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**Take a Banned Book, Share a Banned Book:  
Little Free Library Celebrates Banned Books Week September 22-28**

***Stand up for the freedom to read by adding banned or challenged books to Little Free Libraries near you***



Saint Paul, Minn. (September 18, 2023) – Each year, millions of books are exchanged in Little Free Library boxes. Next week, during Banned Books Week, the Little Free Library (LFL) nonprofit organization invites you to share banned or challenged books in these libraries, helping to broaden access to a variety of diverse voices.

“At Little Free Library, we believe in the power of books to open minds, spark conversations and nurture understanding,” said LFL Executive Director Greig Metzger. “By sharing a banned book in a Little Free Library—or a book you would never want to see banned—you’re standing up for the freedom to read.”

If you are not sure if book banning is an issue in your community, you can check out LFL's interactive [Book Ban Map](#), announced earlier this month, which shows book-ban hotspots and nearby Little Free Library locations. Developed using data from PEN America and the American Library Association (ALA) Office for Intellectual Freedom, the map makes it easier to share banned books in Little Free Libraries in the areas hit hardest by book bans.

LFL is also pleased to be a returning partner of Penguin Random House on the second voyage of the Banned Wagon, a souped-up delivery truck visiting cities across the Midwest and South experiencing a high volume of book bans and challenges. All along the route, the Banned Wagon will stop at Little Free Libraries to donate banned books.

### How You Can Take Action During Banned Books Week

- **Share a banned book—or a book you hope is never banned—in a Little Free Library**, take a photo or shoot a video, and post it on social media, tagging LFL and using the #bannedbooksweek hashtag.
- **Download the LFL mobile app** to find a Little Free Library near you. LFL stewards who support this issue can turn on the Banned Books indicator for their library so patrons can more easily find them.
- **Show your support for Banned Books Week** with the social media graphics and other collateral in LFL's [toolkit](#).
- **Enter a banned books giveaway**, whether you are a Little Free Library steward or fan. Hosted in partnership with HarperCollins Children's Books and Simon & Schuster, the giveaways are open through September 30.
- **Donate to Little Free Library** to support their work to make banned books accessible to everyone!

LFL is proud to serve as an official sponsor of Banned Books Week, alongside organizations like PEN America and ALA, which tracked a record 4,240 unique titles singled out for bans in 2023.

"Too often the books being targeted are from marginalized members of our society, and it is important that everyone has access to these stories," said Metzger. "Don't have your preferred book to donate to a Little Free Library? You can support our mission to expand book access by making a financial donation. Working together, we can make sure there are no limits to the love of reading!"

Learn more about LFL's Banned Books Week activities: [littlefreelibrary.org/about/book-bans/banned-books-week](https://littlefreelibrary.org/about/book-bans/banned-books-week)

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### ABOUT LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

Little Free Library® (LFL) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that builds community, inspires readers and expands book access for all through a global network of volunteer-led Little Free Library book-sharing boxes. There are more than 180,000 registered Little Free Libraries worldwide in all 50 states, in 121 countries and on all seven continents. Through them, over 400 million books have been shared since 2009. LFL received the 2020 World Literacy Award as well as honors from the Library of Congress, National Book Foundation and others. The organization grants Little Free Libraries full of books to underserved areas through its Impact Library and Indigenous Library programs and champions diverse books through its Read in Color initiative. To learn more, visit [LittleFreeLibrary.org](https://LittleFreeLibrary.org).



*Little Free Library book-sharing box, charter number 172913, in Washington Terrace, Utah.*