

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Little Free Library Gears Up for Banned Books Week, October 5-11

The nonprofit's call to action: Share a banned book—or a book you hope is never banned—in a Little Free Library box.



**St. Paul, MN (September 25, 2025)** – In observation of <u>Banned Books Week</u>, taking place October 5–11, the Little Free Library® (LFL) nonprofit organization is inviting readers nationwide to share banned or challenged books through its extensive network of book-sharing boxes. This initiative aims to celebrate the freedom to read and raise awareness about the widespread instances of book censorship across the United States

"As book challenges and censorship continue to rise, protecting free expression and upholding our First Amendment rights have never been more urgent," said Daniel Gumnit, CEO of Little Free Library. "Access

to books ensures that everyone has the opportunity to explore new ideas, expand their knowledge, and more deeply understand the world around them."

LFL is proud to serve as a sponsoring member of the Banned Books Week Coalition, alongside organizations like PEN America and the American Library Association (ALA). In 2024 alone, the ALA reported 2,452 unique titles challenged in school and public libraries.

With over **200,000 Little Free Libraries in 128 countries**, LFL provides a grassroots, community-powered response to censorship—making it easy for anyone to take action. This year, the group Authors Against Book Bans is joining LFL's efforts, encouraging their members to share books in Little Free Libraries.

Earlier this month, LFL released its updated **2025 Book Ban Map**, highlighting the areas of the U.S. hit hardest by book bans and the nearest Little Free Library book-sharing box locations.

### **How to Participate in Banned Books Week**

- Share a banned or beloved book in a Little Free Library. Snap a photo or video and post it on social media using the hashtag #bannedbooksweek and tagging @littlefreelibrary. Find a book to share on LFL's <u>Bookshop.org</u> list.
- Download the LFL app to find a Little Free Library near you. Stewards can activate the "Banned Books" tag to show support and help readers find banned titles. Users can filter by this tag.
  Additionally, access LFL's online Book Ban Map to view the areas most affected by book bans and corresponding Little Free Library locations.
- **Spread the word.** Download free social media graphics and other promotional materials from LFL's <u>steward toolkit</u>. New this year is a <u>window cling</u> that LFL stewards or their communities can purchase to declare that banned books are freely shared in their Little Free Libraries.
- Enter a giveaway. Thanks to Simon & Schuster and Candlewick Press, book lovers and stewards can enter to win free banned books during the month of October..
- **Donate.** Help make books—including banned books—accessible to all by <u>supporting Little Free Library's ongoing work</u>.

To learn more about how you can take part in Banned Books Week, visit: littlefreelibrary.org/about/book-bans/banned-books-week

### 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 200,000 registered Little Free Libraries worldwide in all 50 states, in 128 countries and on all 7 continents. 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. LFL is a member of the Banned Books Week Coalition, Unite Against Book Bans, the Right to Read Working Group, and the Diverse Books for All Coalition. Learn more at LittleFreeLibrary.org.

## **IMAGES**



Little Free Library staff members LaTreena Felegy and Sarah Howd add books about book banning to a Little Free Library book-sharing box.







