



**Little Free Library®**  
Take a Book. Share a Book.

# Little Free Library® News

Fall 2024



## Look Inside for...

- Book Ban Map
- Dog Man Libraries
- LFL Meet-Ups
- Read in Color Cohorts
- 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-sharing boxes.



## Little Free Library Meet-Ups

**Little Free Library stewards and volunteers are meeting up across the U.S. and Canada this fall!** After a successful round of meet-up events during Little Free Library Week in May, stewards and Team LFL volunteers are connecting with others in their communities at local gatherings.

A steward who recently attended a Little Free Library meet-up shared, “This was such a unifying experience. As a LFL steward you can often feel alone in your experiences and challenges. It felt good to hear from others with the same love of sharing books.”

If you’re interested in attending a Little Free Library meet-up, check out upcoming opportunities at [bit.ly/lfl-steward-meet-ups](http://bit.ly/lfl-steward-meet-ups) to find an event near you.

## Little Free Library Week

The second annual Little Free Library Week took place May 12-18, 2024! Stewards and volunteers attended meet-ups, LFL fans shared photos of their favorite



book-sharing boxes on social media, the winners of the 2024 Todd H. Bol Awards for Outstanding Achievement were announced, and we introduced Little Free Library BINGO. We can’t wait to do it all

again next year! Stay up-to-date by signing up to receive email and text updates here: [lflib.org/newsletter-signup](http://lflib.org/newsletter-signup)

## A Letter from Our Executive Director

To Our Little Free Library Friends,

The theme of my quick note today is maps and how we use them at Little Free Library.

Our most recent map execution is a collaboration with PEN America and ALA’s Office for Intellectual Freedom. We have used a map to display data about a serious concern, the banning of books across our country. Maps are great tools to show the breadth and depth of specific metrics across a defined geography. When we consider book ban activity, a map makes it easier to see the national scale of the banned book challenge. Our map has included color-coded cues to show the severity of the issue in any particular state. Finally, today’s interactive, digital maps are made for further exploration. In our map collaboration, you can zoom in and out to see what is going on at a state or county level. And even better, see if there is a Little Free Library nearby to fight against book bans by donating a book!

This isn’t our first map. As many of you know, we have provided stewards the opportunity to have their Little Free Library positioned on our global map since 2011. We have come a long way since then. Today, our Little Free Library location map includes all types of search filters and indicators to find a relevant book-sharing box. The nearest? Check. One that shares diverse books? Check. A grant recipient? Check. And when you use our mobile app, our map content is even more powerful. Track your favorite Little Free Library installations. Track when you take a book, or track when you contribute a book. Post a comment in a guestbook. Our mobile app is how we support community connection in the digital, mobile age.

I encourage you to use our mapping tools to learn more about book bans, connect with our network, and engage with reading advocates.

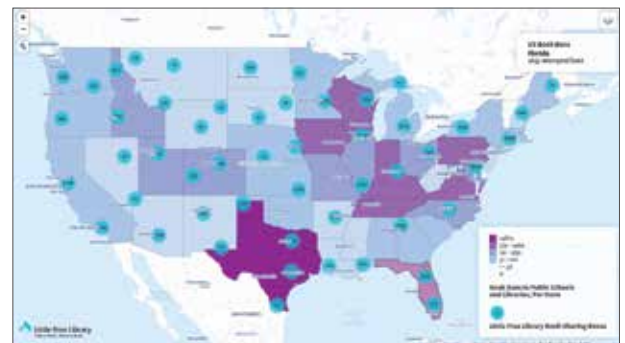
Peace,



M. Greig Metzger  
Executive Director

## Book Ban Map

Expanding access to books is at the heart of our mission, and the rise of book bans in America goes against our organization’s core values. As we prepare to celebrate Banned Books Week September 22-28, we’ve developed a map in collaboration with



the American Library Association’s Office for Intellectual Freedom to help you visualize where book bans are happening across the United States, and how Little Free Library book-sharing boxes work to improve book access in those areas. Explore the map at [bit.ly/lfl-book-ban-map](http://bit.ly/lfl-book-ban-map).





## Read in Color®

We are thrilled to introduce the **Fall 2024 Read in Color Cohort**. Each of these worthy organizations will be granted 10 Little Free Library book-sharing boxes and \$10,000 in book support to bring the Read in Color diverse books program to their communities. Through Read in Color, we're working to increase understanding, empathy, and inclusion. Meet the grantees!

- **Birdie's Bookmobile** (Detroit, MI), an organization dedicated to eliminating book deserts and getting books into the hands and homes of children and families.
- **Change and Action for Racial Equity (C.A.R.E.)** (St. Louis, MO), whose mission is to promote racial equity and inclusion through education.
- **Our Kids Read** (Columbia, MD), a nonprofit dedicated to sparking the joy of reading in low-income communities using diverse books.

"One of the areas we focus on is education and this aligns directly with the Read in Color program goal of bringing diverse books to Little Free Libraries," said the team at C.A.R.E. "We look forward to the opportunity to partner with the LFL Read in Color program and to continue to make a significant impact to increase literacy and book ownership in the St. Louis area."

## Your Support Matters

**In 2023, we granted 539 Little Free Libraries and 20,375 books through our programs, thanks to your support!**

Will you help us increase equitable access to books in 2024? Donate today!



Scan for more info



## Impact and Indigenous Library Programs



Every month, we grant Little Free Libraries full of books to underserved communities across the United States and Canada through our **Impact Library Program**. Last year, we also launched our **Indigenous Library Program**, which grants Little Free Libraries and books to Native American and First Nation communities. In 2024, we are striving to grant more than 500 Little Free Library packages through the Impact and Indigenous Library Programs.

We recently granted an Impact Library package to Annie Tasker in Columbus, Ohio, who says, "This library has been a great way to bring our community together. Several neighbors stopped by while it was being installed. They offered to donate books and help install it. Those who were most excited were the children of the neighborhood who stayed out reading until dark. I am blown away by the generosity of the Impact Library Program as well as local community members who have donated books to keep the library fully stocked for our young readers."



Indigenous Library recipient Lacey Jaye Sylvester tells us, "As a Red River Métis citizen, I am thankful in being given the opportunity to help provide my hometown with access to literature 24/7 through the Indigenous Library Program. While the library may be 'little,' it sure is a mighty impactful feeling being able to provide an inclusive space in

the community that houses books by Indigenous authors and more! Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity to share the love of reading!"

Both the Impact Library and Indigenous Library Programs are made possible by individual donors and partner organizations dedicated to spreading the joy and power of reading. *Learn more at [lflib.org/programs](https://lflib.org/programs).*



# Little Free Library®

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## Library of Distinction: Mumbai, India

They say that music is the language of the soul, and this Little Free Library is speaking our language! We're featuring Dexy the Double Bass Little Free Library #18o28o at the National Centre for the Performing Arts as our Library of Distinction.

This double bass once served the Symphony Orchestra of India and has now been recycled into a Little Free Library. The bass moves across the campus and is enjoyed by visitors in the art gallery, theater foyers, and green open spaces.

Keep in touch



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# Dog Man + Little Free Library®



Dog Man Little Free Library book-sharing boxes are popping up across the United States! In partnership with Scholastic, we've granted 50 Little Free Libraries—one for each of the 50 United States—to sites catering to children and families.



Dog Man author and illustrator Dav Pilkey donated 50,000 books to support these libraries. Each Dog Man Little Free Library box will include free copies of *Dog Man: The Scarlet Shedder*, as well as a wide assortment of other titles.

The first Dog Man Little Free Library was unveiled at a school in Cleveland, Ohio, Pilkey's birthplace, on March 19—which was also the global publication date of *Dog Man: The Scarlet Shedder*, the newest book in the series. See the locations of the rest of the libraries and photos from a few Dog Man library launches at [bit.ly/dog-man-50-lfl](http://bit.ly/dog-man-50-lfl).



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