



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

573 County Rd A
Suite 106
Hudson, WI 54016

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HUDSON WI
PERMIT NO. 517



LITTLE FREE LIBRARY.ORG[®]
TAKE A BOOK • SHARE A BOOK

Library of Distinction: Chicago, IL

Erin Adams decided to do something special when she created two Little Free Library book boxes for her neighborhood. Following YouTube videos, she taught herself to laser-engage each one with the names of more than fifty African and African American authors.



Erin says, "We hope this can be a site of authors' book readings and celebrations of literacy in our neighborhood!"

Keep in touch
© LittleFreeLibrary.org | 715-690-2488



Celebrate the 100,000th Little Free Library!

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have launched the world's 100,000th Little Free Library book-sharing box. We are thrilled to reach this important milestone, which caps ten years of effort from our organization and support from friends like you.

Share the excitement with friends and family while raising revenue and awareness! To honor this momentous occasion, we have created a commemorative medallion (pictured here), which you can earn only by hosting a Facebook fundraiser or house party for your Little Free Library. The medallions will be given to those who raise \$100 or more for the Little Free Library nonprofit organization. Funds raised will expand our steward services and support book access for communities in need.

Facebook fundraisers and house parties are easy to set up and offer a convenient way for others to donate to a cause you care about. Visit LittleFreeLibrary.org/House-Party to get started.

We could not have come this far without you! **Thank you!**

Little Free Library[®] News

Sharing Books Since 2009

Spring 2020



Look Inside for...

- A Little Free Library at the Smithsonian
- Our new National Board Chair
- A partnership with the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
- Little Women Libraries
- And more!

Help us bring books where they're needed most!

Donate. Share Books. Become a Steward. LittleFreeLibrary.org

Meet National Board Chair Anita Merina



We are delighted to welcome Anita Merina as chair of our National Board of Directors. Anita first joined the Little Free Library board after an impressive tenure at the National Education Association.

“As an avid reader and literacy advocate, I know what it means to share a love of books and reading with others,” Anita said.

“As we embark on the next decade for Little Free Library, I am excited and honored to be leading our expanding mission to provide greater book access for communities who need them and provide even better resources for our wonderful network of Little Free Library stewards.”

A Letter from Our Executive Director

Hello, Little Free Library Friends!

One of our 2020 goals is to grow our partnerships with complementary organizations. We are working with our first, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN). Pancreatic cancer affects thousands each year, from Little Free Library’s late founder and staff family members to current Supreme Court justices and U.S. congresspeople.

Our connection, beyond the loved ones lost, is the grassroots approach PanCAN takes to amplify its efforts. Whether it is locally driven walks to raise funds and awareness or the over 1 million volunteers that help across the country, PanCAN is able to do more because of community-based volunteers and leadership.



Little Free Library has a grassroots network of volunteers as well. Our steward network helps connect neighbors, communities, and literacy advocates to provide book access. We hope to tap the energy of both networks to raise funds to fight this horrible disease. Each sale of a PanCAN-branded library or plaque will provide financial support. Thank you!

M. Greig Metzger



Smithsonian Unveils Little Library

We are honored that a Little Free Library book-sharing box now stands at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. This little library—created using Ojibwe birchbark techniques by Native American artist Pat Kruse—was gifted through our Impact Library Program's Native Library Initiative, a donor-driven project that places libraries in tribal communities across the nation to improve book access.

The library seeks to honor Native American culture and provide access to culturally relevant books.

“By fostering a love of reading and increasing availability of free and accurate books about Native Americans, the Little Free Library fits in with the NMAI’s vision of equity and social justice for the Native peoples of the Western Hemisphere through education, inspiration, and empowerment,” said NMAI representative Renée Gokey.

Corporate Events, Continental Reach

This winter we helped Foresters Financial build 77 book-sharing boxes at five team-building events across the US and Canada. The builds occurred in Toronto, Atlanta, Dallas, and Los Angeles, and once completed, the libraries were donated to local literacy-based organizations in each community.

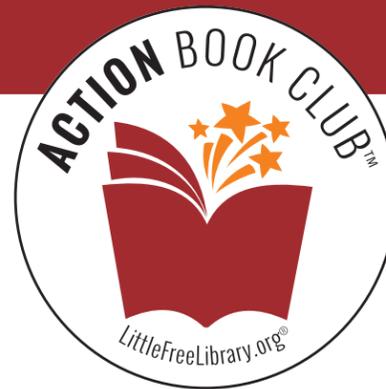
Nicole Gourley, Foresters Financial global chief membership officer, said, “It was a fun way for our member leaders to do a community activity together, and the benefits of literacy, especially for children and communities, align with what Foresters values as an organization.”

To bring a corporate event with community impact to your company, connect with us at LittleFreeLibrary.org/Contact-Us.



Read Well, Do Good

Our Action Book Club invites groups to read and discuss books, then take part in meaningful service projects together. An Action Book Club in Minneapolis, Minnesota, recently read *The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper* by Phaedra Patrick, then collected Spanish-language books to send to refugee children in New Mexico.



“We all loved the idea of getting books into the hands of the children at the border who are suffering all manner of loss and pain,” said Action Book Club member Jennifer Pierce. “We felt empathy for these people from a very different place who have the same life goals of safety, health, and opportunity for their children as we do. Our group felt sending books to their children was something admittedly small, but tangible that we could do.”

Learn about the Action Book Club’s new theme “Reading All Around” and how you can join the club at LittleFreeLibrary.org/ActionBookClub.

ON THE COVER:

Residents of Chicago’s South Shore neighborhood gather for the first time at their new Little Free Library book-sharing box. “As one of the recipients of the Impact Library Program, my family and neighbors are delighted to have this opportunity to promote the joy of reading a book to everyone who passes by our beautiful little library,” said steward Veronica Kyle.



Little Women Libraries

Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy March would approve: Sony Pictures recently teamed with us to create ten *Little Women*-themed libraries, which were donated to stewards in ten U.S. cities.

In addition, Sony shared more than 2,000 *Little Women* books in little libraries across the country!

To make sure you’re eligible for book giveaways like this, add your library to our world map: LittleFreeLibrary.org/OurMap.

Impact Library Program

Our Impact Library Program places Little Free Library book-sharing boxes in underserved areas where they can improve reading motivation and deepen community connections. More than 1,000 little libraries have been granted to deserving recipients since the program began in 2016. A recent recipient, Katie Carter, and her son, Desmond, wanted to improve book access and make their New Orleans community feel more welcoming.

“We have absolutely loved having our LFL! Desmond and I put it up with the help of some neighbors and we’re excited to see books quickly flying off the shelf,” said Katie. “We are so grateful to Little Free Library for choosing us as stewards for this library. It has not only given us a project to work on together, but has also brought us closer to our community in such a short amount of time.”

The Impact Library Program is made possible by individual donors and partner organizations committed to improving literacy in communities with limited access to books. Learn more about how you can support this program at LittleFreeLibrary.org/Impact.

