



Little Free Library

2327 Wycliff St., Suite 220
St. Paul, MN 55114

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Little Free Library
Take a Book. Share a Book.

Library of Distinction: Falls Church, Virginia

This Little Free Library was a five-year anniversary gift from James to Emily, built by Emily's father Bill.

"He used all of his own materials besides the solar powered lighting system he put in place and some paint. Each piece of siding hand crafted and hand painted, each roof shingle done using larger pieces."

—James Heuser,
Little Free Library #149986



Keep in touch
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Support Indigenous Readers



Little Free Library will grant 50 Little Free Library book-exchange boxes to Native American and First Nation communities in 2023. We're already halfway there but need your help to achieve our goal. Your gift to the Indigenous Library Program will directly impact book access for Native communities across the U.S. and Canada.

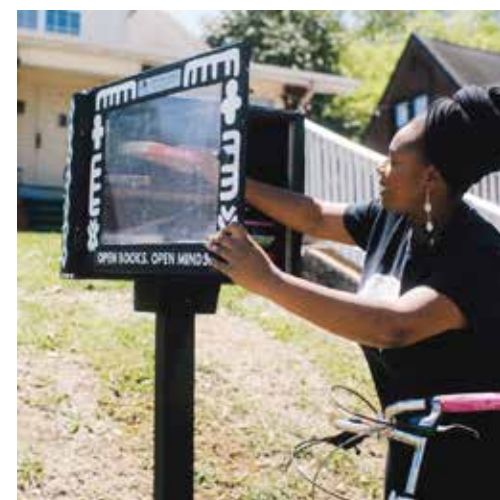


Please help us to provide Indigenous children greater access to books featuring characters of their own identities, creating opportunities for self-empowerment through education and literacy.

Your gift today, in any amount that is meaningful to you, is needed now and greatly appreciated. Donate online at give.littlefreelibrary.org/INLP or by using the enclosed envelope. Thank you for supporting Indigenous readers!



A young reader visits the Little Free Library at the Wind River Reservation in the U.S. state of Wyoming.



Look Inside for...

- New Indigenous program
- Book bans on the rise
- 500 libraries for teachers
- Our app hits 3 million views
- And more!

Our mission is to be a catalyst for building community, inspiring readers, and expanding book access for all through a global network of volunteer-led Little Free Library book-exchange boxes.

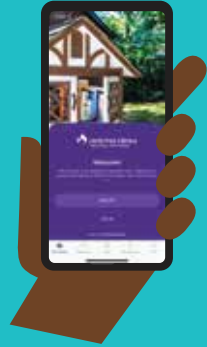
You can put books in kids' hands. Thank you for your support!

LFL Mobile App

Did you know? Last year, the Little Free Library mobile app and web map were viewed more than 3 million times!

Our app is an easy and fun way to find Little Free Libraries near you, wherever you are in the world. Get the free app at littlefreelibrary.org/app.

Hey stewards, is your Little Free Library on the map? It's simple to map your library! Learn how: bit.ly/map-your-library.



ON THE COVER: We held the first-ever Little Free Library Week in May and received more than 1,000 photos from those wishing our nonprofit a happy birthday. Thank you for celebrating with us, and get ready for the next LFL Week, May 12-18, 2024!

A Letter from Our Executive Director

Dear Little Free Library Friends,

This past summer, Little Free Library expanded its programs with the launch of the Indigenous Library Program. This new initiative is specifically designed to support book access for Indigenous communities in both the United States and Canada.

Little Free Library has supported Native communities with grants of a Little Free Library (or in some instances, multiple libraries) for installation on Native lands. These grants came via our Impact Library Program. As part of a strategic review of this program, it became clear that the Impact Program's standardization did not provide the flexibility to best serve our Indigenous partners. So we went back to the beginning.

Our program team recruited an advisory board that represented a variety of tribal communities, professional roles, and geographies from across the U.S. All had experience with Little Free Library installations and the resource limitations active readers face. This group's insight led to a new program design that provides both the flexibility to meet a broad range of needs as well as the structure to allow for efficient scaling and institutional financial support.

Led by our program manager, Talia Miracle (a member of the Ho-Chunk tribe of Winnebago), we will grant fifty Little Free Library book-exchange boxes in 2023. As you read this, we are well on our way, with over half of the libraries granted. We have installations on both city streets and on tribal lands. From California to Connecticut and points in between.

Our goal is to double our efforts in 2024. To learn more and participate, please visit our website at littlefreelibrary.org/programs.

Peace,

M. Greig Metzger
Executive Director



Read in Color

Our Read in Color® diverse books initiative is active in fifteen U.S. cities. The latest addition is Charleston, South Carolina, where the local Reading Partners chapter helped us establish ten Little Free Library book-sharing boxes.

“In partnering with Reading Partners South Carolina, we were able to work with a deeply connected community organization to help make the greatest possible impact,” said Lexie Neeley, our Read in Color program manager.

This year, we launched a cohort model for Read in Color. The Fall 2023 inaugural Read in Color cohort includes 904WARD of Jacksonville, Florida, whose mission is to create racial equity; Bookworm Gardens, of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, whose mission is to inspire a love of books and nature; and the Education Foundation of Baltimore County Public Schools, which provides vital resources for students and teachers.

Do you want to bring Read in Color to your community? The application for the Spring 2024 cohort is open until October 3, 2023. [Learn more at LittleFreeLibrary.org/read-in-color/get-involved](http://LittleFreeLibrary.org/read-in-color/get-involved).



Impact Library Program

Every month, we grant Little Free Libraries full of books to underserved communities across the United States and Canada through our Impact Library Program. We recently granted an Impact Library package to Elise Swanson of Angels Camp, California, who says:

“We live in a very rural and conservative ranching community. Our Little Free Library has provided beautiful books with gentle introductions to cultures and diversity not well known to our community. It is so important for us to provide an opportunity for our community to learn about our diverse world so they can be more comfortable interacting and hopefully become more accepting! Thank you for providing us with this opportunity!”

The Impact Library Program is made possible by individual donors and partner organizations dedicated to spreading the joy and power of reading. [Learn more at LittleFreeLibrary.org/impact](http://LittleFreeLibrary.org/impact).

Banned Books

Book bans are on the rise and many target BIPOC or LGBTQ+ authors. This summer, we teamed up with Venables Bell + Partners on the Unbanned Book Club, a project sharing Little Free Libraries and banned books in Florida where book bans are widespread. We also worked with the National Education Association to grant 500 Little Free Libraries to educators in Florida and beyond.

Get involved! October 1-7 is Banned Books Week, a national event celebrating the freedom to read. Join us:

- Share a banned book in a Little Free Library.
- Turn on the Banned Books indicator in our mobile app.
- Purchase our sign “This Little Free Library Shares Banned Books.”
- Sign up for our e-newsletter on LFL's homepage to learn about upcoming banned-book giveaways!



Introducing the Indigenous Library Program

We are thrilled to announce the official launch of the Indigenous Library Program, which grants Little Free Library boxes and books to Indigenous communities in the United States and Canada at no cost to them. Working with Indigenous community leaders, we aim to increase book access where needed most to ignite a love of reading and improve literacy outcomes. Pictured here is a granted library outside the White Earth Indian Health Services building in Minnesota.

“Little Free Library book-sharing boxes on Indigenous land in the U.S. and Canada can be significant to enhancing the education of Indigenous students and residents,” said Margaret Wood (Navajo and Oklahoma Seminole), who is a Little Free Library board member and advisor to the program.

“Indigenous reserves and reservations are huge ‘book deserts.’ There are few tribal libraries and usually that means one for the entire reserve/reservation.... Having access to books year ‘round will be a game changer for residents of Indigenous lands.”

Do you live in or serve an Indigenous community? We invite you to submit an application to receive an Indigenous Library Program package. [Learn more at LittleFreeLibrary.org/indigenous](http://LittleFreeLibrary.org/indigenous).

