interactions.

- Research suggests that social connectedness is waning at an alarming rate in the U.S.; one-third of Americans have never met their neighbors
- There is only one book per 300 children in low-income neighborhoods
- 93 million adults—nearly half the adult U.S. population—read at or below a basic level

Accelerating the Grassroots Movement

Little Free Library has sparked a grassroots movement with fifty new stewards establishing LFL book-sharing boxes every day—that's 18,000 LFL exchanges added each year. Little Free Library provides engaging social media spaces, motivating informational resources, and innovative programming to support and grow its worldwide network of volunteer stewards.

LFL equips individuals, families, organizations, and leading businesses to engage and benefit neighbors and readers of every kind through its three principal programs:

- o **Steward Services:** LFL's core program nurtures volunteer stewards who establish and maintain LFL book-sharing boxes that strengthen communities and increase literacy through book access
- o **Impact Library Program:** Provides no-cost LFL book-sharing boxes to communities in need
- o **Action Book Club™:** Combines reading with community service projects

A Unique Opportunity

Little Free Library book-sharing boxes are fast becoming 21st century signposts of optimism and hope, drawing people together to connect through book sharing. In partnership with corporate and individual donors, LFL seeks to expand its mission and increase the availability of book-sharing boxes to serve millions of children and adults in disadvantaged communities.

Little Free Library offers its valued partners:

- **An association with an entrepreneurial nonprofit organization** that is advancing a universally appealing, culturally relevant movement
- **Opportunities to cultivate interpersonal relationships** among employees and customers through book-exchange-building activities
- **A unique distribution channel** for books and meaningful content
- **A visible, tangible, and high-touch experience** with local and national points of contact
- **Access to active and connected individuals and groups**, including the volunteer stewards who operate the book exchanges; patrons who share books; and the organization's many friends who support its mission
- **Opportunities for earned media** with global reach through vivid, powerful storytelling distributed through multiple traditional and social channels
 - 2018 Media articles (print/online): 7,690 with potential media reach of 3.2 billion
 - Social media followers (April, 2019)
 - Facebook: 158,500
 - Twitter: 19,300
 - Instagram: 58,600
 - Pinterest: 17,000
 - Email subscribers: 40,500

