



Little Free Library®

2023 GRATITUDE REPORT



## Dear Friends of Little Free Library,

On behalf of everyone at Little Free Library, we are excited to share this Gratitude Report with you. This report reflects the impact of your generosity and the collective efforts of our community to advance our shared mission throughout 2023.

We are deeply thankful for your ongoing partnership and the trust you place in us to build community, inspire readers, and expand book access. Your contributions have enabled us to innovate, grow, and make a positive impact in communities around the world.

**Your unwavering support was instrumental in our ability to grant 539 Little Free Library book-sharing boxes and over 20,375 books in 2023 to communities where books are scarce.**

Your belief in Little Free Library's mission not only sustains our organization but also inspires us to strive for excellence in everything we do. Thank you again for your continued support!



M. Greig Metzger  
Executive Director  
Little Free Library



Nancy Wulkan  
National Board Chair  
Little Free Library



## Board of Directors (as of February 2024)

### **Nancy Wulkan, Board Chair**

Former Founder and Executive Director (Retired), Neighbor to Neighbor Literacy Project

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### **Sabrina West Morris**

District Reading Specialist, Atlanta Public Schools; Adjunct Professor, University of St. Thomas

### **Margaret Wood**

Fiber Artist and Author

# Mission and Vision

The mission of Little Free Library 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 Libraries.

Our vision is a Little Free Library in every community and a book for every reader. We believe all people are empowered when the opportunity to discover a personally relevant book to read is not limited by time, space, or privilege.



## How We Achieve Our Mission

### Provide 24/7 book access.

Little Free Libraries are open seven days a week, 24 hours a day and are freely accessible to all, removing barriers to book access.

### Foster new Little Free Library book-sharing boxes.

Little Free Library (LFL) equips, educates, and guides volunteer stewards to establish Little Free Libraries in their communities.

### Grant Little Free Libraries to high-need areas.

Through our programs, LFL grants no-cost Little Free Libraries full of books to underserved urban, suburban, rural, and Indigenous communities.

### Champion diverse books.

Through our Read in Color program, LFL makes books available representing BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and other diverse voices to promote understanding, empathy, and inclusion.

### Work with key community partners.

LFL collaborates with schools, public libraries, civic organizations, businesses, and other groups to bring Little Free Libraries to their communities.





# Thank You, Little Free Library Stewards!

We are deeply grateful to the library stewards who give generously of their time, books, energy, and love, all to make sure their neighborhood is a more welcoming and warm place. Thank you, stewards!

## Thank You, Partners!



Little Free Library’s mission to create equitable book access could not happen without the collaboration of organizations who share our vision. Thank you to our 2023 partners, including:

904WARD · All Ways Black · American Library Association  
Avnet · Banned Books Week · Better World Books  
Birchbark Books & Native Arts · Black Garnet Books · BookGive  
Bookworm Gardens · Brilliant Detroit · Brooklyn Book Bodega  
Celadon Books · Child Development Council of Franklin County  
Ciresi Walburn Foundation for Children · Duluth Lions Club  
Family Literacy of Georgia · Femme Fire Books · Flava Cafe  
Gale · Global Children’s Financial Literacy Foundation

Good Morning America · Greenville Literacy Association  
HarperCollins · H.E.A.L.T.H. for Youths · Heartdrum  
Hello Sunshine · Humble Bundle  
Imagination Library of Washington · Jed Mahonis Group  
Kiwanis · National Education Association · Opus Foundation  
Penguin Random House · Queen City Book Bank · Read4Unity  
Reading Is Fundamental · Ready Readers · Red Emma’s  
Rooted MKE · San Jose State University School of Information

Scholastic · Scotiabank · Staten Island Ferryhawks · Sun-Maid  
Teacher Reuse Exchange  
The Education Foundation of Baltimore County Public Schools  
Unite Against Book Bans  
University of South Carolina’s Cocky’s Reading Express  
Venables Bell + Partners · Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi  
Washington Capitals · WordHaven BookHouse  
YWCA Minneapolis

# Impact Library Program

Through the Impact Library Program, Little Free Library provides no-cost book-sharing boxes to communities where books are scarce. Studies prove that the more books in or near the home, the more likely a child will learn and love to read. Little Free Library book exchanges are an excellent vehicle for areas without easy access to books.

Because of the generosity of our donors and supporters, Little Free Library was able in 2023 to grant **414** book-sharing boxes full of books to communities across the United States and Canada.



*“We were granted an Impact library for the Westgate Community. Since we put the library up, I’ve witnessed so many people looking through and taking home books. Kids are especially excited about the library. I’ve seen elementary-aged siblings running down the sidewalk to see who will get to the library first. The smiles on their faces while they walk home with their new books are priceless. I think that this library is really helping this small community to engage in reading.”*

—Jeston, Impact Library Steward, West Palm Beach, FL



# Indigenous Library Program

Through the Indigenous Library Program, we grant book-sharing boxes where needed most on tribal lands and in Indigenous communities in the United States and Canada. We work with Indigenous community leaders and members to place book exchanges in locations where book access is crucial to improving literacy.

**Thanks to our donors and partners, we were able in 2023 to grant 50 Indigenous Library book-sharing boxes full of diverse books to rural and urban Native communities throughout the United States and Canada.**



*“The Edible Healing Garden at LA General Hospital is an Indigenous-led project that aims to reconnect our community with traditional healing practices, sustainable agriculture, and cultural heritage. We strongly believe that knowledge is a powerful tool for healing, and access to books is an essential aspect of education and personal growth. The Indigenous Library Program aligns perfectly with our mission to promote education, community engagement, and cultural preservation.”*

—Christina, Indigenous Library Steward,  
Los Angeles, CA





**CHARLESTON, SC**



**JACKSONVILLE, FL**



**BALTIMORE, MD**



**SHEBOYGAN, WI**

# Read in Color

Everyone should be able to see themselves in the pages of a book. Little Free Library's Read in Color® initiative distributes books that provide perspectives on racism and social justice, celebrate BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and other marginalized voices, and incorporate experiences from all identities for all readers. By reading diverse books, we can increase understanding, empathy, and inclusion.

In 2023, Read in Color launched in four cities: Baltimore, MD; Charleston, SC; Jacksonville, FL; and Sheboygan, WI. **Because of your support, Little Free Library was able in 2023 to grant 75 book-sharing boxes filled with diverse books to these, and more, neighborhoods in the United States.**





# Little Free Library®

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Little Free Library is so grateful for your support and the impact it has on readers all around the world. It is because of you that we are able to grow and expand our efforts to make books more accessible to all.

Your continued support is crucial to our ability to build community, inspire readers, and increase book access. Make your gift today using the enclosed envelope or online at [littlefreelibrary.org/donate](https://littlefreelibrary.org/donate). Thank you.



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