



Little Free Library®



What started as a simple idea became a global literacy movement. The first Little Free Library book-sharing box was built in 2009 in Wisconsin. There are now more than 150,000 registered, volunteer-led Little Free Libraries around the world. The Little Free Library nonprofit organization is at the heart of this phenomenon. Our growing network shares our mission to be a catalyst for building community, inspiring readers, and expanding book access for all.

Little Free Library By the Numbers



150,000
Little Free Libraries



50
U.S. States
Served



120
Countries
Served

Little Free Library Highlights

- **More than 300 million books** have been shared through registered Little Free Libraries, profoundly increasing book access for readers of all ages and backgrounds.
- **Thousands of neighbors** have connected for the first time, building stronger and friendlier communities.
- Our Impact Library Program has granted **more than 2,000 Little Free Libraries at no cost** to communities where they are needed most.
- Launched in 2020, our **Read in Color initiative** has reached 14 cities and distributed more than **40,000 diverse books** celebrating BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and other marginalized voices.
- Our **Indigenous Library Program** has provided little libraries full of books to Native communities in partnership with tribal leaders.
- LFL has attracted **high-profile collaborators** including Amerigroup, Disney, Foresters Financial, Good Morning America, Goodreads, Marvel, Scotiabank, and Sony.
- LFL has been awarded the **World Literacy Award** and Guidestar's respected **Platinum Seal of Transparency**, as well as recognition from the Library of Congress, the National Book Foundation, the Women's National Book Association, and more.

Milestones

1st



2009 - Todd H. Bol creates the first Little Free Library book-sharing box at his home in Hudson, Wisconsin

2012 - Little Free Library is officially established as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
- In August, the 2,510th Little Free Library is built, and the goal of surpassing the number of Andrew Carnegie's free public libraries is reached

2013 - The National Book Foundation awards LFL an Innovations in Reading Prize
- Library Journal presents LFL with a Movers and Shakers Award, highlighting the thought leaders in the library industry

2015 - *The Little Free Library Book* is released, chronicling the journey of LFL and stewards worldwide
- In October, LFL is awarded the Library of Congress Literacy Award for its effective implementation of best practices in literacy and reading promotion



2016 - 50,000 Little Free Libraries are now found in all 50 states and 70 countries
- LFL's Impact Library Program launches, granting no-cost Libraries full of books to high-need communities



2017 - LFL receives Women's National Book Association's Second Century Prize

2018 - LFL receives the Force for Positive Change Award
- LFL partners with Disney and Marvel Studios to produce Avengers-themed Little Free Libraries
- The Today Show unveils their Little Free Library at 30 Rockefeller Plaza in NYC
- The 75,000th Little Free Library is given to an elementary school in Oklahoma via LFL's Impact Library Program

10 Years



2019 - LFL celebrates ten years of Little Free Libraries with the first annual Todd H. Bol Awards for Outstanding Achievement
- A Little Free Library is unveiled at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

100,000



2020 - The 100,000th Little Free Library book-sharing box is donated to the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans in Houston, TX
- LFL receives the World Literacy Award
- A Little Free Library is established at the South Pole, expanding Little Free Libraries to all 7 continents
- LFL launches Read in Color in the Twin Cities, a new initiative bringing diverse books to Little Free Library book-sharing boxes around the world

2021 - The 125,000th Little Free Library is installed at the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming
- LFL launches Unbound, a digital event series connecting stewards and supporters
- The Impact Library Program grants its 1,500th no-cost Little Free Library
- LFL rolls out Read in Color to nine additional cities
- LFL network reaches milestone of sharing 250 million books



2022 - The 150,000th Little Free Library is unveiled at a Head Start site in Lebanon, Tennessee
- LFL debuts its mobile app for iOS and Android, making it easy to find Little Free Library locations near you—wherever you are in the world
- The LFL office relocates from Hudson, Wisconsin, to St. Paul, Minnesota



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