



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

Little Free Library® News



Look Inside for...

- 10 Years of the Impact Library Program
- Little Free Library Week
- New Mobile App Features
- 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 Week 2026



Get ready for Little Free Library Week! Our fourth-annual celebration of all things Little Free Library will be held May 17–23. Activities include a photo contest, Little Free Library bingo, and the announcement of the Todd H. Bol Awards for Outstanding Achievement. New this year: Celebrate the inaugural National Little Free Library Day on May 17! Be sure to get the latest news about LFL Week: lflib.org/newsletter-signup.

A Letter from Our Executive Director & CEO

TO OUR LITTLE FREE LIBRARY FRIENDS,

As I approach my one-year anniversary as Executive Director and CEO of Little Free Library, I find myself reflecting on the milestones that make me proud to lead this organization. That anniversary also makes it especially meaningful to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of our Impact Library Program. For a decade, this program has helped bring more than 3,500 Little Free Libraries, along with the joy and possibility they spark, to neighborhoods where access to books can be limited. When children and families can more easily find books close to home, it supports early literacy, strengthens reading confidence, and can create lifelong impact.

That spirit will be on full display during Little Free Library Week. It is a chance to celebrate stewards, neighbors, and partners who keep book-sharing thriving through one conversation, one donated book, and one visit at a time. It is also a moment to spread the word about Little Free Library as a high-impact nonprofit and to invite others to join in. I hope you will mark the week by encouraging others to visit a Little Free Library, sharing your story, or welcoming a new reader.

In this issue, you will also meet our newest Read in Color cohort. These community organizations are expanding access to diverse, affirming books for children and helping young readers see themselves, their families, and their stories reflected on the page. You will also read a steward story from our Indigenous Library Program. It is a reminder that book-sharing can strengthen culture, language, and connection across generations. We are honored to learn from their leadership and to support their work.

I am grateful to the stewards who make space for community and belonging, and who show what it looks like to share stories with care.

Daniel Gumnit
Executive Director & CEO



Save the Date for Banned Books Week 2026

Mark your calendar for Banned Books Week, October 4-10, 2026! We believe access to books is a fundamental right, which is why we champion the freedom to read during the American Library Association's Banned Books Week every year.

Need assistance accessing banned books? Books Unbanned benefits teens and young adults who are grappling with censorship in their communities. Learn more at BooksUnbanned.com.

New Mobile App Features

Your library-hunting adventures just got even more exciting with new features in the Little Free Library mobile app! Now, if you discover a book-sharing box that isn't on our map, you can drop a pin to save its location. It's a great way to remember hidden gems and build your own personalized map of libraries you love!



You can also stay in the loop when new Little Free Library book-sharing boxes pop up near you. Start by logging in to the mobile app and tapping on **My Account**, then **Edit Profile**. Add your country and postal code to set your home location, then opt in for new library notifications! You'll get a heads-up whenever a new library is added nearby—you can choose to be alerted of new libraries up to 100 miles away.

Get started today! Download the app at lflib.org/app.



Read in Color®

We are thrilled to introduce the 2026 Read in Color Cohort.

Each of these worthy organizations will be granted 10 Little Free Library book-sharing boxes and \$7,500 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. Learn more at lflib.org/read-in-color. Meet the grantees:

- **A to Z Learning Club (Nashville, TN)** builds confidence, connection, and creativity through literacy, storytelling, and community-centered programming.
- **Del Norte County Library District (Crescent City, CA)** works to provide equitable access to cultural, intellectual, and informational resources.
- **I See My Baby (Bainbridge GA)** is a nonprofit dedicated to supporting women, families, and children through holistic wellness, education, and empowerment programs.
- **MelB Alliance (Compton, CA)** is a community organization dedicated to advancing equity through youth development, workforce readiness, and community empowerment.
- **The REAL Program (Lynn, MA)** works to strengthen literacy by providing access to books, educational programs, and vital resources.
- **United Way of Yellowstone County (Billings, MT)** brings people together to strengthen community and improve lives through building futures, community resiliency, and nonprofit empowerment.

From Alicia H. at I See My Baby: "We are incredibly thankful to Little Free Library for granting us this opportunity to expand diverse, inclusive books in our community. Representation matters. When children see themselves in the stories they read, it builds confidence, strengthens literacy, and reminds them that their voices and experiences matter. This cohort will allow us to place powerful, culturally rich books directly into the hands of children and families — increasing access, encouraging reading at home, and inspiring a lifelong love for learning. The impact on our community will be lasting, especially for our babies and youth who deserve to see their brilliance reflected on every page."

Indigenous Library Program

In Native American and First Nations communities, book access is a challenge. Through the Indigenous Library Program, we grant Little Free Libraries full of books to Indigenous communities with limited book access. Last year we granted 100 libraries through this program! Find out more at lflib.org/inlp.

Miranda O. is a recipient of a grant from our Indigenous Library Program! The library is inside the Naytahwaush Indian Health Services clinic located on the White Earth reservation in Minnesota. She painted the library with animals and included their Ojibwe names.

Miranda works at the clinic and wanted to give the community the opportunity to have free access to books for kids who may not have the luxury of buying their own or being able to travel to a further library. She also believes reading and learning should be available to all communities!



Your Support Matters

In 2025, we granted 643 Little Free Libraries and 102,000+ books through our programs, thanks to your support! Will you help us increase equitable access to books in 2026? Donate today!



Scan to donate



Library of Distinction: DeWitt, IA

Could this library **BEE** any cooler?! We're featuring the Barnabee Little Free Library #1866o8 in DeWitt, IA, as our Library of Distinction.

Be sure to follow us on Instagram (@littlefreelibrary), where we share cool Little Free Library designs every day. And tag us in your Little Free Library photos, which could be featured across our social media channels!



Celebrating **10 YEARS** of the Impact Library Program



We are celebrating the 10th anniversary of our core philanthropic initiative: the Impact Library Program, which gives no-cost Little Free Libraries filled with books to communities where books are scarce.

Since launching in 2016, the program has granted more than **3,500 Little Free Libraries** and **87,500** books to underserved neighborhoods across the United States and Canada, thanks to the support of individual donors and corporate sponsors.



“Being a steward feels like tending a small wooden garden of stories,” said Impact Library Program steward Sima Hill of Decatur, GA. “I see literacy the

way I see seeds: full of possibility, waiting for the right light. The Impact Library Program felt like sunlight. It felt like an invitation to nurture not just a box of books, but a culture of belonging. I applied because I believe in growth and accessible stories that open the world to children and adults. I applied because when we place books in the library, we are quietly saying, ‘You matter, your curiosity matters, and your story matters.’”



Learn more about the Impact Library Program milestone and how you can get involved, whether by applying or supporting the program, at lflib.org/impact-10-years.



Little Free Library

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Keep in touch



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Front cover: Past Impact Library Program recipients



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