

#### OCTOBER 2022

Welcome to Tuesday Topics, a monthly series covering topics with intellectual freedom implications for libraries of all types. Each message is prepared by a member of OLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee or a guest writer. Questions can be directed to the author of the topic or to the IFC Committee.

#### BANNED BOOKS WEEK 2022 "SHOW-AND-TELL"

Every year, libraries across the country and Oregon celebrate Banned Books Week. In these celebrations, we put forth time, energy and effort to celebrate the freedom to read. We put forth weeks, sometimes months in preparation and marketing to make these events a success. For this month's Tuesday Topics, we want to honor and celebrate these efforts and take a moment to say "thank you" for supporting intellectual freedom across the state. Below are just a handful of the highlights from the week.

From the IFC, THANK YOU for celebrating!

#### **MULTNOMAH COUNTY LIBRARY:**

From Multnomah – The fun is still happening! Happening this week, October 6<sup>th</sup> please enjoy the following: <u>They Want Us to Be Quiet: Books Unite Us, Censorship Divides Us</u> Thursday, October 6, 6-7:30 pm

Join us to mark Banned Books Week and celebrate the freedom to read.

How can we build empathy across communities and differences if the stories we hear represent only a few voices?

Kim Johnson shares how stories can help us reckon with our past and shape a more just future, where diverse perspectives can thrive.

A social activist as a teen, Kim Johnson is now an educator, college administrator and the award-winning author of *This Is My America*.

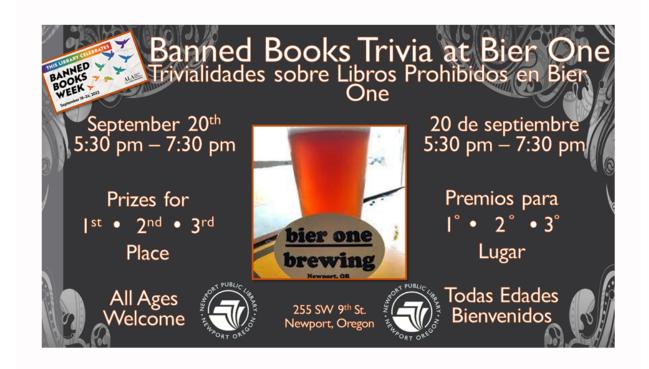
For teens and adults. Register/join via Zoom: <u>multcolib.org/quiet</u>

Made possible by The National Endowment for the Humanities Fund of The Library Foundation.

#### LANGLOIS PUBLIC LIBRARY:



#### NEWPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY



Newport Library hosting Banned Books trivia night at local pub

The Library hosted Banned Books Trivia at Bier One! On Tuesday, September 20th from 5:30-7:30 pm they shared an evening of fun! All ages were welcome to come help us celebrate Banned Books Week.

#### NORTH PLAINS PUBLIC LIBRARY:

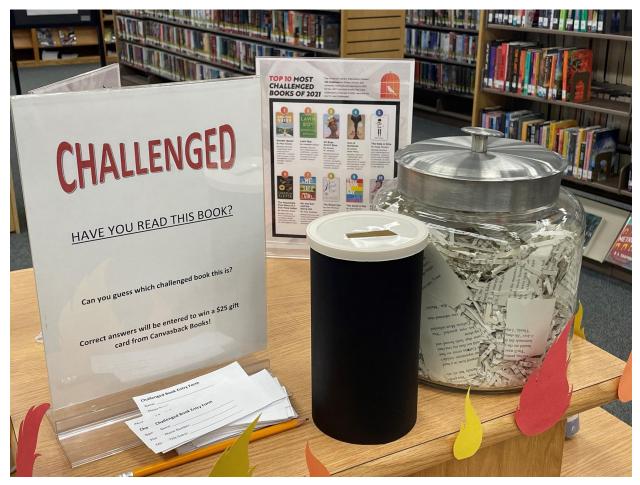


North Plains Library – "Dare to read dangerously" display

In admiration of our librarian Brianna's stunning burned book display, here's an appreciation post for her craftiness. Come by to see it in person (the fire breathes)!!

Dare to read dangerously with NPPL for Banned Books Week 🔥

#### KLAMATH COUNTY LIBRARY:

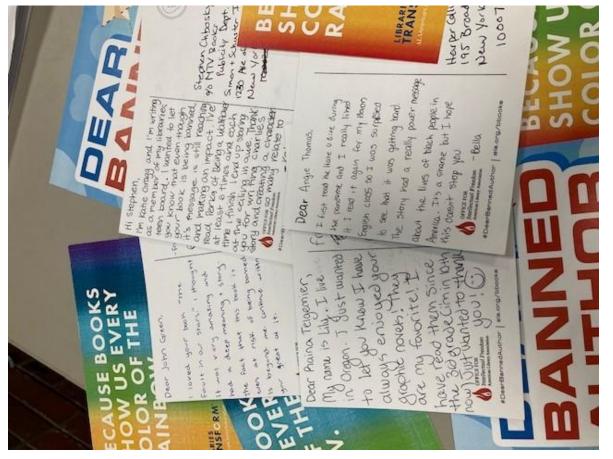


How good are you at identifying a book from its scraps? We've shredded a

frequently-challenged book (don't worry, it wasn't our only copy) and placed its remains on our Banned Books display here at the downtown library. Guess the title correctly and you could win a \$25 gift card to Canvasback Books!

Klamath Library's Banned Books Weed display – guess the book from shredded pages

#### LAKE OSWEGO:



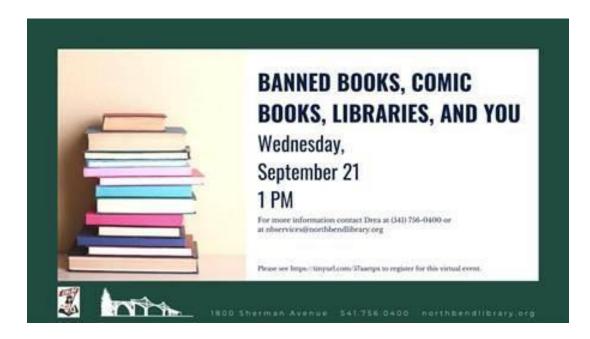
Local teens are showing support for their favorite authors who have been the subject of book challenges! Stop by the Children's or Teen's sections at #LakeOswegoLibrary to grab a postcard to send positive messages yourself!

Lake Oswego Library's teen write postcards to banned book authors

Lake Oswego Respond to Racism event

https://www.respondtoracism.org/post/video-september-community-meeting

#### NORTH BEND PUBLIC LIBRARY:



https://www.northbendoregon.us/calendarView.aspx?cid=27379&id=0&catid=0

#### **DESCHUTES PUBLIC LIBRARY**



#### What is Banned Books Week video:

Ever wondered why Banned Books Week exists? Learn about book bans, censorship, and what it means for your First Amendment rights with DPL Technical Services Manager Emily O'Neal! <u>https://youtu.be/2Bx\_Tz5jY8I</u>

#### The Impact of Banned Books in Central Oregon Panel:

Hear from local librarians about banned books in Central Oregon. April Witteveen, Library Director of Crook County Public Library, Emily O'Neal, Technical Services Manager at Deschutes Public Library, and Pia Alliende, district librarian for the Redmond School District speak about their personal experience with challenged and banned books in Central Oregon. Check out a full list of recently banned books available at your library: <u>https://dpl.bibliocommons.com/list/sh...</u> <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7HommM39yDM&ab\_channel=DeschutesPublicLibrary</u>

# Let Freedom Read Rally in Redmond. <u>https://redmondcollectiveaction.org/2022/08/30/let-freedom-read-libertad-para-lee</u> <u>r/</u>

#### WILSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY:



<u>Wilsonville Public Library celebrates Banned Books Month</u>: created two interactive Banned Books Week displays at the Wilsonville Public Library which stayed up for the entire month.

The first display is Blind Date with a Banned Book. All the items are completely wrapped in paper to hide the title, author, and description. The label on the front has a Censored stamp for the title, a redacted book summary, and lists the reasons it was challenged. Since we have RFID tags on our items, the scanners can read through the wrapped book. If you don't have RFID, you can still do the display, you just need to create a cut-out in the wrapping for where your barcode is located.

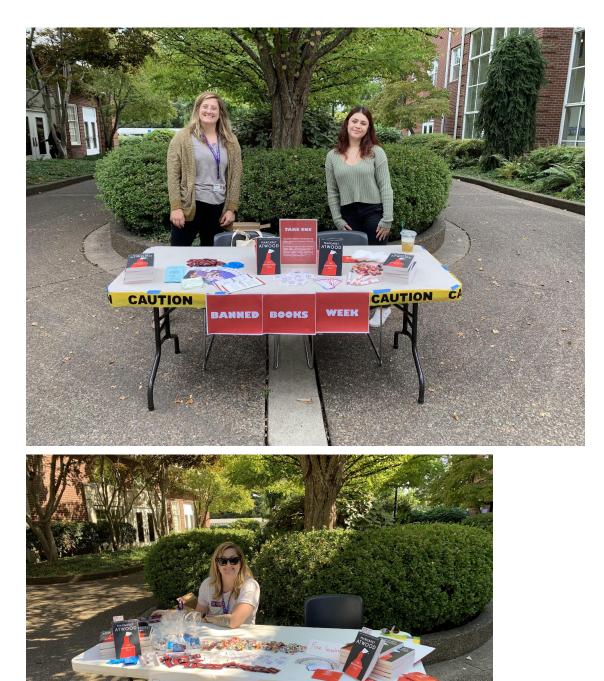
The second display is "Test your knowledge on banned or challenged books" In the past, there were always titles of challenged books that I wanted to showcase but were only available at the other Clackamas county libraries. With this display, a copy of the book is not required. I used discarded Playaway cases (any type of case will do) and on the front of the case is the reason for the ban or challenge. When you open the case, you will find a picture of the item and a QR code that when scanned will lead to the county-wide catalog where the patron can place a hold on whatever format they would like: book, audiobook, digital.

#### Lewis and Clark Law School



Lewis and Clark Law School, Boley Law Library - Hailey Walley created a great display for the library based on the court case Board of Education v. Pico (457 US 853), a 1982 case that sought to ban 9 books.

### Linfield University Libraries



Linfield University Libraries celebrated Banned Books Week by distributing free copies of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, along with stickers and bookmarks. Books were distributed in the library and at a staffed booth outside in a common gathering place during lunch time each day of BBW. Patrons of Nicholson Library in McMinnville were able to participate in a "blind date with a banned book" event, where folks got to select a book for checkout based on its genre and the reasons it's been banned and challenged.

#### **Corvallis-Benton County Public Library**



The Corvallis-Benton County Public Library used their main display to feature banned and challenged books this year (see pictures). This display is front and center in their library and directly next to the Circulation Desk. So many people engaged with this display and asked about why particular books were challenged, so we made a sign out of one of the pages from the ALA Field Report that talks about the 10 most popularly challenged of the year with the various reasons they were challenged.

Their audiobook display was also all banned and challenged books. They also converted a documentary DVD display and a small mobile tower book display in our main lobby to feature materials on politics, news, and culture as a sort of tie-in to BBW.

Finally, they update their Banned Books trifold PDF each year, this year being no exception. They actually keep this trifold out for folks to take year round as it gets asked about outside of Banned Books Week and they want our patrons to remain aware of the issue of censorship in libraries.

#### **Baker County Library District**





Displays highlighted recently published titles on the topic of Free Speech from both the right and left political viewpoint. We shared handouts with information about Censorship Terms and Definitions from <u>United for Libraries</u>, an Infographic from <u>Banned Books Week</u>, <u>Notable</u> <u>Court Cases</u> from the American Library Association website, the 2022 State of America's Libraries

## Libraries are First Amendment Sanctuaries



report, and a LibraryAware-made, letter-size poster stating "<u>In this house we support libraries.</u>" Other posters presented opposing viewpoints available in the library on topics such as abortion, climate change, and LGBTQ issues. The display was guarded by large "Thought Police" poster sentinel saying "Looks like you've had too much to think!" Library Director Perry Stokes gave two community presentations titled "Libraries are First Amendment Sanctuaries: FAQ on How the Constitution Keeps Censorship in Check."