



May 14, 2019

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Celebrating 10 Years of Little Free Libraries: Announcing Winners of the Todd H. Bol Awards for Outstanding Achievement

The first Little Free Library book exchange was created in 2009. A decade later there are more than 80,000 Little Free Libraries and volunteer stewards in 91 countries.

Hudson, Wis. – Today the Little Free Library nonprofit organization is announcing the winners of its first-ever Todd H. Bol Awards for Outstanding Achievement. Named for the nonprofit organization's [late founder](#), the awards recognize Little Free Library volunteer stewards who are making an exceptionally positive impact on their communities.

The awards are part of [Little Free Library's 10th Anniversary celebration](#). In 2009 founder Todd H. Bol created the first Little Free Library book exchange and quickly recognized its enormous potential to bring people together around the love of reading. Ten years later his idea has grown into a worldwide book-sharing movement. There are now more than 80,000 registered Little Free Libraries in all 50 states and 91 countries, and more than 120 million books have been shared.

Winners of the Todd H. Bol Awards are:

Giovanna Iorio of Rome, Italy, established the first Little Free Library in Italy in 2012 and has since inspired hundreds more.

Rosalinda Sandoval Keeler of El Monte, California, and the El Monte Coalition of Latino Professionals use Little Libraries to serve socioeconomically vulnerable kids.

Malaz Khojali of Khartoum, Sudan, launched a Little Free Library network in an area of Sudan lacking school or public libraries.

Mary Lindsey of Lake Worth, Florida, and the Lake Worth Little Free Libraries project have championed more than 100 Little Free Libraries in their area.

Lisa Lopez-Williamson of El Paso, Texas, brought Little Libraries to her borderland community to combat its title of "Least Literate City in the Nation."

Evan Peterson of Spring Valley, Wisconsin, is a youthful ambassador for LFL's mission of literacy and community.

Chuck Prihoda of Medford, Wisconsin, creates whimsical Little Libraries that look like school buses, train stations, and more.

Linda Prout, of New Orleans, Louisiana, began using Little Free Libraries to build book access and a sense of community following Hurricane Katrina.

Talena Lachelle Queen of Paterson, New Jersey, is working to place a Little Free Library in each of her city's 46 parks.

Duane Yazzie of Window Rock, Arizona, established the Navajo Nation's first Little Free Library through LFL's [Impact Library Program](#), which provides no-cost Little Libraries to communities of need.

"Little Free Library volunteer stewards are shining examples of the hope and compassion possible in this world!" says Monnie McMahon, Little Free Library national board chair. "We are incredibly proud of the Todd H. Bol Award winners and their dedication to spreading the joy of reading, increasing book access and bringing people together in their communities. They embody the mission of our founder, Todd, who spread joy across the globe by planting Little Free Library book-sharing boxes everywhere he went."

"We know there are thousands of other stewards around the world making a difference in ways big and small," McMahon continues. "Each one of them is dear to us."

Celebrate 10 years of Little Free Libraries with THE BIG SHARE, May 17–19! To participate, share a book in a Little Free Library, take a photo, and post it on social media with #LFL10.

To learn more about the [Todd H. Bol Award winners](#), this month's [Impact Library recipients](#) and [The Big Share](#), visit LittleFreeLibrary.org/10years.

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About Little Free Library®: Little Free Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood LFL book exchanges around the world. Little Free Library has received recognition from the Library of Congress, the National Book Foundation, the Women's National Book Association, and others. To learn more, support our programs, and become a volunteer steward yourself visit LittleFreeLibrary.org. Find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).



Todd H. Bol Award winner Lisa Lopez-Williams poses with a Little Free Library and students at Herrera Elementary in El Paso, TX, where she is a school librarian. Additional photos available upon request.