

Soldotna and the Kachemak Bay Campus in Homer, both affiliated with the University of Alaska. Eight public schools are located in the Homer Library service area.

Homer's local economy relies heavily on commercial fishing and tourism. Borough-wide, oil and gas is the fastest growing sector of the economy, followed by health care and construction. South Peninsula Hospital, Homer Electric Association, and the Kenai Peninsula School District are among Homer's largest employers. Homer has also attracted a number of resident artists, writers, and entrepreneurs.

Census data document a trend toward increasing numbers of residents aged 60 and older. The "digital divide" (the gap between computer literate and non-literate, and between those who can afford home access to the internet and those who cannot), together with the proliferation of digital devices for accessing information and reading material, create a need for sophisticated reference service that includes knowledge of digital resources and the numerous devices used to access the internet. A strong print collection emphasizing recreational reading, practical skills, information for daily living, local Alaskana, and materials for youth remains in high demand, as well.

D. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

The library does not promote particular beliefs or views, nor does the selection of any item imply endorsement of its views. One of the essential purposes of the public library is to be a resource where individuals can examine many points of view and come to their own conclusions. The library attempts to provide materials representing different sides of controversial issues.

The Homer Public Library endorses the American Library Association's **Library Bill of Rights**, **Code of Ethics**, and their **Freedom to Read**, **Freedom to View**, and **Libraries: an American Value** statements. These documents, considered guiding principles for this policy, are appended.

Access to library materials are not to be restricted beyond what is required to protect materials from theft or damage. Items are not labeled to indicate point of view or bias. The Library assures free access to its holdings for all patrons, who are free to select or reject for themselves any item in the collection. Individual or group prejudice about a particular item or type of material in the collection may not preclude its use by others.

Responsibility for the reading choices and information access by children rests with their parents and legal guardians, not the Library. Parents who wish to limit or restrict the reading of their own child should personally oversee that child's choice of library resources. Selection of library materials will not be inhibited by the possibility that items may be seen by children. The Library encourages parents to be involved with their children's reading and library use and will work with parents to find materials they deem appropriate for their children. The Library endorses the American Library Association

documents **Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors** and **Access for Children and Young Adults to Nonprint Materials**, which are appended.

E. COOPERATION

Cooperation is a basic tenet of library philosophy in Alaska and the United States. The Homer Public Library recognizes its responsibility to cooperate with other libraries in Homer, the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska, and nationwide.

The library on the Kachemak Bay Campus (KBC) of Kenai Peninsula College supports its institution's educational objectives with a collection emphasizing the humanities, applied science, art, office technology, marine sciences, and business management. While open to the public, the KBC library provides in-house use only to non-students.

Libraries in the public schools focus on educational and curriculum support. Responsibility for the provision of curriculum-related materials belongs properly to the schools, but the public library provides materials that complement local school library collections and enrich the needs of student borrowers of all ages.

Homer Public Library cooperates with the Pratt Museum in collecting material relating to Homer's history and culture. The Pratt Museum has a non-lending library which consists of museological, cultural history and natural history periodicals, books, and a vertical file of scholarly papers and pertinent subject information. The museum also houses an archive of various periodicals and local documents, a photo archive documenting local history, and a media collection of films, audiocassettes and videotapes. Many of the Pratt's collections are available upon specific request to the Collections Manager.

As a member of Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), a worldwide bibliographic database cooperative, the Library is able to provide interlibrary loan service for patrons with needs outside the scope of the Homer Public Library's collection. The OCLC database gives us access to other libraries' resources throughout the state, the nation and the world. The Homer Public Library uses interlibrary loan both to supplement our resources and to lend our materials to other libraries.

F. SELECTION RESPONSIBILITY

Selection of library materials, whether purchased or donated, is based upon the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the community. It is limited by factors such as materials budgets, space, and the content of existing collections.

The library director has the final responsibility for the maintenance and development of the collection of the Homer Public Library, operating within the framework of policies approved by the Library Advisory Board and adopted by the Homer City Council. Because the library director must be able to answer to the Advisory Board and the

general public for actual selections made, the authority to reject or select any item rests with that position. Staff members assist the library director in the selection of materials.

The Library encourages suggestions for purchase from patrons and staff. Interlibrary loan requests and questions from the public are considered for possible purchase suggestions. All purchase requests are reviewed to determine whether they fall within selection criteria.

G. SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection of materials is based on the professional judgment of the library staff, which is guided by the needs of the community and the balance and comprehensiveness of the collection. Selection is aided by reviews and other professional tools such as standard catalogs and bibliographies. Selection tools include, but are not limited to:

- Reviews in professional library journals or periodicals such as *Booklist*, *Library Journal*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Wilson's Public Library Catalog*, *The Horn Book*, *Kirkus Reviews* and other professional publications.
- Internet resources for evaluation and selection such as the ALA website, Amazon.com, Common Sense Media, and professional media review sites.
- Individual subject expertise of staff or community members.
- Publisher catalogs.
- Standard bibliographies.

There is no single standard that can be applied in all acquisition decisions. Some materials must be judged primarily on their artistic merits, some on their scholarship, and some on their value as human documents. Still others are intended to satisfy recreational and entertainment needs. Each will be considered in terms of the audience for whom it is intended. Materials are judged on the basis of the work as a whole, not on a part taken out of context.

Selection Criteria considered in the evaluation and the re-evaluation of materials are:

- Cultural, recreational, informational and/or educational value.
- Local interest and potential use by library patrons.
- Usefulness in relation to other materials in the collection.
- Appearance of the item in standard bibliographies and review journals.
- Permanent significance.
- Accuracy, effectiveness, and timeliness of presentation.
- Artistic excellence.
- Qualifications and/or significance of the author.
- Suitability of physical form for library use.
- Availability of material in other library collections.
- Price.
- Library space.

Two categories excluded from the collection as clearly not within the selection criteria are 1) forms of expression that are unprotected by the First Amendment; and 2) explicit and direct instructions for the manufacture of contraband materials.

H. MATERIAL FORMAT

The Library offers materials in a variety of formats to meet its goals and objectives. Materials may include books, audiocassettes, CDs, electronic resources, microforms, newspapers and magazines, pamphlets, videos, and others. The Library will not adopt new formats before they have demonstrated reliability and usefulness.

I. COLLECTION OVERVIEW

The library collection consists of 53,000 items, including books, audiobooks, magazines, newspapers, maps, and videos. It also maintains access to a variety of electronic resources.

In general, collection priority is given to:

- Currency. Collection emphasis is on up-to-date information.
- General treatments over those that are specialized, scholarly, or primarily for professional use.
- Works of broad popular appeal that meet the needs of the independent learner over textbooks or other materials that meet curriculum requirements of the formal student. Textbooks are generally not added to the collection unless there is little or no other material covering the topic in any other format. The Library does not buy textbooks used by the local schools. It is the responsibility of the school libraries to provide copies of course materials for their students.
- Unabridged editions over abridgments. Abridged editions will be considered only if they retain the flavor and quality of the original.

1. Access to the Internet:

The Library's internet policy is contained in a separate document.

2. Adult fiction:

In addition to well-known classics, the adult fiction collection provides a wide variety of popular reading materials of current and high interest to the public. We actively consider patron recommendations.

3. Adult nonfiction:

The non-fiction collection includes materials that are of current interest and demand within the community. It represents a diverse collection in order to make the broadest array of topics and opinions available to our users but is heavily oriented toward the interests and needs of the Homer community. Special emphasis goes to selecting titles dealing with health, boats and marine technology, construction, the arts, sustainability, self-sufficiency and travel.

The Library collects basic books of faith as well as authoritative books on comparative religions but will not collect or accept doctrinal or instructional material in any field of religion. The Library purchases materials of general historical importance rather than denominational content.

4. Alaska and local history materials:

The Alaskana collection includes materials about Alaska and neighboring regions. The collection priorities of the Alaskana collection include:

- As complete coverage as possible of the immediate Homer area.
- Broad coverage of southcentral Alaska.
- Selected coverage of the rest of Alaska based on expected demand and popular appeal.

Some reference or rare materials will not be available for loan. The university libraries and the Alaska State Library maintain comprehensive Alaskana collections; many of these items are available to Homer Public Library patrons through interlibrary loan.

5. Audio:

Recorded books in physical formats such as CDs are available in the adult, young adult, and juvenile sections of the Library. The collections include popular fiction, classic titles, and nonfiction in unabridged and abridged editions. Music CDs are available in the music collection and in the children's library. Audiobooks and music are also available in downloadable electronic formats through the Library's subscription to ListenAlaska.

6. Children's books, including easy readers, children's and young adult materials:

In selecting books for children, the Library's goals are to develop a collection that satisfies children's informational, recreational, and cultural reading needs; to promote literacy; and to encourage a lifelong love of reading. The children's collections include:

- Picture books, beginning readers, and graphic novels.
- Juvenile nonfiction which informs children about their world. Authoritative, up-to-date and attractive materials in a variety of reading levels are sought.
- Juvenile fiction for elementary and middle school students.
- Young Adult fiction and nonfiction that appeal to teenagers and may deal with more adult issues than children's fiction. Books are selected to meet the informational, recreational and emotional concerns of this age group, help them grow in understanding themselves and others, broaden their viewpoints, expand their reading ability and enjoyment, or simply for their reading pleasure.

7. Duplicate titles:

Duplicate titles are purchased if long-term heavy demand is anticipated, but in general, multiple copies are not purchased due to fiscal limitations. Where the public interest is in the subject more than in a particular title, the Library will purchase more copies of

different titles instead of buying numerous copies of one title. This approach offers library users a collection with greater variety and depth.

8. Electronic books, audiobooks, music and magazines:

Downloadable audiobooks, ebooks, and music for children, teens, and adults are available through ListenAlaska, a collection of digital content the Library subscribes to through the Alaska Library Network consortium. Additionally, the Library circulates equipment to access these formats, such as MP3 players and ebook readers. Digital magazines will be made available as the collection budget allows.

9. Electronic databases:

The internet, Databases for Alaskans, and individual databases subscribed to by the Library provide access to a vast range of valuable information. The Library may subscribe to specific databases of interest and usefulness to the community, such as online encyclopedias; genealogy, financial, and medical information; and materials for children. Both the Library's website and public catalog may be used to provide access to these electronic materials.

10. Large Print and materials for the visually handicapped and the hearing-impaired:

Large print materials purchased by the Library are available for checkout and located in the Large Print section of the Library. In addition, the Alaska State Library Talking Book Center loans rotating collections of audiobooks to the Homer Public Library free of charge. The Alaska State Library also offers services directly to individuals unable to read standard print material. Inquire at the front desk for information about applying for this service.

11. Periodicals and Newspapers:

Periodical selection is based on the needs and tastes of the eclectic population in the Homer area. The Library subscribes to the local Homer newspapers and houses most back issues in two formats: paper and microfilm. Subscriptions to the Kenai borough and Anchorage newspapers are maintained, as well as subscriptions to national periodicals of note.

12. Rare and Expensive Books:

The Library does not currently have, nor will it become a priority to have, a rare book collection. The cost of preservation and security make housing a rare book collection impractical. Rare books that have been donated to the Library may be sold and the money used to purchase materials for reference and circulation. The Library does maintain a small number of rare books that focus on Alaska and local history.

13. Reference materials:

One of the Library's primary collection development objectives is to provide accurate and useful information. To accomplish this objective, the Library provides access to current and authoritative materials in a variety of formats. Resources include a selection

of encyclopedias, atlases, almanacs, bibliographies, and dictionaries in paper and/or electronic formats, as well as electronic databases. Local and regional directories and information are maintained. Authority, organization, and currency of information are among the selection criteria, as well as whether the information is better obtained in another format, on the internet, or in databases available through SLED (Statewide Library Electronic Doorway).

14. Russian language materials:

The Library maintains a small collection of Russian language materials including books, audiobooks, and videos. Subjects collected include Old Believer history and culture, Russian literature classics, folktales, craft books, materials for children, and Russian translations of English novels.

15. Self-Published materials:

In most cases, the Library does not purchase self-published materials that are not reviewed in established review journals. Exceptions may be made for materials of local interest that meet the general selection criteria. Additional considerations include quality of editing and binding suitable for public use.

16. Vertical File:

The Library maintains files of historic materials about Homer and Alaska. Newspaper articles, newsletters, pamphlets, patterns and instructions, materials hard to locate in books such as charts, graphs and statistics, Cooperative Extension Service publications, and maps of Alaska are located in the Vertical File. All items in the Vertical File are cataloged.

17. Video:

The Library collects videos that appeals to a wide range of patrons. Videos are selected from reviews, prior viewing, or the reputation of the makers and distributors. Videos of high quality, those based on literary works, children's titles, do-it-yourself, self-help, travel and biography, plays, operas and ballet, other musical events, and outstanding series that tend not to be found in private home collections receive selection priority. Series that have appeared on the Public Broadcasting Service and/or have received critical acclaim are also collected, as are popular titles which serve primarily to entertain.

J. COLLECTION EVALUATION AND COLLECTION GOALS

The Homer Public Library strives to maintain a diverse collection to fulfill the many needs and interests of the Homer community. Reports are periodically run from the Library's circulation and cataloging software, which provide information about the percentage of holdings in a particular subject area compared to the percentage of circulation from that area. These reports, analyzed by the collection development librarians, assist in determining how best to divide the acquisitions budget among the subject areas of the collection. A balance is sought between adding new materials to the

most popular sections and strengthening sections containing old and outdated materials.

A top priority of the Homer Public Library is to systematically upgrade the average age of the collection, particularly nonfiction.

In addition, the Homer Public Library collection will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Comparison to standard lists.
- Proportion of subject area in circulation at any given time.
- Age of publication.
- Representation of diverse viewpoints.
- Completeness of sets or series.
- Number of interlibrary loan requests.
- Number of reserves placed.
- Patron requests.

K. ACQUISITIONS

The library staff receives numerous catalogs, advertisements, and announcements from publishers, professional reviewing journals, and library vendors. Staff uses these materials, as well as patron requests and staff suggestions, as the beginning of the selection process. Reviews of each item are evaluated before deciding upon purchase. Staff members who are responsible for materials selection collaborate both informally and in periodic collection development meetings to discuss the merits of adding specific titles to the collections, as well as the strengths and weaknesses of the collection in general.

New materials are ordered through the local independent bookstore in Homer, book and media vendors, and publishers. The Library purchases out-of-print materials from companies who specialize in locating hard-to-find books. The majority of the Library's periodicals are managed by a periodical subscription service.

L. COLLECTION MAINTENANCE

Select books of long-term value to the collection are sent to a professional bindery when their bindings become worn-out or damaged and are not easily mended. These titles are usually popular, of local interest, and not available in hardcover bindings.

Books are mended if, as a whole, they are in good shape and the mending will result in prolonged life of the books for additional circulations. Cumulative damage such as a large number of dirty or torn pages may result in withdrawal or replacement instead of mending.

The purpose of a withdrawal policy is to insure that the collection remains up-to-date and useful. The criteria used for selecting materials are also be used in the removal of items from the collection. Materials that are no longer useful in light of stated objectives are systematically withdrawn from the collection. Prime candidates for deselection are:

- Items which contain outdated or inaccurate information, unless of historical value.
- Superseded editions.
- Worn out or damaged items.
- Seldom-used materials.

Withdrawn materials are added to the Friends of the Homer Public Library's book sale. Proceeds from the sale will be used to purchase needed items for the Library. Occasionally, discarded items are offered to other libraries, schools, or nonprofit groups. Items not distributed or sold are discarded.

M. GIFTS AND DONATIONS

The Library accepts donations of materials with the understanding that gifts to be added to the collection must meet established selection criteria and are deemed to enrich the collection. Gifts not retained for the collection will be added to the Friends of the Homer Public Library's book sale or discarded.

No condition or restriction of gifts can be honored. It is the policy of the Library not to accept special collections of books and like material to be kept together as a separate entity. Gift collections may be accepted at the discretion of the library director with the understanding that they be integrated into the general collection with the only form of special identification being a bookplate.

The Library encourages cash gifts for the purchase of memorials, tributes, or other reasons. Selection of materials must be based on the same criteria used to select items for the collection. The general nature of the book or its subject area can be based upon the interests of the deceased or the wishes of the donor and the needs of the Library.

Gifts of money, real property, personal property, or stock are accepted if conditions attached to them are acceptable to the Library Advisory Board and/or the City of Homer administration. The Library shall not accept for deposit materials that are not outright gifts. Donations are added to the Homer Public Library's Gift and Building Fund. Investment of funds is managed by the Finance Department of the City of Homer.

The Library cannot legally appraise gifts for tax purposes. Donors are offered a signed and dated gift statement as a receipt.

N. COPYRIGHT

The Homer Public Library makes every attempt to abide by the copyright law of the United States (Title 17, U.S. Code). Patrons who use library materials are responsible for complying with current laws.

O. RECONSIDERATION

The Library recognizes that within the Homer area there are groups and individuals with widely separate and diverse interests, backgrounds, cultural heritage, social values, and needs, and that any given item may offend some patrons. Selection of materials is not made on the basis of anticipated approval or disapproval of their contents and no library material is sequestered except to protect it from injury or theft. The suitability of particular materials may be questioned by a borrower and reconsideration formally requested in accordance with the following procedure. Either staff or citizens may initiate reconsideration.

Should patrons have a complaint about library materials the following sequential process will be followed. Questioned materials will not be removed or restricted at any point in this process unless an official determination has been made to do so.

- 1) Informal discussion with the Library Director. The selection policy will be explained and a copy of the collection development policy provided.
- 2) If patrons are not satisfied with the informal discussion, they may fill out a "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" form.
- 3) Upon receiving the completed form, the Library Director shall:
 - a) Read the material in its entirety.
 - b) Check the general acceptance of material by reading reviews and consulting recommended lists.
 - c) Judge the material for the strengths and values as a whole and not in part, and apply all appropriate selection criteria to the work.
 - d) Provide a written response to the patron, which will include a full explanation of the decision, and information concerning the process to appeal.
 - e) Present a written recommendation to the Library Advisory Board at their next meeting.
- 4) If the patron remains dissatisfied, an appeal can be heard before the Library Advisory Board. The Board will read the material in its entirety, hear the appeal, review the recommendation by the librarian, and make a final judgment. The Board shall notify the complainant of its decision in writing. No further appeals will be heard. No other reconsideration of this material will be addressed for one full year from the date of final judgment unless the grounds for complaint are substantially different from the previous reconsideration.

Documents Appended

Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.

II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.

Retrieved 1/26/2015 from <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill>.

Code of Ethics of the American Library Association

As members of the American Library Association, we recognize the importance of codifying and making known to the profession and to the general public the ethical principles that guide the work of librarians, other professionals providing information services, library trustees and library staffs.

Ethical dilemmas occur when values are in conflict. The American Library Association Code of Ethics states the values to which we are committed, and embodies the ethical responsibilities of the profession in this changing information environment.

We significantly influence or control the selection, organization, preservation, and dissemination of information. In a political system grounded in an informed citizenry, we

are members of a profession explicitly committed to intellectual freedom and the freedom of access to information. We have a special obligation to ensure the free flow of information and ideas to present and future generations.

The principles of this Code are expressed in broad statements to guide ethical decision making. These statements provide a framework; they cannot and do not dictate conduct to cover particular situations.

We provide the highest level of service to all library users through appropriate and usefully organized resources; equitable service policies; equitable access; and accurate, unbiased, and courteous responses to all requests.

We uphold the principles of intellectual freedom and resist all efforts to censor library resources.

We protect each library user's right to privacy and confidentiality with respect to information sought or received and resources consulted, borrowed, acquired or transmitted.

We respect intellectual property rights and advocate balance between the interests of information users and rights holders.

We treat co-workers and other colleagues with respect, fairness, and good faith, and advocate conditions of employment that safeguard the rights and welfare of all employees of our institutions.

We do not advance private interests at the expense of library users, colleagues, or our employing institutions.

We distinguish between our personal convictions and professional duties and do not allow our personal beliefs to interfere with fair representation of the aims of our institutions or the provision of access to their information resources.

We strive for excellence in the profession by maintaining and enhancing our own knowledge and skills, by encouraging the professional development of co-workers, and by fostering the aspirations of potential members of the profession.

Adopted at the 1939 Midwinter Meeting by the ALA Council; amended June 30, 1981; June 28, 1995; and January 22, 2008.

Retrieved 1/26/2015 from

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/proethics/codeofethics/codeethics>.

The Freedom to Read Statement

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or

limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label "controversial" views, to distribute lists of "objectionable" books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as individuals devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

Most attempts at suppression rest on a denial of the fundamental premise of democracy: that the ordinary individual, by exercising critical judgment, will select the good and reject the bad. We trust Americans to recognize propaganda and misinformation, and to make their own decisions about what they read and believe. We do not believe they are prepared to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be "protected" against what others think may be bad for them. We believe they still favor free enterprise in ideas and expression.

These efforts at suppression are related to a larger pattern of pressures being brought against education, the press, art and images, films, broadcast media, and the Internet. The problem is not only one of actual censorship. The shadow of fear cast by these pressures leads, we suspect, to an even larger voluntary curtailment of expression by those who seek to avoid controversy or unwelcome scrutiny by government officials.

Such pressure toward conformity is perhaps natural to a time of accelerated change. And yet suppression is never more dangerous than in such a time of social tension. Freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions, and enables change to come by choice. Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with controversy and difference.

Now as always in our history, reading is among our greatest freedoms. The freedom to read and write is almost the only means for making generally available ideas or manners of expression that can initially command only a small audience. The written word is the natural medium for the new idea and the untried voice from which come the original contributions to social growth. It is essential to the extended discussion that serious thought requires, and to the accumulation of knowledge and ideas into organized collections.

We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture. We believe that these pressures toward conformity present the danger of limiting the range and variety of inquiry and expression on which our democracy and our culture depend. We believe that every American community must jealously guard the freedom to publish and to circulate, in order to preserve its own freedom to read. We believe that publishers and librarians have a profound responsibility to give validity to that freedom to read by making it possible for the readers to choose freely from a variety of offerings.

The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

We therefore affirm these propositions:

It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.

Creative thought is by definition new, and what is new is different. The bearer of every new thought is a rebel until that idea is refined and tested. Totalitarian systems attempt to maintain themselves in power by the ruthless suppression of any concept that challenges the established orthodoxy. The power of a democratic system to adapt to change is vastly strengthened by the freedom of its citizens to choose widely from among conflicting opinions offered freely to them. To stifle every nonconformist idea at birth would mark the end of the democratic process. Furthermore, only through the constant activity of weighing and selecting can the democratic mind attain the strength demanded by times like these. We need to know not only what we believe but why we believe it.

Publishers, librarians, and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what should be published or circulated.

Publishers and librarians serve the educational process by helping to make available knowledge and ideas required for the growth of the mind and the increase of learning. They do not foster education by imposing as mentors the patterns of their own thought. The people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church. It is wrong that what one can read should be confined to what another thinks proper.

It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.

No art or literature can flourish if it is to be measured by the political views or private lives of its creators. No society of free people can flourish that draws up lists of writers to whom it will not listen, whatever they may have to say.

There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.

To some, much of modern expression is shocking. But is not much of life itself shocking? We cut off literature at the source if we prevent writers from dealing with the stuff of life.

Parents and teachers have a responsibility to prepare the young to meet the diversity of experiences in life to which they will be exposed, as they have a responsibility to help them learn to think critically for themselves. These are affirmative responsibilities, not to be discharged simply by preventing them from reading works for which they are not yet prepared. In these matters values differ, and values cannot be legislated; nor can machinery be devised that will suit the demands of one group without limiting the freedom of others.

It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept the prejudgment of a label characterizing any expression or its author as subversive or dangerous.

The ideal of labeling presupposes the existence of individuals or groups with wisdom to determine by authority what is good or bad for others. It presupposes that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. But Americans do not need others to do their thinking for them.

It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large; and by the government whenever it seeks to reduce or deny public access to public information.

It is inevitable in the give and take of the democratic process that the political, the moral, or the aesthetic concepts of an individual or group will occasionally collide with those of another individual or group. In a free society individuals are free to determine for themselves what they wish to read, and each group is free to determine what it will recommend to its freely associated members. But no group has the right to take the law into its own hands, and to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other members of a democratic society. Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive. Further, democratic societies are more safe, free, and creative when the free flow of public information is not restricted by governmental prerogative or self-censorship.

It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.

The freedom to read is of little consequence when the reader cannot obtain matter fit for that reader's purpose. What is needed is not only the absence of restraint, but the positive provision of opportunity for the people to read the best that has been thought and said. Books are the major channel by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down, and the principal means of its testing and growth. The defense of the freedom to read requires of all publishers and librarians the utmost of their faculties, and deserves of all Americans the fullest of their support.

We state these propositions neither lightly nor as easy generalizations. We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of the written word. We do so because we believe that it is possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free. We realize that the application of these propositions may mean the dissemination of ideas and manners of expression that are repugnant to many persons. We do not state these propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant. We believe rather that what people read is deeply important; that ideas can be dangerous; but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours.

This statement was originally issued in May of 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and the American Book Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Publishers Institute to become the Association of American Publishers.

Adopted June 25, 1953, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee; amended January 28, 1972; January 16, 1991; July 12, 2000; June 30, 2004.

A Joint Statement by:

[American Library Association](#)
[Association of American Publishers](#)

Subsequently endorsed by:

[American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression](#)
[The Association of American University Presses, Inc.](#)
[The Children's Book Council](#)
[Freedom to Read Foundation](#)
[National Association of College Stores](#)
[National Coalition Against Censorship](#)
[National Council of Teachers of English](#)
[The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression](#)

Retrieved 1/26/2015 from

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/statementspols/freedomreadstatement>.

Freedom to View Statement

The **FREEDOM TO VIEW**, along with the freedom to speak, to hear, and to read, is protected by the [First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States](#). In a free society, there is no place for censorship of any medium of expression. Therefore these principles are affirmed:

To provide the broadest access to film, video, and other audiovisual materials because they are a means for the communication of ideas. Liberty of circulation is essential to insure the constitutional guarantee of freedom of expression.

To protect the confidentiality of all individuals and institutions using film, video, and other audiovisual materials.

To provide film, video, and other audiovisual materials which represent a diversity of views and expression. Selection of a work does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content.

To provide a diversity of viewpoints without the constraint of labeling or prejudging film, video, or other audiovisual materials on the basis of the moral, religious, or political beliefs of the producer or filmmaker or on the basis of controversial content.

To contest vigorously, by all lawful means, every encroachment upon the public's freedom to view.

This statement was originally drafted by the Freedom to View Committee of the American Film and Video Association (formerly the Educational Film Library Association) and was adopted by the AFVA Board of Directors in February 1979. This statement was updated and approved by the AFVA Board of Directors in 1989.

Endorsed January 10, 1990, by the ALA Council

Retrieved 1/26/2015 from

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/statementspols/freedomviewstatement>.

Libraries: An American Value

Libraries in America are cornerstones of the communities they serve. Free access to the books, ideas, resources, and information in America's libraries is imperative for education, employment, enjoyment, and self-government.

Libraries are a legacy to each generation, offering the heritage of the past and the promise of the future. To ensure that libraries flourish and have the freedom to promote and protect the public good in the 21st century, we believe certain principles must be guaranteed.

To that end, we affirm this contract with the people we serve:

We defend the constitutional rights of all individuals, including children and teenagers, to use the library's resources and services;

We value our nation's diversity and strive to reflect that diversity by providing a full spectrum of resources and services to the communities we serve;

We affirm the responsibility and the right of all parents and guardians to guide their own children's use of the library and its resources and services;

We connect people and ideas by helping each person select from and effectively use the library's resources;

We protect each individual's privacy and confidentiality in the use of library resources and services;

We protect the rights of individuals to express their opinions about library resources and services;

We celebrate and preserve our democratic society by making available the widest possible range of viewpoints, opinions and ideas, so that all individuals have the opportunity to become lifelong learners - informed, literate, educated, and culturally enriched.

Change is constant, but these principles transcend change and endure in a dynamic technological, social, and political environment.

By embracing these principles, libraries in the United States can contribute to a future that values and protects freedom of speech in a world that celebrates both our similarities and our differences, respects individuals and their beliefs, and holds all persons truly equal and free.

Adopted February 3, 1999, by the
Council of the American Library Association

Retrieved 1/26/2015 from

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/statementspols/librariesamerican>.

Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors

An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights*
(formerly titled "Free Access to Libraries for Minors")

Library policies and procedures that effectively deny minors equal and equitable access to all library resources and services available to other users violate the American Library Association's *Library Bill of Rights*. The American Library Association opposes all attempts to restrict access to library services, materials, and facilities based on the age of library users.

Article V of the *Library Bill of Rights* states, "A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views." The "right to use a library" includes free access to, and unrestricted use of, all the services, materials, and facilities the library has to offer. Every restriction on access to, and use of, library resources, based solely on the chronological age, educational level, literacy skills, or legal emancipation of users violates Article V.

Libraries are charged with the mission of providing services and developing resources to meet the diverse information needs and interests of the communities they serve. Services,

materials, and facilities that fulfill the needs and interests of library users at different stages in their personal development are a necessary part of library resources. The needs and interests of each library user, and resources appropriate to meet those needs and interests, must be determined on an individual basis. Librarians cannot predict what resources will best fulfill the needs and interests of any individual user based on a single criterion such as chronological age, educational level, literacy skills, or legal emancipation. Equitable access to all library resources and services shall not be abridged through restrictive scheduling or use policies.

Libraries should not limit the selection and development of library resources simply because minors will have access to them. Institutional self-censorship diminishes the credibility of the library in the community and restricts access for all library users. Children and young adults unquestionably possess First Amendment rights, including the right to receive information through the library in print, sound, images, data, games, software, and other formats.¹ Constitutionally protected speech cannot be suppressed solely to protect children or young adults from ideas or images a legislative body believes to be unsuitable for them.² Librarians and library governing bodies should not resort to age restrictions in an effort to avoid actual or anticipated objections because only a court of law can determine whether or not content is constitutionally protected.

The mission, goals, and objectives of libraries cannot authorize librarians or library governing bodies to assume, abrogate, or overrule the rights and responsibilities of parents and guardians. As “Libraries: An American Value” states, “We affirm the responsibility and the right of all parents and guardians to guide their own children’s use of the library and its resources and services.” Librarians and library governing bodies cannot assume the role of parents or the functions of parental authority in the private relationship between parent and child. Librarians and governing bodies should maintain that only parents and guardians have the right and the responsibility to determine their children’s—and only their children’s—access to library resources. Parents and guardians who do not want their children to have access to specific library services, materials, or facilities should so advise their children.

Librarians and library governing bodies have a public and professional obligation to ensure that all members of the community they serve have free, equal, and equitable access to the entire range of library resources regardless of content, approach, or format.

This principle of library service applies equally to all users, minors as well as adults. Lack of access to information can be harmful to minors. Librarians and library governing bodies must uphold this principle in order to provide adequate and effective service to minors.

Note

1. See *Brown v. Entertainment Merchant’s Association, et al.* 564 U.S. 08-1448 (2011): a) Video games qualify for First Amendment protection. Like protected books, plays, and movies, they communicate ideas through familiar literary devices and features distinctive to the medium.. And ‘the basic principles of freedom of speech . . . do not vary’ with a new and different communication medium.”
2. See *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205 (1975): “Speech that is neither obscene as to youths nor subject to some other legitimate proscription cannot be suppressed solely to protect the young from

ideas or images that a legislative body thinks unsuitable for them. In most circumstances, the values protected by the First Amendment are no less applicable when government seeks to control the flow of information to minors." See also *Tinker v. Des Moines School Dist.*, 393 U.S.503 (1969); *West Virginia Bd. of Ed. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943); *AAMA v. Kendrick*, 244 F.3d 572 (7th Cir. 2001).

Adopted June 30, 1972, by the ALA Council; amended July 1, 1981; July 3, 1991; June 30, 2004; July 2, 2008 *under previous name* "Free Access to Libraries for Minors"; and July 1, 2014.

Retrieved 1/26/2015 from

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/access-library-resources-for-minors>.

Access for Children and Young Adults to Nonprint Materials

An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights

Library collections of nonprint materials raise a number of intellectual freedom issues, especially regarding minors. Article V of the [Library Bill of Rights](#) states, "A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views."

The American Library Association's principles protect minors' access to sound, images, data, games, software, and other content in all formats such as tapes, CDs, DVDs, music CDs, computer games, software, databases, and other emerging technologies. ALA's [Free Access to Libraries for Minors](#): An *Interpretation* of the Library Bill of Rights states: . . . The "right to use a library" includes free access to, and unrestricted use of, all the services, materials, and facilities the library has to offer. Every restriction on access to, and use of, library resources, based solely on the chronological age, educational level, literacy skills, or legal emancipation of users violates Article V.

. . . [P]arents—and only parents—have the right and responsibility to restrict access of their children—and only their children—to library resources. Parents who do not want their children to have access to certain library services, materials, or facilities should so advise their children. Librarians and library governing bodies cannot assume the role of parents or the functions of parental authority in the private relationship between parent and child.

Lack of access to information can be harmful to minors. Librarians and library governing bodies have a public and professional obligation to ensure that all members of the community they serve have free, equal, and equitable access to the entire range of library resources regardless of content, approach, format, or amount of detail. This principle of library service applies equally to all users, minors as well as adults. Librarians and library governing bodies must uphold this principle in order to provide adequate and effective service to minors.

Policies that set minimum age limits for access to any nonprint materials or information technology, with or without parental permission, abridge library use for minors. Age limits based on the cost of the materials are also unacceptable. Librarians, when dealing with minors, should apply the same standards to circulation of nonprint materials as are applied to books and other print materials except when directly and specifically prohibited by law.

Recognizing that librarians cannot act *in loco parentis*, ALA acknowledges and supports the exercise by parents of their responsibility to guide their own children's reading and viewing. Libraries should provide published reviews and/or reference works that contain information about the content, subject matter, and recommended audiences for nonprint materials. These resources will assist parents in guiding their children without implicating the library in censorship.

In some cases, commercial content ratings, such as the [Motion Picture Association of America](#) (MPAA) movie ratings, might appear on the packaging or promotional materials provided by producers or distributors. However, marking out or removing this information from materials or packaging constitutes expurgation or censorship.

MPAA movie ratings, [Entertainment Software Rating Board](#) (ESRB) game ratings, and other rating services are private advisory codes and have no legal standing ([Expurgation of Library Materials](#)). For the library to add ratings to nonprint materials if they are not already there is unacceptable. It is also unacceptable to post a list of such ratings with a collection or to use them in circulation policies or other procedures. These uses constitute labeling, "an attempt to prejudice attitudes" ([Labels and Rating Systems](#)), and are forms of censorship. The application of locally generated ratings schemes intended to provide content warnings to library users is also inconsistent with the Library Bill of Rights. The interests of young people, like those of adults, are not limited by subject, theme, or level of sophistication. Librarians have a responsibility to ensure young people's access to materials and services that reflect diversity of content and format sufficient to meet their needs.

Adopted June 28, 1989, by the ALA Council; amended June 30, 2004.

Retrieved 1/26/2015 from

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/accesschildren>.

Policy approved by Library Advisory Board 3/3/2015.

Approved by Homer City Council 3/23/15.

Edited to update mission statement and fix typos 8/29/16.



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Clerk

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Homer, Alaska 99603

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Supplemental Packet

Item Type: Informational Item
Prepared For: Library Advisory Board
Meeting Date: 15 Nov 2022
Staff Contact: Rachel Tussey, Deputy City Clerk
Department: Clerks

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.C. Appeal of Library Director's Decision Regarding Children and Young Adult Materials

Petition to Follow the City of Homer's Library Collection Policy and Support Family Choice – Submitted as of 11-14-22 **Page 2**

Petition to Follow the City of Homer's Library Collection Policy and Support Family Choice – Submitted as of 11-15-22 **Page 70**

Petition to Remove LGBTQ+ Books - Website as of 11-15-22 **Page 86**

Written Testimony as of 11-15-22, 1:00 p.m. **Page 91**



This petition has collected
674 signatures
using the online tools at www.ipetitions.com

Printed on 2022-11-14

Petition to Follow the City of Homer's Library Collections Policy and Support Family Choice

About this petition

We, the undersigned residents and parents of Homer and surrounding area, support the upholding of the City's Collection Development policy and petition the Library Advisory Board to uphold the Library Director's decision in full, leaving children's books in the children's library.

The Library's policy currently states: "Responsibility for the reading choices and information access by children rests with the parents and legal guardians, not the LibraryThe Library encourages parents to be involved with their children's reading and library use and will work with parents to find materials they deem appropriate for their children."

Any decision to remove the selected books from the juvenile collection undermines the Library's policy for free access to information, including for minors: "Individual or group prejudice about a particular item or type of material in the collection may not preclude its use by others." Creating a special section for select children's books is violating policy and effectively isolating both the information contained in those books and the families who identify with the characters and themes in those books.

In addition, we the undersigned actively support the inclusion of LGBTQ+ representation in our children's library as a reflection and celebration of the diverse community we live in, within a free nation.

In signing this I affirm that I meet all the following criteria:

1. I live in the Homer, Alaska area
2. I support the Library's Collection Development policy which the Director is upholding and which supports parental rights and family choice.
3. I believe LGBTQ+ books for children are valuable and represent our community in a safe and meaningful way.

Signatures

1. Name: Amy Stonorov ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 04:54:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

2. Name: Lisa Asselin Martin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 04:55:54
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

3. Name: Mary Hayden ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 04:58:01
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, ak

4. Name: Donna Beran ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 04:58:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

5. Name: Nicole Reynolds ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 04:59:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

6. Name: Claudia Haines ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:07:09
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

7. Name: Mandy Lehm ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:07:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

8. Name: Eric Lehm ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:09:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

9. Name: Michael Stegeman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:13:53
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

10. Name: Shari Daugherty ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:18:14
Additional Comments: Censorship is wrong. That is all.
Where do you live? : Anchor Point

11. Name: Sarah Richardson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:18:37
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

12. Name: Melanie Dufour ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:19:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

13. Name: Charlie Gibson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:21:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

14. Name: Emily Munns ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:22:34
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

15. Name: Katy Countiss ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:22:54
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

16. Name: Erin Hollowell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:23:17
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : United States

17. Name: Rachel Lord ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:23:21
Additional Comments: Our family *loves* our library, and my children (ages 7 and 9) have grown up going to the library almost weekly for most of their lives. It is a rich resource with an incredibly diverse collection which our community should be proud of. The library's collections policy speaks directly to the responsibility of parents to be actively engaged in their children's reading. I agree 100% and fully support this petition.
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

18. Name: Brie Drummond ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:23:40
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

19. Name: Mae Remme ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:25:51
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

20. Name: McKenzie McCarthy ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:29:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

21. Name: Andrea Huyck ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:29:21
Additional Comments: Diversity and support for everyone inclusively is necessary.

Where do you live? : Homer, AK

22. Name: Jessica Norton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:34:04
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point

23. Name: Corrina Pariyar ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:34:10
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

24. Name: Angela Head ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:42:50
Additional Comments: Homer
Where do you live? : Homer

25. Name: Holly Dickson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:43:18
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

26. Name: Katrina Johnson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:45:43
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

27. Name: Melanie Reynolds ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:47:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor point

28. Name: Maura Brenin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:49:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

29. Name: Beth Carroll ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:50:30
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

30. Name: Rylie alborn ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:51:24
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer ak

31. Name: Mercedes Harness ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:51:42
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

32. Name: Samantha Keeley ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:54:02
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

33. Name: Thorey Munro ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:58:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Kachemak City

34. Name: Rachel Allmendinger ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 05:58:54
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

35. Name: Anna Lewald ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:03:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

36. Name: Emily Kizzia ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:05:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

37. Name: Brianna Lee ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:06:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

38. Name: Kalie Rubalcava ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:10:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

39. Name: Lisa Krebs ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:10:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 40945 Dorothy Drive Homer, AK

40. Name: Glenn Hollowell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:12:10
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek, AK

41. Name: Amanda Campbell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:14:55
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

42. Name: Tory Rockefeller ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:16:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

43. Name: Ann Dixon ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:16:44
Additional Comments: A public library serves the interests of the whole community.

Parents have the right to monitor their own children's reading but do not have the right to limit access to materials for other children and families.

Where do you live? : Homer, AK

44. Name: Sallie Rediske ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:17:18

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

45. Name: Anna McCarthy ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:21:59

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

46. Name: Hayley Norris ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:26:40

Additional Comments: I support keeping these books in the children's section of library.

Where do you live? : Homer, AK

47. Name: Jane Dunn ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:28:29

Additional Comments: Allowing children access to books that portray people of different cultures and identities than our own helps us gain empathy for others. Reading books that portray characters that we relate to, especially if we are part of a population targeted by society, helps children feel less alone in the world. It can help them feel comfortable being themselves.

LGBTQIA+ youth frequently lose their support systems (family/friends/church) when they reveal who they are or it is suspected/revealed for them. This leads 1/3 young queer people to consider, attempt or commit suicide.

Offering these books freely to the public builds acceptance, awareness and community. This is what libraries do, especially HPL. Keep the books where they are.

Where do you live? : Homer

48. Name: Jessica Stegeman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:32:23

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

49. Name: Rose Masui ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:34:13

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

50. Name: Sheree Serio ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:35:06

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

51. Name: Kathryn Ault ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:39:47

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

52. Name: Adrienne Leffler ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:45:51
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer ak
-
53. Name: Angela Smith ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:49:39
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
-
54. Name: Lila Johnson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:52:23
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
55. Name: Karianna Ford ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:53:50
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point, Alaska
-
56. Name: Cheyanne Lambert ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 06:57:47
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
57. Name: Ben Gibson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 07:04:33
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
58. Name: Sam Bishop ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 07:09:01
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
59. Name: Tia Pietsch ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 07:10:02
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
-
60. Name: Ryan Lee ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 07:14:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
61. Name: Dalena McKay ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 07:19:27
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AkK
-
62. Name: David G Lewis ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 07:25:59
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-

63. Name: Lindsay Olsen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 07:28:04
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

64. Name: Steve Gibson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 07:37:00
Additional Comments: Let the children develop to realize their potential, not your particular preference.
Where do you live? : Homer

65. Name: Delane ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 07:41:20
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

66. Name: Chelsea Schmitt ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 08:39:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer alaska

67. Name: David Bolt ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 08:44:29
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

68. Name: Cynthia Morelli ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 08:47:04
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

69. Name: Daniel Perry ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 08:57:40
Additional Comments: It's okay to have different viewpoints, just don't impose them on our institutions that offer free access to information.
Where do you live? : Homer

70. Name: Deb Curtis ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 09:01:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

71. Name: Terri Mach ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 09:24:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

72. Name: Alison Flack ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 09:31:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : SOLDOTNA

73. Name: Brandy McGee ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 10:13:41
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

74. Name: Rebekah Dalke ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 11:05:50
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

75. Name: Michelle Borland ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 12:32:42
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

76. Name: Nancy Lord ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 13:02:20
Additional Comments: I strongly support the library director's decision based on the detailed, carefully considered collection policy. Library professionals, not religious groups or individual parents, should determine library collections.
Where do you live? : Homer city resident

77. Name: Anna Germundson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 13:26:40
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : United States

78. Name: Jane Wiebe ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 13:50:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

79. Name: Beth Van Sandt ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 14:15:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

80. Name: Kurt Weichhand ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 14:36:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : City of Homer

81. Name: Jillian Rogers ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 14:44:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

82. Name: Steve Glasman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 14:52:26
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

83. Name: Janet Fink ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 14:55:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Diamond Ridge

84. Name: Marjorie Ringer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 15:13:09
Additional Comments: Homer
Where do you live? : Homer
-
85. Name: Marcia Boone ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 15:28:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
86. Name: Greta Mahowald ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 15:34:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
87. Name: Elise Boyer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 15:36:42
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
88. Name: Liza Spencer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 15:37:32
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
89. Name: Alex Koplin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 15:44:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
90. Name: Kathy Robinson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 15:52:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek
-
91. Name: Bruce Robinson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:00:27
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek
-
92. Name: Margarida Kondak ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:01:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
93. Name: Ginger Root ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:02:52
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek
-
94. Name: sarah brewer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:21:08
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-

95. Name: Melissa Cloud ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:21:52
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 1065 Dewberry Ln
-
96. Name: Lisa Talbott ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:26:56
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK
-
97. Name: Michael Walsh ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:29:51
Additional Comments: This isn't Nazi Germany. Please keep the books on the shelves.
Where do you live? : 2005 Mary Allen, Homer
-
98. Name: Brianna Allen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:29:54
Additional Comments: Protect family choice.
Where do you live? : Homer
-
99. Name: Kammi Matson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:31:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek
-
100. Name: Linda robinson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:33:23
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
101. Name: Katharine Bynagle ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:35:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek
-
102. Name: Daria Multz ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:37:47
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
103. Name: Heather Kallevig ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:38:18
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
104. Name: Bobbi Cleary ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:39:34
Additional Comments: The books should remain accessible!
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
-
105. Name: Liz Doan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:40:25
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-

106. Name: Alex Bird ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:41:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
107. Name: Ellen Lord ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:43:17
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
108. Name: Karen Murdock ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:47:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
109. Name: julie ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:47:44
Additional Comments: really
Where do you live? : homer
-
110. Name: Lauren Seaton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:49:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Kachemak
-
111. Name: Jody mastey ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:49:17
Additional Comments: removing language from sex and gender issues does not eliminate sex and gender issues. We need language to help our your youth develop strong self identities and foster empathy.
Where do you live? : Homer, alaska
-
112. Name: Pamela Baltzer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:49:22
Additional Comments: Thank You for promoting and acceptance of diversity in our town
Where do you live? : Homer
-
113. Name: Barbara McNinch ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:51:22
Additional Comments: Let's keep the role of censorship, if needed, within individual families and not a responsibility of public libraries.
Where do you live? : Homer
-
114. Name: Oceana Wills ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:51:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
115. Name: Pat Moss ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:52:23
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
116. Name: Charlene Flyum ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:53:11

Additional Comments: We have the best library. Let's keep it that way.
Where do you live? : 2281 Sprucewood Dr, Homer, AK

117. Name: SunRose Winslow ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:54:30
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

118. Name: Jaime Roth ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:55:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

119. Name: Katlyn Oberholtzer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:57:50
Additional Comments: Please, let people decide what books they want to read without limiting their choices!
Where do you live? : Homer

120. Name: Jane Rohr ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:59:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

121. Name: Andy Kita ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 16:59:54
Additional Comments: This is insanity. Where does it end? Maybe we should take all the books about spiders out just in case our kids get indoctrinated and become arachnids. Stop this madness. No censorship at this safe place.
Where do you live? : Homer

122. Name: Rudy Multz ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:01:23
Additional Comments: Freedom means having choices. Public institutions such as the library allow citizens to choose to educate or entertain themselves freely without censorship of those voices or their choices within the limits of what is legally allowed. Banning books is censoring choice and that is definitely not freedom. A dangerous precedent is set when we start limiting choices. If parents are concerned about content of children's books then they need to monitor and guide their children until they turn 18 and can be legally responsible for themselves. Please do not censor and limit choices that constitute the freedoms we have in this nation. Thank you for your time and consideration.
Where do you live? : Homer

123. Name: Vivian Finlay ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:03:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

124. Name: Robin Tupper ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:05:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point, Alaska

-
125. Name: Carolyn Maslow ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:06:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
126. Name: Hillary Nash ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:06:18
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 40560 Hancock Dr. Homer AK 99603
-
127. Name: Clyde ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:09:09
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska, USA
-
128. Name: Marie Herdegen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:10:27
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
-
129. Name: Susan Houlihan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:11:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point, AK
-
130. Name: Consuelo Goldman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:15:50
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
131. Name: Joe Pfeil ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:16:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK
-
132. Name: Richard Anthony Chiappone ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:18:39
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
133. Name: Misha klassen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:19:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK
-
134. Name: Barbara Veeck ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:21:41
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Physical: Anchor Point PO BOX: Homer
-
135. Name: candy rohrer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:24:07
Additional Comments: For LGBT youth, books about their real-life struggles and challenges is extremely important. For all people that want to learn more and think more

deeply about a sense of self, place and relationship to others and their acceptance in our community, work and family I support inclusion of a divers library collection.

Where do you live? : Homer, Ak

136. Name: Brooke Andrews ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:25:34

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

137. Name: Bill Morse ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:26:50

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Fritz Creek, AK

138. Name: Rachael Doan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:26:56

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

139. Name: Kyle Darbonne ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:29:12

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer, AK

140. Name: Janice Todd ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:35:40

Additional Comments: Ever since I took Children's Lit and a course on Hans Christian Andersen at the UW in Seattle, I've read children's lit differently. Good writing has many levels.. Stories within stories, stories some see but others miss. Stories that deal with problems some of us face but others never will.

Where do you live? : Skyline Drive

141. Name: Stacey Buckelew ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:35:58

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer, AK

142. Name: Hope Geysbeek ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:38:40

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

143. Name: Irene Saxton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:38:52

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

144. Name: Sonja Martin Young ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:40:16

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

145. Name: Melody Chrsley ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:42:46

Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

146. Name: Andrew Haas ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:43:06
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

147. Name: Thomas Young ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:43:16
Additional Comments: Homer
Where do you live? : Homer

148. Name: David Nofziger ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:43:45
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 4242 Calhoun St Bldg 2 Apt A

149. Name: Remo Lotscher ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:46:08
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

150. Name: Kristen Cook ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:49:28
Additional Comments: Please allow these harmless books to remain for those who they may help and need them.
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

151. Name: sharon roufa ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:49:28
Additional Comments: I support parental choice in the library. Books are not the enemy.
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

152. Name: Ruby Nofziger ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:50:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

153. Name: Bridget Maryott ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:50:28
Additional Comments: “[Book bans are] a strong message to youth who belong to marginalized communities that they don’t belong,” said Deborah Caldwell-Stone, the director of the American Library Association’s Office for Intellectual Freedom, which has been advocating against these bans. “When you tell a student that they don’t belong, that they don’t have a place in the library, you’re driving them away from all the resources in the library. You’re discouraging them from pursuing educational achievement, from broadening their perspectives, from engaging in critical thinking, and reaching out to learn about a broad range of perspectives that address all kinds of issues”
Where do you live? : Homer

154. Name: Clair Martin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:52:43
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

155. Name: Willy Dunne ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:53:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

156. Name: Jerilyn Wright ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:55:32
Additional Comments: Leave them where they are and let them help the kids!
Where do you live? : Homer

157. Name: Gart Curtis ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:55:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

158. Name: Mary Huff ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:57:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

159. Name: J Higbee ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:57:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

160. Name: Debbie Oudiz ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:59:04
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

161. Name: Nancy Jane York ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 17:59:22
Additional Comments: Homer
Where do you live? : Homer

162. Name: Leslie Whip ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:00:32
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

163. Name: Mindy Hunter ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:00:59
Additional Comments: Protect our library
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

164. Name: Katy Rice ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:01:41
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

165. Name: Janet ORourke ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:01:55
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

166. Name: Detricia Hahn ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:06:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

167. Name: Kathy Irwin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:07:13
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

168. Name: Kathryn Crowley ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:07:50
Additional Comments: Public Libraries are places to access information which appeal to all kinds of people no matter what their race, gender, ethnicity or class. People can choose what they would like to interact with from there. To regulate in any other way is to deny people who don't align with your particular views access to topics and material that speaks to them. It is short sighted and wrong. I sign this to protect our access to all of the books and worldviews and my advice is if you don't like it-don't check it out.
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

169. Name: Lisa Whip ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:07:57
Additional Comments: Please support our library board and the comprehensive library collection policy. Please support all the children of Homer. Please support our hard working library staff who are dedicated to literacy and serving the public— each and every person of our community.
Where do you live? : I live in Homer.

170. Name: Tyroan Rediske ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:08:26
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Ak

171. Name: Pat Irwin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:09:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

172. Name: Cameron Streidl ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:10:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Grand Rapids, MI

173. Name: Suzanne Haines ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:10:59
Additional Comments: Libraries offer freedom of choice for all patrons. It's easy to pick appropriate books for individuals and families. Having a wide selection of reading material serves the wide population's interests, needs, and beliefs. Thank you.
Where do you live? : Homer City Limits

174. Name: Chris Fischer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:11:04

Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

175. Name: Karen Christopher ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:12:04
Additional Comments: Children need to learn about it all, color, race, religion, gender. A library should not be biased. Knowledge is knowledge!
Where do you live? : Homer

176. Name: Judy Gonsalves ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:12:20
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

177. Name: Susannah Webster ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:13:39
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

178. Name: Joy Steward ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:14:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 39390 Harbinson Rd, Homer, a

179. Name: Amy Russell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:15:52
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

180. Name: Tad Russell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:16:57
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

181. Name: Tim Whip ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:17:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

182. Name: Shannon McBride-Morin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer . p.o. box 653 Homer

183. Name: Dots Sherwood ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:19:47
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

184. Name: Barbara Wolters ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:20:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

185. Name: Bradley Parsons ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:20:20
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
186. Name: Shawnisty Webber ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:20:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point
-
187. Name: Carlin Rauch ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:20:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
-
188. Name: Billy H ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:23:09
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer,ak
-
189. Name: Sara Reinert ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:23:25
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
190. Name: Paul Rauch ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:24:08
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
191. Name: Beth nehus ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:24:43
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : United states
-
192. Name: Terri Spigelmyer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:26:32
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
193. Name: Brian burns ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:27:03
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Ak
-
194. Name: Kathryn Mulder ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:28:32
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek, AK
-
195. Name: Emily Read ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:29:03
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Kachemak City
-

196. Name: Chloe Pleznac ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:32:00
Additional Comments: I spent my childhood and the first 22 years of my life as a weekly visitor of the Homer Public Library. I believe deeply that banning books of any subject, especially for children, is detrimental to the growth of learning and character. Representation in all areas creates a compassionate mindset in youth, who are not born to be narrow minded. It is trained. We do not need narrow minded people in America, where freedoms are celebrated. Our government is supposed to uphold these freedoms free of religious influence, which is being implicitly pushed upon our youth, against their knowledge or ability to understand right from wrong. We must stand for their rights to read.
Where do you live? : Juneau, Alaska

197. Name: Janice Kaye ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:32:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Happy Valley

198. Name: Elizabeth Stark ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:32:39
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

199. Name: Winter Allen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:33:07
Additional Comments: Everyone deserves access to all types of books.
Where do you live? : Homer

200. Name: Melissa Malcolm ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:35:36
Additional Comments: While my family lives in Anchor Point, we hold library cards at the Homer Library, come to child story time frequently, and borrow books from Homer Public Library.
Where do you live? : Anchor Point

201. Name: Paula G Riley ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:36:12
Additional Comments: Individuals and/or groups with private agendas must not be allowed to dictate what the rest of our community reads.
Where do you live? : Homer

202. Name: MeloPurcell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:36:30
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

203. Name: Courtney Dodge ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:36:43
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

204. Name: Sandra Garity ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:37:10
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

205. Name: Meghan Gervais ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:37:33
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

206. Name: Jill Burnham ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:38:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

207. Name: Stuart Schmutzler ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:38:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer area

208. Name: Heather Renner ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:39:23
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

209. Name: Nancy Schrag ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:39:55
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

210. Name: Shannon Moore ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:40:08
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

211. Name: Sue Rennolds ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:41:06
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

212. Name: Christine Kulcheski ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:43:42
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

213. Name: Mindy Lewis ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:44:31
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

214. Name: John Sheipe ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:44:52
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

215. Name: Dianne Spence-Chorman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:45:34
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer area

216. Name: Eric Schallock ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:46:37
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Aspen Court, Homer AK 99603

217. Name: Kim Glaspell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:46:59
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

218. Name: Margo Reveil ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:48:49
Additional Comments: Libraries should remain a place where a diverse range of material is available for both children and adults. We all have the freedom to choose what we or our children bring into our homes, let librarians do their jobs in assuring that the range of content available matches the diversity of interests in the community.
Where do you live? : Homer

219. Name: Brandon Mclean ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:49:37
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

220. Name: Joseph Piper ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:50:20
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

221. Name: Jeri McLean ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:52:08
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

222. Name: Hannah Gustafson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:53:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

223. Name: Sarah Dailey ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:56:50
Additional Comments: Keeping LGBTQ+ books in our library will be beneficial to LGBTQ+ youth. Representation matters, and for youth and young adults who may be struggling with their identities, having access to stories where the characters look like them and experience the world like them is vital.
Removing books that feature characters and stories with these themes will only serve to further isolate and shame individuals in our community who identify with said themes and characters.

Keep representation in our library. Keep showing the LGBTQ+ members of our community that they matter, that their stories are important, and that we love and accept them.

Where do you live? : Homer

224. Name: Marylou Burton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 18:58:43
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

225. Name: Kyla Adelle Dammann ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:02:50
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

226. Name: Bob Shavelson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:02:53
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

227. Name: Kristie Kouyoumjian ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:03:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

228. Name: Dave Lyon ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:04:40
Additional Comments: Stop this madness.
Where do you live? : Homer

229. Name: Sai ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:09:02
Additional Comments: Lgbt children deserve dignity.
Where do you live? : Homer

230. Name: Lani Raymond ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:11:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Kachemak City

231. Name: saskia esslinger ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:14:59
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

232. Name: Mariza Tovar ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:15:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point, AK

233. Name: Eric S Brown ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:16:16
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

234. Name: Karl Stoltzfus ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:18:57
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

235. Name: Karen Shemet ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:19:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

236. Name: Tracie Brown ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:20:16
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

237. Name: Kelsey Hardy-Place ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:20:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

238. Name: Marie Alexson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:21:55
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

239. Name: Abigail Ross ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:28:09
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

240. Name: Peggy Paver ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:31:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

241. Name: Kathleen Gustafson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:34:47
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Downtown Homer

242. Name: Meghan Pollak ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:36:04
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

243. Name: Kari Odden ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:39:08
Additional Comments: Support family choice!
Where do you live? : Homer

244. Name: Aaron Glidden ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:39:13
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

245. Name: Carrie Ann Oats ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:43:04
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer, AK

246. Name: Mary Lou Kelsey ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:45:49
Additional Comments: Please no judgement
Where do you live? : Homer

247. Name: Cal Loomer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:47:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : HOMER

248. Name: Amanda Hall ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:51:31
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

249. Name: Rand Seaton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:53:17
Additional Comments: As parents we can make individual choices on what we feel is appropriate for our kids to read.
Where do you live? : Kachemak city

250. Name: Ahnie Litecky ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:53:58
Additional Comments: We cannot abide hate and bigotry in our community by banning books.
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

251. Name: Katie Marden ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:54:50
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Ak

252. Name: Jack Oudiz ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 19:55:34
Additional Comments: Thanks for doing this
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

253. Name: Patrice Krant ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:06:51
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

254. Name: Lisa Nordstrom ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:07:26
Additional Comments: Please do not do... why be closed minded and create a society that is so segregated?!
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek Alaska

255. Name: Blaise Augustine Banks ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:08:52
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

-
256. Name: Rick Cline ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:09:49
Additional Comments: Freedom rocks!
Where do you live? : Homer
-
257. Name: Jamie Cloud ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:12:27
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
258. Name: Jay Bechtol ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:12:53
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
259. Name: Kathleen Eagle ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:14:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
260. Name: Beth Graber ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:18:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
261. Name: Helen Armstrong ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:18:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
262. Name: Ann Keffer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:21:18
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 189 Island View Court, Homer
-
263. Name: Elizabeth ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:25:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
264. Name: Kappa Reutov ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:25:32
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
265. Name: Megan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:26:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
266. Name: Ashe ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:28:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

-
267. Name: Karen Fine ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:28:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : United States
-
268. Name: claire waxman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:30:18
Additional Comments: books are knowledge, they open worlds for everyone
please keep the variety in our homer library
Where do you live? : homer
-
269. Name: Lia Jacobsen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:31:32
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
270. Name: AMY RATTENBURY ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:33:23
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK 99603
-
271. Name: Carly Ott ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:34:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Alaska
-
272. Name: Mariah ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:39:40
Additional Comments: keep the books
Where do you live? : Homer
-
273. Name: bree ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:42:35
Additional Comments: i don't read a lot but i wish i would've gotten to learn more about
lgbt when i was younger
Where do you live? : homer ak
-
274. Name: Ken Goldman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:43:06
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : HOMER
-
275. Name: Kim A Greer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:44:48
Additional Comments: Stop with the separatists of all people and practice support and
education, kindness, jobs etc for all!! There is no two people in the world that are the
same, except those who have lime opinions from fake news and fear!!
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska
-
276. Name: Max Mitchell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:50:10
Additional Comments: The library should not be subject to banning books or having them
singled out as controversial

Where do you live? : On the Old Sterling

277. Name: Ruthie Puckett ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:51:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

278. Name: MIA BARRETT ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:54:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

279. Name: Melissa Carlin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:55:56
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

280. Name: Krystal Slms ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:59:41
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

281. Name: Mike Hawfield ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 20:59:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

282. Name: Annie Garay ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:01:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : homer

283. Name: Deb Lowney ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:04:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

284. Name: Cristine Beaudoin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:04:11
Additional Comments: Thank you for this!
Where do you live? : Homer

285. Name: Wynn Levitt ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:05:09
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

286. Name: Kathleen Kuhn ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:05:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

287. Name: Kaec ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:06:12
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

288. Name: Thea Person ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:06:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

289. Name: Marilyn Sigman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:07:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

290. Name: Joseph Spaeder ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:08:13
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

291. Name: Sharon Gorman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:08:39
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

292. Name: Zoey Thompson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:08:44
Additional Comments: Gay books dont make gay kids
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

293. Name: Kyllee Sleck ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:08:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

294. Name: Shannon Zanone ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:10:06
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

295. Name: Maggie Mae Gaylord ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:10:10
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

296. Name: Andrew Pollak ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:17:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

297. Name: Julia ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:19:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

298. Name: Adeline Gloor ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:19:29
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

299. Name: Jessica Golden ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:20:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

300. Name: Ashley Hanson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:21:55
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

301. Name: Enrique ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:23:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Texas

302. Name: Carolyn Norton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:26:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

303. Name: Pamela Voeller ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:26:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

304. Name: casper von ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:27:16
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

305. Name: Celia Quinn ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:27:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

306. Name: Tauri Scruggs ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:28:34
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

307. Name: Kyle Schneider ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:30:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

308. Name: Joey K ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:31:18
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

309. Name: Britta Frank ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:34:06
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

310. Name: Carla Klinker Cope ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:34:44
Additional Comments: Please don't remove these important books from the children's library. They matter to me and to my family.
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

311. Name: Loretta Brown ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:36:10
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

312. Name: Renee Veldman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:44:01
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Ak

313. Name: Art Koening ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:48:42
Additional Comments: It ain't broke, don't fix it.
Where do you live? : Homer

314. Name: elsa milne ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:51:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

315. Name: Chuck Wood ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:56:17
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

316. Name: Cynthia Sisson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 21:57:36
Additional Comments: Please do not sensor the books in the Homer library.
Where do you live? : 2091 Horizon Ct Homer AK

317. Name: Laurie Daniel ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:01:37
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

318. Name: Mackenzie Bindas ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:02:40
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : homer

319. Name: Clarke Stading ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:11:30
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer ak

320. Name: Francie Roberts ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:19:11

Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

321. Name: Ciara Lambert ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:19:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

322. Name: Wendy Wayne ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:23:57
Additional Comments: I support the Homer Library to make decisions on books!
Where do you live? : Homer. 2435 Paradise Place.

323. Name: Regan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:33:45
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer ak

324. Name: Billeen Carlson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:40:27
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point

325. Name: Eric Knudtson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:46:05
Additional Comments: Children need access to these books.
Where do you live? : Homer

326. Name: Maya Grace Rohr ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:47:01
Additional Comments: I grew up in Homer and went to the library all the time. Now that I'm grown up, I still love the Homer Library and the vast array of resources it offers. I am queer and growing up, I found that many things in the world were confusing—death, divorce, war, racism. It's wonderful to have children's literature that addresses each of these issues, which, while they are confusing, affect the lives of children around the world *and* in our community. The thing that makes LGBTQIA+ children's books different from those other "confusing" topics is that queerness is something that can be full of joy, something that eases anxieties rather than reinforcing them. If patrons of the library don't understand the need for these kinds of books, that's an indication of their lack of interest into the lives of queer people—including queer children. Just because something is "confusing" doesn't mean that it's dangerous—that's what libraries are for.
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

327. Name: Matthew Steffy ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:48:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

328. Name: Abigail Reid ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:49:16
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

329. Name: Carol G Harding ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:52:23
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

330. Name: Jeanne Walker ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:53:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

331. Name: Gwyn Hansen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:53:41
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer ak

332. Name: Jaime Gable ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:56:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

333. Name: Janet Bowen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:57:20
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

334. Name: Josh Alexander ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 22:57:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Georgia

335. Name: Sierra N Moskios ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:01:20
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

336. Name: Pauli ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:20:04
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Ak

337. Name: Vikki Deadrick ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:22:47
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

338. Name: Donald Deadrick ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:23:53
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

339. Name: Garrett Hall ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:27:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

340. Name: Sharon ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:28:31
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
341. Name: Tom Bursch ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:38:26
Additional Comments: As a parent and a former LAB member I support the collection development policy.
Where do you live? : Inside Homer city limits
-
342. Name: jeanne parker ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:42:10
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
343. Name: Kevin Walker ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:44:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : United States
-
344. Name: Dale Banks ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:48:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
345. Name: Brandon Morris ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:50:47
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 4179 Svedlund St #3 Homer, AK 99603
-
346. Name: Anna Raupp ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-12 23:55:08
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
347. Name: Sue Mauger ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:01:56
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
348. Name: Charlene Jump ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:02:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Alaska
-
349. Name: Katherine Regnier ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:03:41
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 1102 Race Road Homer AK
-
350. Name: Mike Byerly ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:03:51
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

-
351. Name: Tammy Taylor ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:06:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor point
-
352. Name: Ron Keffer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:07:53
Additional Comments: It is critically important to follow the well-established and carefully crafted library policy so as to avoid censorship by those with extreme views about limiting free access to information.
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska, United States
-
353. Name: Wisner ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:13:55
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point
-
354. Name: Rachel Barton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:21:01
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point
-
355. Name: Jenny Stroyeck ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:29:42
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Alaska
-
356. Name: Jennifer Sanders ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:29:54
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Clam Gulch
-
357. Name: Jackie DeLaCruz ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:35:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
358. Name: Chris Brasfield ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:40:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
359. Name: Martha Richardson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:43:01
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
360. Name: Ann Oberlitner ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:44:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
361. Name: Kathryn Carssow ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:50:09

Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

362. Name: Debbie Gazsy ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:50:31
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

363. Name: Nina Faust ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:52:58
Additional Comments: I fully support the library's collections policy.
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

364. Name: Elizabeth Mueller ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 00:54:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Kachemak City.

365. Name: Patricia Jay ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 01:02:26
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : City of Homer

366. Name: Anna Meredith ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 01:04:03
Additional Comments: I feel strongly reading options are freedom and choice.
Where do you live? : Homer alaska

367. Name: Poppy ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 01:07:02
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

368. Name: Mark Dickson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 01:11:13
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

369. Name: Rona Haberman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 01:21:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 53085 Greenwood Rd Homer AK

370. Name: Julia Clymer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 01:41:50
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

371. Name: Hanna Young ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 01:50:27
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer/kachemak city

372. Name: Jeanne Anderson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 01:53:20

Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : homer

373. Name: mary griswold ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 01:53:43
Additional Comments: I fully support the library's collection development policy and am very relieved that it has such a good one.
Where do you live? : Homer

374. Name: Paul J Allan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 01:55:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : HOMER

375. Name: Lolita Brache ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 01:56:32
Additional Comments: I hope we can keep all these books on the shelves in the children's section where kids and families can find materials that speak to their interests, answer their questions, and perhaps challenge their previous ideas. We all need to read things that bring new ideass to our lives as much as we need to find comfort and support in those which reflect our lives.
Where do you live? : Homer

376. Name: Sandra Cronland ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 02:05:28
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

377. Name: Hazel Pearson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 02:07:54
Additional Comments: that's messed up
Where do you live? : Homer

378. Name: Bonita Banks ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 02:10:55
Additional Comments: As a nurse, as an educator, and as a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I strongly support the HPL's collections policy.
Where do you live? : Homer

379. Name: Mark Turner ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 02:30:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

380. Name: Franceska Fairbanks ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 02:46:13
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

381. Name: Elaine Burgess ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 02:47:59
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

382. Name: Laura patty ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 02:48:44
Additional Comments: It is so important to have inclusive materials in all the sections of our public library
Where do you live? : Homer city limits

383. Name: Vicki Albert ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 02:58:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Ak

384. Name: Hal Smith MD ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:00:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

385. Name: Bill Bell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:01:40
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

386. Name: Annie P Williams ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:01:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

387. Name: Jane Miles ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:06:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

388. Name: Susan McLane ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:06:55
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

389. Name: Allyse Bettinger ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:19:56
Additional Comments: Been going to this library since 2017, when we moved here. Love all the staff
Where do you live? : Homer, Fritz Creek ... we live offgrid on top of a mountain!

390. Name: Michaela Holthaus ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:25:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

391. Name: Elizabeth Trowbridge ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:26:02
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 40710 China Poot St Homer AK

392. Name: Michael A LeMay ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:28:40
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

393. Name: Emily ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:28:47
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

394. Name: Summer Pastro ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:31:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

395. Name: Anthony Pastro ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:34:31
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

396. Name: Brandi Scott ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:35:24
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

397. Name: Nicole Szarzi ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:42:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : McNeil Canyon area

398. Name: G Fries ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:43:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Outside Homer

399. Name: Jeff Szarzi ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:45:27
Additional Comments: Homer
Where do you live? : Homer

400. Name: John Wiles ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:45:56
Additional Comments: Drop the censorship and hate mongering
Where do you live? : Homer

401. Name: Krista Etwiler ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:50:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

402. Name: Michelle Michaud ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:52:51
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer area

403. Name: Suzanne Bishop ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 03:58:01
Additional Comments: I support the library's position.

Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

404. Name: Eve S Kilcher ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:03:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : fritz creek

405. Name: Evan Blankenship ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:14:16
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

406. Name: Jenny Fonkert ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:21:43
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

407. Name: Phil Gordon ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:30:25
Additional Comments: Censorship is not freedom, not democratic and a totalitarian behavior. We can do better here in Homer. If parents don't wish their children to read something, that is their family issue. Decreeing nobody can read it is not democracy in action.
Where do you live? : Homer

408. Name: Josef Kallevig ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:31:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

409. Name: Eivin Kilcher ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:33:07
Additional Comments: I support free and open access to information.
Where do you live? : HOMER

410. Name: Spencer Co ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:49:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

411. Name: Kathleen Kiefer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:50:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

412. Name: Jennifer R Baker ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:53:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchorage

413. Name: Storm Hansen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:57:20
Additional Comments: This has my full support
Where do you live? : Homer

-
414. Name: Kayley Kiefer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:57:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
-
415. Name: Marian Ford ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 04:59:59
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
416. Name: Jasmine Maurer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 05:03:54
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Kachemak city
-
417. Name: Ted Spencer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 05:09:28
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska
-
418. Name: Amber Fleenor ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 05:27:59
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
419. Name: Carol Comfort ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 05:31:17
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point Alaska
-
420. Name: Bonnie Sue Powell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 05:48:53
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 64580 Shelton Drive
-
421. Name: Steven Horn ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:00:11
Additional Comments: Descent into totalitarianism begins with the banning of books. The Homer Library's independence is very important to me which is why you'll see my name etched on the entryway glass panel listing major donors' to its construction. Just saying.
Where do you live? : Homer
-
422. Name: Douglas Westphal ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:06:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
423. Name: Alexandra ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:06:38
Additional Comments: I believe everyone should have the right to knowledge.
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska
-
424. Name: Jacquelyn Forster ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:06:39

Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : City of Homer

425. Name: Nicole McKenney ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:07:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

426. Name: Ann Yadon ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:08:53
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Old East End Rd, Fitz Creek

427. Name: MK ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:12:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

428. Name: Mike Illg ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:18:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

429. Name: Steve Delehanty ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:20:20
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

430. Name: Ethan Ford ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:24:20
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

431. Name: Patty Forquer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:31:31
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

432. Name: Carol Swartz ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:34:53
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer area: Diamond Ridge

433. Name: Maggie Goedeke ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:38:16
Additional Comments: Access to education and knowledge is a great asset and limiting this access would be detrimental to the growth of society. Controlling knowledge to attempt to control other peoples views and beliefs breeds racism, homophobia, transphobia, hate and violence.
Where do you live? : Homer AK

434. Name: Evelyn Waltenbaugh ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 06:44:49
Additional Comments: Homer

Where do you live? : Homer

435. Name: Kim Smith ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 07:04:27
Additional Comments: L
Where do you live? : Homer

436. Name: Nadia sethi ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 07:08:18
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, ak

437. Name: Jackie Kondak ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 07:09:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

438. Name: Paul Seaton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 07:18:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Kachemak City

439. Name: Winter Westpal ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 07:19:18
Additional Comments: Of course we should keep the books in the library diverse. We have an obligation to treat all humans equally. If somebody doesn't like the book don't check it out.
Where do you live? : Anchor Point , AK

440. Name: Julie McCarron ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 07:22:52
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 41722 Charlie Dr. Homer

441. Name: Judy Rozzell-Flora ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 07:26:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer area

442. Name: Jayme B ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 07:49:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

443. Name: Steve Hughes ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 08:07:02
Additional Comments: Libraries should not become zones of exclusion. Their highest good is to be inclusive of all by allowing individual's the choice to read and learn about what they see fit, and maybe even gain some knowledge of things they don't understand.
Where do you live? : Homer

444. Name: Brandi Heath ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 08:15:12
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Soldotna

445. Name: Mckibben jackinsky ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 08:31:52
Additional Comments: While I don't live in Homer, I do have a ZHomer library card and z appreciate being able to use this wonderful facility.
Where do you live? : Ninilchik, AK

446. Name: Nichole Smith ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 09:23:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer area

447. Name: Jacob Chrisman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 09:59:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

448. Name: Theresa Keane ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 10:06:25
Additional Comments: Praise be
Where do you live? : Homer

449. Name: naomi petrosius ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 10:18:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : homer alaska

450. Name: Carole Adams ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 13:27:43
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Kachemak City

451. Name: Lora Wilke ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 14:29:39
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

452. Name: Shirley Fedora ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 14:50:32
Additional Comments: All books are welcome and an individual choice. How are we to be open, emphatic and accepting of others?
Where do you live? : Homer,Ak

453. Name: William Palmer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 14:52:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

454. Name: Linda Chamberlain ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 15:06:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : HOMER

455. Name: PAUL T KNIGHT ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 15:09:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

456. Name: Olivia ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 15:45:37
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Burlington, VT

457. Name: Owen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:04:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

458. Name: Mandy Bernard ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:05:18
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

459. Name: Margaret Downey ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:17:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

460. Name: Julia A Person ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:21:57
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

461. Name: Dorothy H Fry ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:23:54
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

462. Name: McKenzie Daigle ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:25:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

463. Name: Madeleine Lightsey ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:39:31
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

464. Name: Linda Gorman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:41:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

465. Name: Read Dunn ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:51:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

466. Name: Alisa Mooy ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:53:04
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska
-
467. Name: Tyler Langham ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:56:55
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : homer
-
468. Name: Tammy Hoem ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:57:34
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Happy Valley
-
469. Name: Pam Lightsey ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 16:57:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
470. Name: Lori Zitzmann ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 17:05:40
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
471. Name: Elaine Chalup ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 17:20:09
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
472. Name: Donald J Reed ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 17:23:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
473. Name: Michelle Hoyt ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 17:27:00
Additional Comments: Thank you. No one should be excluded, and I really appreciate this effort. ♥
Where do you live? : Homer
-
474. Name: Janie Leask ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 17:28:43
Additional Comments: Homer
Where do you live? : Homer
-
475. Name: Mary Samuel ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 17:30:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek
-
476. Name: Barbara Kaun ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 17:33:50
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

-
477. Name: Carly Garay ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 17:47:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
478. Name: Louis Dupree ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 17:56:11
Additional Comments: We are all human and bleed red blood.
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
479. Name: Sarah Banks ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 17:56:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, ak
-
480. Name: Paul Vanderbrink ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 17:58:13
Additional Comments: There is no place in our democracy for the banning of any book.
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
-
481. Name: Julie Vanwezenbeeck ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:00:10
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 57618 Reinhart Ln
-
482. Name: Jan Spurkland ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:02:47
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Ak
-
483. Name: Rika Mouw ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:05:13
Additional Comments: I fully support the Homer Public Library's policy for free access to information. I honor that with all my heart.
Where do you live? : Homer city resident
-
484. Name: Becky Pfeil ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:06:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
485. Name: Mark Schrag ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:13:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
-
486. Name: Molly Bowen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:13:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
487. Name: Amy Komar-LaPlant ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:14:50
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

488. Name: Richard L Gustafson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:15:20
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : HOMER

489. Name: Christine ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:15:31
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

490. Name: Kyra Harty ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:15:52
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

491. Name: Lily Westphal ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:17:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

492. Name: Nell Gustafson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:17:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

493. Name: Delaney Winslow ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:25:25
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 55441 saber ave w, homer, ak 99603

494. Name: Mollie McFarland ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:29:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homewood

495. Name: Sharon McKemie Bauer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:31:53
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

496. Name: Sarah Allan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:32:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

497. Name: Judith Miller ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:32:29
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Bald Mountain

498. Name: Naomi Scheffel ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:41:25
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

499. Name: Milli Martin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:49:53
Additional Comments: Totally agree wiht the petition. Parents have the reonsibility to monitor what thier children are reading.
Where do you live? : outside city of Homer.

500. Name: Frani Scheffel ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:50:25
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

501. Name: Emmy Lou Pearl Olsen-Drye ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:52:31
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

502. Name: Ken Landfield ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:53:20
Additional Comments: Leave the library alone!
Where do you live? : Homer

503. Name: Ella Gustafson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 18:59:47
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

504. Name: Ashley Brasfield ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:01:01
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

505. Name: Meaghan McCallum ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:02:43
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

506. Name: Jim Van Oss ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:03:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

507. Name: Mallory Primm ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:06:10
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek/Homer

508. Name: Monica Davis ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:07:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : homer, Alaska

509. Name: Aaron Ford ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:12:17

Additional Comments: Please support the Homer Public Library and the local community as a whole. We are lucky to have such an excellent facility and caring staff!
Where do you live? : Anchor Point, AK

510. Name: Chris Russ ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:18:45
Additional Comments: I wholly reject any attempt to erode our freedoms, and this includes freedom to read whatever books we choose for ourselves or our children.
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

511. Name: Sarah Knapp ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:20:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

512. Name: Angie Newby ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:21:40
Additional Comments: Continue to allow Library staff to choose collection. Reading opens our minds and imaginations and needs no restrictions
Where do you live? : Homer

513. Name: Chris Newby ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:24:15
Additional Comments: Literacy is open and inclusive. I don't want someone telling me what not to read
Where do you live? : Homer

514. Name: KATHY BRENNAN ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:25:40
Additional Comments: Don't ban books.
Where do you live? : Homer

515. Name: Kristin Moretz ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:28:55
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

516. Name: Mary and Greg Fries ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:41:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

517. Name: Annamaria DiCola ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:42:20
Additional Comments: I grew up in Homer and often visit with my 6 year old son and extended family.
Where do you live? : Anchorage

518. Name: Holly Brennan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:46:44
Additional Comments: I agree with the current policies of Homer Public Library and support the staff in their efforts to provide the same access to all resources, to everyone.
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

519. Name: Tim Scheffel ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:53:04
Additional Comments: I fully support
Where do you live? : Homer
-
520. Name: Ashton Poole ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:57:29
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
521. Name: Peggy O ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 19:59:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
522. Name: Haily Ricciardi ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:00:20
Additional Comments: Keep the books available and not separated
Where do you live? : Homer
-
523. Name: Carol Ford ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:00:26
Additional Comments: It is more important to me that children learn the beauty of natural diversity than that they learn to hate, fear, or mock it. Let them think! Let them love themselves and others! The time for ignorance and hatred needs to end. Even in Homer.
Where do you live? : Homer
-
524. Name: Caitlin Hunter ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:01:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
525. Name: Mark Massion ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:08:34
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
526. Name: Holly Atkins ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:09:28
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
527. Name: John Mouw ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:17:56
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
528. Name: Prairie Sievers ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:21:30
Additional Comments: These books represent a wholistic look at our population and are extremely important for continuing the feeling of acceptance, understanding and "normalcy" for children that may think or feel different from the majority. Our uniquenesses need to be nurtured and seen as strengths not something to feel shame for, separating books and relegating certain topics to distant shelves would continue to perpetuate a feeling that those topics are bad or taboo and the person seeking them out

is somehow lesser. "Stumbling upon" these books is what makes them feel like ordinary parts of the human experience and builds understanding and acceptance that the younger generations can use to create a more equitable society.

Where do you live? : Homer, AK

529. Name: Steven Albert ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:22:52
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

530. Name: Derek Reynolds ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:23:54
Additional Comments: Freedom of speech = freedom to choose what to read. Don't like it, don't read it, but don't deny others the opportunity.
Where do you live? : Homer

531. Name: Tina Seaton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:27:04
Additional Comments: Our library must be a reflection of our community. Banning or restricting books for/about certain people does not make them disappear and does hurt them in so many ways. We must support all Alaskan minorities, they are our friends, neighbors and family.
Where do you live? : HOMER

532. Name: William Day ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:32:16
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Diamond Ridge

533. Name: Thomas Morgen-Burke ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:49:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

534. Name: Rylee Middleton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 20:57:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

535. Name: Olivia Davis ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 21:17:27
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Soldotna, Alaska

536. Name: Kathryn klann ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 21:22:18
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

537. Name: Judah magnolia ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 21:23:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

538. Name: Jill Scalzi ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:07:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
539. Name: Sara L Jackinsky ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:11:14
Additional Comments: Please uphold the Library Director's decision.
Where do you live? : Homer
-
540. Name: Patrick Richard ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:14:24
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
541. Name: Asia Freeman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:14:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
542. Name: elaine m grabowski ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:18:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
543. Name: Emily Garrity ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:18:39
Additional Comments: Celebrating diversity and inclusion is an absolute necessity in the growth of healthy children and community. Our public library needs to offer access to these core values.
Where do you live? : Homer
-
544. Name: Kerry Mooney ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:26:28
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
545. Name: Heather McHenry ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:26:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fox River district
-
546. Name: Katherine hanson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:27:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Kestrel circle, homer Alaska
-
547. Name: Suzanne Singer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:34:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
548. Name: Nancy Lee-Evans ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:46:50
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

549. Name: Eva Mullineaux ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:51:57
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

550. Name: Sarah Bollwitt ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 22:56:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

551. Name: De Patch ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 23:02:00
Additional Comments: Nobody's is forced to take out a book or read it. Everyone should have the right to take out a book and read it. Parents have the responsibility to know what their own children are reading and discuss with them.
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

552. Name: Hayley Walters ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 23:11:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

553. Name: Therese Lewandowski ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 23:30:43
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

554. Name: Jordan Dyer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 23:35:20
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Kachemak City, Homer, AK

555. Name: Susan Amundson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 23:36:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

556. Name: Michael Tupper ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 23:38:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point

557. Name: Dr David C Raskin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 23:39:16
Additional Comments: It is time that ignorant people accept the need for education and embrace all of our neighbors, not just those who look like us and think like us.
Where do you live? : Kachemak City

558. Name: Laura Norton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 23:41:24
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Ak

-
559. Name: Kathy Hill ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 23:45:45
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
560. Name: Taro Sasakura ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 23:45:59
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
561. Name: Diana Sedor ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-13 23:57:09
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
562. Name: Darlene Hilderbrand ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 00:10:32
Additional Comments: I support that parents can, on their own, decide what books their children read. I do not support that someone or an organization is responsible for that determination.
Where do you live? : Kachemak City
-
563. Name: Beatrix Strobel ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 00:14:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
564. Name: Elizabeth Seaman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 00:16:57
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
565. Name: Darius Kleine ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 00:21:04
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek, AK
-
566. Name: Matthew Drumm ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 00:28:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Salcha,Alaska
-
567. Name: Robin McAllistar ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 00:44:27
Additional Comments: Homer Alaska is a town of diverse individuals who support tolerance and love. Fear and hate mongering will never be supported
Where do you live? : Homer
-
568. Name: Miranda Weiss ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 00:56:42
Additional Comments: I support the library director's decision!
Where do you live? : Homer
-

569. Name: Doug Meeker ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 01:07:09
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
570. Name: Max doyle ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 01:14:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz creek
-
571. Name: David Lawrence ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 01:15:41
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Lawrence
-
572. Name: Devony Lehner ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 01:15:59
Additional Comments: I believe it's critically important to try to understand the world we live in. That means trying to become fully informed.
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
573. Name: Kai ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 01:29:03
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point Area
-
574. Name: Devry Garity ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 01:36:47
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
575. Name: David Downey ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 01:38:24
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
576. Name: Marin Lee ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 01:42:01
Additional Comments: Book bans are obsolete and archaic.
Where do you live? : Diamond Ridge, Homer
-
577. Name: Jean Brandenburg ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 01:56:38
Additional Comments: Promote Diversity in Homer
Where do you live? : Homer
-
578. Name: Lorne Carroll ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 02:07:33
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek, Alaska
-
579. Name: George Overpeck ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 02:09:03
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

-
580. Name: Anastasia A Taylor ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 02:13:50
Additional Comments: Why is this even a thing? Why don't you just keep your children in your home if you want to control every little thing they do. It's America, land of the FREE
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
581. Name: Hope Finkelstein ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 02:34:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchorage/Homer
-
582. Name: Jason Davis ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 02:34:08
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
583. Name: Ginger Bryant ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 02:41:21
Additional Comments: Keep books and information free
Where do you live? : Homer
-
584. Name: Sonja ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 02:42:30
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
585. Name: Bonnie Boisvert ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 02:45:30
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
586. Name: Mark munro ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 02:45:45
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Himdt
-
587. Name: Sachara ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 02:49:27
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
588. Name: Lisa Magnuson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 03:23:04
Additional Comments: Great positive action.
Where do you live? : Downtown
-
589. Name: Gentian van de Werken ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 03:23:28
Additional Comments: Homer
Where do you live? : Homer
-
590. Name: Carley Conemac ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 03:24:52
Additional Comments: The point of a public library is to share books regardless of what

you believe, just don't read the book. So sad this community wastes so much time trying to move books around a library.
Where do you live? : Homer alaska

591. Name: Luana Stovel ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 03:25:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

592. Name: Eliza Mills ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 03:43:52
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

593. Name: Cori Szynskie ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 04:25:23
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

594. Name: Dave Szynskie ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 04:28:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

595. Name: Kelly ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 04:38:45
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fairbanks

596. Name: Martin Zeller ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 04:44:09
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Ak

597. Name: Janelle Spurkland ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 04:50:39
Additional Comments: I fully support the library in their decisions to leave book choices up to the parents, keep children's book in the children's section, and be inclusive in race, socioeconomic status, gender, and lifestyle choice
Where do you live? : 4395 Teddy Lee pl, Homer, AK 99603

598. Name: Frank Taylor ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 05:01:50
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

599. Name: Christine Fontaine ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 05:17:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

600. Name: Jane Beck ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 05:21:45
Additional Comments: This is ridiculous. What century are we living in?

Where do you live? : Homer

601. Name: Kara Clemens ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 05:40:06
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

602. Name: Campbell Longworth ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 05:49:17
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fairbanks

603. Name: Chris Little ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 06:34:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

604. Name: Analise Goedeke ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 06:35:54
Additional Comments: Homer
Where do you live? : Homer, AK 99603

605. Name: Jennifer Norton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 07:11:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

606. Name: Josephine Ryan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 07:27:06
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

607. Name: Deborah Couzzo ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 07:30:23
Additional Comments: A Library should carry ALL books of ALL age. WE must encourage people to read.
Where do you live? : Scottsville

608. Name: Kevin rowan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 07:37:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer ak

609. Name: Elysha Chapple ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 07:46:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

610. Name: Bill Marshall ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 08:13:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

611. Name: Rebecca McClure ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 10:11:49

Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

612. Name: RAMA Flyum ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 13:13:34
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

613. Name: Paula Cullenberg ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 13:21:51
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

614. Name: Peter Crimp ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 13:24:25
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

615. Name: Mallory Revell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 14:15:33
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Parsons

616. Name: Amanda johnston ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 14:49:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, ak

617. Name: David Brame ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 15:04:42
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Cohoe

618. Name: Jinky Handy ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 15:37:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

619. Name: Jessica Williams ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 15:44:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

620. Name: Shiloh Wilson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 15:50:37
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

621. Name: Jennifer Hakala ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 15:56:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

622. Name: Donna Rae Faulkner ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 16:13:33

Additional Comments: I wholeheartedly support the Homer Public Library and this petition.

Where do you live? : 58508 East End Road, Homer

623. Name: Don McNamara ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 16:18:25
Additional Comments: I support the HPL and everything in this petition,
Where do you live? : 58508 East End Road, Homer

624. Name: Alicia Forbes ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 16:24:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

625. Name: Sherry Pederson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 16:27:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

626. Name: Ole Andersson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 16:28:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

627. Name: Cruz Edwin Santos ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 16:36:23
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Seattle, WA

628. Name: Angie Balsarini ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 17:00:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

629. Name: Debbie Speakman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 17:11:47
Additional Comments: As a parent it's important to me to have access to the tools that help my child navigate the world. Our library offering those tools to help us understand the world around us, see how people and families if different color, religion and family dynamics teach both children and families to have empathy.
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

630. Name: Tamara Branson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 17:16:18
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer,AK

631. Name: Konrad Schaad ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 17:16:57
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 11.5 miles East Rd, Homer

632. Name: Bridget Clark ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 17:36:49

Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point

633. Name: Dana Gregoire ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 17:37:23
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

634. Name: Damara Burnett ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 18:07:37
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

635. Name: Robert Glen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 18:13:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

636. Name: Wood Turner ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 18:16:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

637. Name: Molly Mitchell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 18:25:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

638. Name: Taylor Kendal Smith ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 18:26:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

639. Name: Amanda Kelly ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 19:04:02
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

640. Name: Andrea Van Dinther ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 19:22:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

641. Name: Cheryl Green ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 19:22:51
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK. 99603

642. Name: Virginia A VanWagoner ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 19:23:17
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

643. Name: Michelle Waclawski ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 19:30:50

Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

644. Name: Ali Williams ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 19:39:13
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : New Mexico

645. Name: Haven Multz ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 20:03:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Portland

646. Name: Tessa Sullivan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 20:10:53
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

647. Name: Louise E Ashmun ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 20:14:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

648. Name: Arlene Ronda ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 20:26:52
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer,AK

649. Name: Sue Post ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 20:27:59
Additional Comments: I can't be there tomorrow night but I would really like books left in the sections they should be in. The fear of the people trying to remove these is nuts. Welcome to 2022- people have a right to check out children's books from the children's library!!!
Where do you live? : Homer

650. Name: Avram Salzmann ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 20:35:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

651. Name: Sophie Morin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 20:37:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

652. Name: Valerie McBride ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 20:41:21
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

653. Name: Katherine George ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 20:46:28
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

654. Name: Sage Wright ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 20:48:17
Additional Comments: Queer representation is important!
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

655. Name: Jules Joy ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 20:53:22
Additional Comments: I support this initiative wholeheartedly! Libraries and books should never be censored.
Where do you live? : Homer

656. Name: Bill Fry ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 21:03:32
Additional Comments: Please don't ban learning
Where do you live? : Kachemak City

657. Name: Elizabeth Hanson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 21:08:46
Additional Comments: As a parent of 4 grown children, 7 grandchildren, and a career as a school psychologist and school counselor, I strongly support reading material for children that is inclusive, sensitive, and accepting of all people! Parents may guide children's choices as they see fit.
Where do you live? : Homer

658. Name: Joe Ravin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 21:16:26
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

659. Name: Charlie Menke ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 21:24:13
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Alaska

660. Name: Robert E Archibald Roberta Highland ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 :
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

661. Name: Andrea Kosto ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 21:46:33
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

662. Name: Mike Bianchi ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 21:49:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : E Skyline

663. Name: Kelly Cooper ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 21:54:14
Additional Comments: Please follow the existing policies regarding placement of books in

our public library. We're a diverse community and our families should have access to these books. If parents have concerns on available reading materials they should be supervising their children while at the library just as I did when my kids were young.
Where do you live? : Kachemak City

664. Name: Beth Schneider ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 21:54:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

665. Name: Pavel Mikhail ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 22:00:57
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

666. Name: Paul A Medenci ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 22:02:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

667. Name: Noreen O'Brien-Duggan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 22:05:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

668. Name: Jennifer Poss ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 22:07:23
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, ak

669. Name: Molly Montgomery ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 22:12:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

670. Name: Lorraina Liss ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 22:32:49
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

671. Name: Gareth Chesley ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 22:34:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

672. Name: kathy smith ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 22:47:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

673. Name: Dana Nelson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 22:48:30
Additional Comments: Former Homer resident of 5+ years and loved having a variety of books in Homer.

Where do you live? : Kotzebue, Alaska

674. Name: Loren Barrett ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 22:54:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK



This petition has collected
812 signatures
using the online tools at www.ipetitions.com

Printed on 2022-11-15

11/14/2022: Sent signatures 1 through 674
11/15/2022: Additional signatures since yesterday are included
in this PDF document

Petition to Follow the City of Homer's Library Collections Policy and Support Family Choice

About this petition

We, the undersigned residents and parents of Homer and surrounding area, support the upholding of the City's Collection Development policy and petition the Library Advisory Board to uphold the Library Director's decision in full, leaving children's books in the children's library.

The Library's policy currently states: "Responsibility for the reading choices and information access by children rests with the parents and legal guardians, not the LibraryThe Library encourages parents to be involved with their children's reading and library use and will work with parents to find materials they deem appropriate for their children."

Any decision to remove the selected books from the juvenile collection undermines the Library's policy for free access to information, including for minors: "Individual or group prejudice about a particular item or type of material in the collection may not preclude its use by others." Creating a special section for select children's books is violating policy and effectively isolating both the information contained in those books and the families who identify with the characters and themes in those books.

In addition, we the undersigned actively support the inclusion of LGBTQ+ representation in our children's library as a reflection and celebration of the diverse community we live in, within a free nation.

In signing this I affirm that I meet all the following criteria:

1. I live in the Homer, Alaska area
2. I support the Library's Collection Development policy which the Director is upholding and which supports parental rights and family choice.
3. I believe LGBTQ+ books for children are valuable and represent our community in a safe and meaningful way.

Where do you live? : Kotzebue, Alaska

674. Name: Loren Barrett ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 22:54:44
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

675. Name: Nadya Klingel ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:02:45
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

676. Name: Doug Dodd ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:08:34
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

677. Name: Tyson Walker ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:12:36
Additional Comments: Homer
Where do you live? : Homer

678. Name: Shelby Sinn ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:13:48
Additional Comments: Thank you to everyone involved in keeping our public library going
and making it a safe space for our kids ♥
Where do you live? : Homer

679. Name: Cindy Koplin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:18:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

680. Name: Alex Koplin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:19:13
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

681. Name: Sara Faris ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:25:10
Additional Comments: Thank you for supporting our library as a safe space that exists for
people of ALL backgrounds.
Where do you live? : Homer

682. Name: Tricia Caron ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:32:18
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

683. Name: Scott Burbank ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:48:10
Additional Comments: Reading has made my life grand!
Where do you live? : Homer

684. Name: Britt Milne ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:48:59
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Kachemak City
-
685. Name: Bjorn D Olson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:52:06
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
686. Name: Judy Dean ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:55:11
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
687. Name: John Kelly ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:55:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Area
-
688. Name: Susan Aramovich ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-14 23:59:37
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
689. Name: Kay Sturm ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 00:00:17
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point
-
690. Name: Indigo Sonneborn ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 00:09:07
Additional Comments: Withholding information like this can only cause suffering
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
691. Name: Jennifer Bernard ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 00:12:16
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
692. Name: Marketa Beck ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 00:12:40
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
693. Name: Deborah Smith ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 00:15:31
Additional Comments: I support the inclusion of books that represent the diversity of the community we live in
Where do you live? : Homer AK
-
694. Name: Val Sheppard ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 00:16:02
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

695. Name: Joyanna Geisler ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 00:16:26
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

696. Name: John Munns ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 00:24:14
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : HOMER

697. Name: Hartley Miller ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 00:46:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

698. Name: Denise Pitzman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 00:50:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 990 Bell Ave, Homer

699. Name: Katie Gavenus ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 00:51:27
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

700. Name: Gordon Pitzman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:00:28
Additional Comments: Please don't remove any of the selected books.
Where do you live? : Homer

701. Name: Karen West ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:03:13
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : HOMER

702. Name: Lindsay Wolter ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:05:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

703. Name: Brittany Huffman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:11:29
Additional Comments: Libraries are for EVERYBODY.
Where do you live? : Homer

704. Name: Casey Moss ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:12:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

705. Name: Rosemary Fitzpatrick ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:13:39
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

-
706. Name: LuAnne Nelson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:20:03
Additional Comments: All groups need representation.
Where do you live? : Anchor Point
-
707. Name: Mikela Aramburu ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:27:04
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska
-
708. Name: Rhonda Ecker ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:29:27
Additional Comments: Library books are a priveledge- not required reading. If you dislike a book, don't check it out. Your views should not prevent someone else fron enjoying the priveledge.
Where do you live? : Homer
-
709. Name: Darren Fitzpatrick ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:31:16
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Hi
-
710. Name: Sue Christiansen ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:31:48
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Cranberry Place, Homer
-
711. Name: Erica Fitzpatrick ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:36:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : City resident
-
712. Name: Laura Ground ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:37:06
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
713. Name: David Sanderson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:38:41
Additional Comments: If you wish not to read a book, DONT ! But, let others choose -
Don't ban the books
Where do you live? : Homer
-
714. Name: Jessie Skalisky ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:46:37
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
715. Name: Lauren Jerew ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:48:06
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-

716. Name: Annelisa neely ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:49:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
717. Name: Mary A Cooper ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:55:28
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK
-
718. Name: Karen Strid-Chadwick ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:57:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
-
719. Name: David Seaman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 01:59:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Little Tutka Bay
-
720. Name: Lynne Burt ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 02:13:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
721. Name: Lynn temple ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 02:20:59
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 488elderberry drive
-
722. Name: Mei Mei Evans ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 02:24:39
Additional Comments: Not a fan of censorship.
Where do you live? : Homer and Anchorage, Alaska
-
723. Name: Megan Connell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 02:26:07
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
724. Name: Mark Connell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 02:27:50
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
725. Name: Susanne Ratcliffe Wilson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 02:37:24
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
726. Name: Patrick Farnell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 02:39:51
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fairview Ave.
-

727. Name: Skye Bookless ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 02:41:03

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : bayview ave homer ak

728. Name: Landa Baily ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 02:41:05

Additional Comments: This proposed ban harms constitutional rights of Homer residents. I have every confidence in the library director's decision and the Homer Library's Collection Development policy. Please do not take a right away from one parent because another parent thinks it's OK to take away that right.

Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

729. Name: Kyra Wagner ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 02:42:14

Additional Comments: I used to be on the Library Advisory Board and there were often those who would try to tear down the main tenets of the Library. The Collections Policy is one. Libraries = Free Access and Free Speech. Always. Don't mess with that.

Where do you live? : Homer

730. Name: Emma Sulczynski ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 02:49:27

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

731. Name: Linda Stearns ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 03:05:39

Additional Comments: Let's give the homer residents the right to choose what books their children read. It's a lot less than what they can access online!!!

Parents should curb their device access- not books- where are we headed? Fahrenheit 451?

Where do you live? : Fritz Creek but use the library weekly and support it financially

732. Name: Kaya Morelli ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 03:08:12

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer

733. Name: Deborah Limacher ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 03:13:02

Additional Comments: It is absurd to think that these books are being censored and kept away from our youth.

Where do you live? : Homer,Alaska

734. Name: Ginger Drais ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 03:13:25

Additional Comments: I am 100% for keeping these books where they belong in the children's section. A primary purpose of libraries is to educate ALL people, not just the people who think like I do! Thanks to the wonderful Homer Library for doing just this!!!

Where do you live? : Homer

735. Name: Michael Limacher ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 03:15:14

Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : Homer,Alaska

736. Name: Reba seneff ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 03:43:10
Additional Comments: Crazy we have to be doing this
Where do you live? : Homer

737. Name: Kellie Kekich ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 03:45:42
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

738. Name: Betsy Webb ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:01:30
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

739. Name: Jeff Choinski ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:03:52
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

740. Name: Seamus ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:08:10
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Nashville

741. Name: Jen Chauvet ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:10:24
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek, AK

742. Name: Maggie Larue ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:11:56
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

743. Name: Brittany Stallings ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:16:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Seward

744. Name: Cameale Johnson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:20:33
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek

745. Name: Melisse A Reichman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:25:46
Additional Comments: Love is love, where ever you find and cultivate it. The more the better.
Where do you live? : Homer

746. Name: Molly Duggan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:27:49

Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

747. Name: Anne V Richards ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:34:57
Additional Comments: This is really important, Homer, thanks for being there!
Where do you live? : Ashland. OR

748. Name: Sarah ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:40:38
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

749. Name: Andrew ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:42:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

750. Name: Cecelia Quinn ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:44:19
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

751. Name: Emilie Otis ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 04:58:41
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

752. Name: Trisha ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 05:03:54
Additional Comments: Albuquerque
Where do you live? : Albuquerque

753. Name: Syd Rosslyn ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 05:06:58
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

754. Name: Gerald shay ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 05:11:24
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska

755. Name: Jess Jurries ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 05:26:03
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Portland Oregon

756. Name: Oceana kerr ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 05:42:59
Additional Comments: Do not withhold knowledge of any kind from the young. Information should be provided no matter what the topic.
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

757. Name: Jill Gunnerson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 05:51:53
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Anchor Point
-
758. Name: Cristen San Roman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 05:58:54
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
759. Name: Caitlin Winters ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 06:10:39
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
760. Name: Rob Olsen-Drye ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 06:13:24
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
761. Name: Dick H Sanders ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 06:16:24
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
762. Name: Patrick Ahern ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 06:20:15
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK
-
763. Name: Rachael Raderman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 06:20:36
Additional Comments: Why is this even a petition?! More queer kid books please! We're a LGBTQI2 supporting family and would rather ban bigots not books from our library!
Where do you live? : Mission Rd, Homer Alaska
-
764. Name: Lindsey Baird ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 06:27:04
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
765. Name: David Baird ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 06:30:17
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
766. Name: Heidi H ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 06:33:16
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska
-
767. Name: Amanda Smith ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 06:34:27
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

-
768. Name: Jessica Matthews ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 06:45:16
Additional Comments: Whenever we are in Homer to visit family and friends the library is a favorite place for my kids! Let's let them read & give our support to all the people in town!
Where do you live? : Oregon
-
769. Name: Jenna Gerrety ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 06:57:35
Additional Comments: It would have been helpful for me to find lgbtq+ positive content in a library growing up, and not have to search for it myself on the internet in random unmoderated places.
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska
-
770. Name: Sonja Lotscher ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 07:05:37
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
771. Name: Lauren Wolford ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 07:06:26
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
772. Name: Rachael Brennan ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 07:16:40
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
-
773. Name: Jim Levine ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 07:17:53
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer
-
774. Name: Jennifer Edwards ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 07:47:17
Additional Comments: Respect and non judgementalness should prevail over fear and supposed righteousness.
Where do you live? : Diamond Ridge
-
775. Name: Natalie Hoffert ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 07:55:00
Additional Comments: Like Hawaii, Alaska is also isolated. Please keep the option open for kids and families. I recommend families that do not want LGBTQ exposure to make that decision on their own.
Where do you live? : Hawaii
-
776. Name: Michael Romanovsky ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 08:02:50
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : 4179 Svedlund Street
-

777. Name: Sean Lowe ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 08:03:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Alaska
-
778. Name: Aimee Sulczynski ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 08:05:05
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska
-
779. Name: Matthew M ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 08:08:01
Additional Comments: The Trevor Project found that 45% of LGBT+ Youth have seriously considered suicide in the past year. Let's ensure that, as a community, we don't make that rate go up in Homer by taking away positive portrayals of queer culture.
- The books suggested for removal aren't forms of indoctrination, the suggestion to remove them because they go against your personal beliefs *is*.
Where do you live? : Homer
-
780. Name: Maygen Lotscher ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 08:11:35
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, alaska
-
781. Name: Molly Stonorov ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 08:23:57
Additional Comments: A healthy community is one where all individuals are valued and support for diversity is a given.
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek
-
782. Name: Margaret Shalit ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 08:27:04
Additional Comments: Books are what you make them. Don't be pressured by those who are basically anti-libraries anyway.
Where do you live? : Kenai
-
783. Name: David Eckwert ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 08:31:56
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Fritz Creek
-
784. Name: Carla Baird ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 08:33:46
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK
-
785. Name: Sally Wills ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 08:54:08
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer Ak.
-
786. Name: Leah Moraes ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 09:30:35
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : HOMER

787. Name: derek bynagle ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 11:39:12
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : East End

788. Name: John Bushell ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 14:47:14
Additional Comments: Being with my grandkids, presently, I am so glad they know that the world is made of different people, cultures, life styles and opinions. We grow by learning about those things outside our front door.
Where do you live? : Homer

789. Name: Marilyn Shroyer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 14:48:13
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

790. Name: Elana Selinger ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 14:53:01
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : SLC

791. Name: Angela Giesker ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 14:56:09
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

792. Name: McKenzie Morey ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 15:03:02
Additional Comments: Allowing for freedom of knowledge, information, and expression all within the safety and security of local public spaces like our library is key in fostering a community of true compassion.
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

793. Name: Alahni Wright ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 15:25:37
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer AK

794. Name: Caitlin San Roman ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 15:29:01
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, Alaska

795. Name: Cheryl Taylor ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 15:34:34
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

796. Name: Barbara Angaiak ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 15:45:17
Additional Comments:

Where do you live? : 3500 Landings Street Homer AK

797. Name: Rachel Iannelli ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 15:51:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

798. Name: Roberta Copeland-McKinney ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 15:55:00
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

799. Name: David Lefton ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 16:00:50
Additional Comments: Let people make choices for themselves and families. If you have a problem with the literature don't read it. Simple.
Where do you live? : Homer

800. Name: Katie Buttermore ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 16:01:36
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Jacksonville

801. Name: Dean Sundmark ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 16:02:56
Additional Comments: Banning materials from the library is a violation of free speech. It is the responsibility of parents to monitor and supervise their children with regard to the content they view. The library has the responsibility to provide age appropriate materials in the children's section.
Where do you live? : 13 mile East End Rd.

802. Name: Dawn Schneider ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 16:39:33
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

803. Name: Allison Gaylord ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 16:48:22
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

804. Name: Laurie Benson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 16:54:13
Additional Comments: I trust librarians.
Where do you live? : Homer

805. Name: Kristy Stevenson ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 17:11:10
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer, AK

806. Name: Paula Martin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 17:24:05
Additional Comments: Please maintain a quality library collection, curated by professional

librarians. People can choose what they read or what they have their children read.
Where do you live? : Homer

807. Name: Ivan Stonorov ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 17:28:26
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

808. Name: Shirley Forquer ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 17:31:18
Additional Comments: We must keep our library selections open to all people.
Where do you live? : Kachemak City

809. Name: Deborah Tobin ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 17:33:09
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

810. Name: Chris perry ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 17:38:59
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Ohlson mtn rd

811. Name: Lisa Schallock ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 17:46:42
Additional Comments:
Where do you live? : Homer

812. Name: Steven panarelli ([REDACTED]) on 2022-11-15 17:59:31
Additional Comments: Please keep the library uncensored.
Where do you live? : Homer city

Greater Parental Discretion in the Homer Public Library

<https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/relocate-lgbtq-books#comments>

283 people have signed this petition.

Madeline Veldstra

70 Comments Submitted 11/9/2022

27 Comments Submitted 11/15/2022



We, the undersigned residents and parents of Homer and surrounding areas, do hereby petition that the Homer Public Library remove all books promoting transgender ideology, drag queens, homosexuality, and all other books which are intended to indoctrinate children in LGBTQ+ ideologies from the children's and juvenile sections of the library. If the library must have them, we petition that a section outside of the children's area be designated for such books so that parents who do not wish for their children to stumble across these confusing ideas may allow their children to browse freely.

Comment

- **Jennifer Peterson** Nov 15, 2022
*I am in full support of banning these books in the library especially in the children's section! It is outrageous that this is even a controversy.
- **Brooke Sanford** Nov 15, 2022
These books should be put in their own section where parents can choose whether or not to expose their children to these things.
- **Barb Jackson** Nov 15, 2022
I absolutely agree to remove these books. This is not appropriate for a children's section of the library. Please remove or make a separate section.
- **FTFY** Nov 15, 2022
We, the undersigned residents and parents of Homer and surrounding areas, do hereby petition that the Homer Public Library remove all books promoting [ignorance, hate, intolerance] and all other books which are intended to indoctrinate children in [bigoted] ideologies from the children's and juvenile sections of the library. If the library must have them, we petition that a section outside of the children's area be designated for such books so that parents who do not wish for their children to stumble across these confusing ideas may allow their children to browse freely.

Fixed that for you.
- **Voldemort** Nov 14, 2022
I agree! But i would like to also add, please also ban all Harry Potter books! He is weak with his COMPASSION, and LOVE.

Oh, those books about hobbits can go too. Don't want kids to get the idea they can run around barefoot and be friends with wizards.

HATRED MUST PREVAIL!!!

ALL HAIL THE DARK LORD!!!
- **God** Nov 14, 2022
Unimpressed is an understatement. I'm offended. What ever happended to "Love one another as i have loved you"
- **Satan** Nov 14, 2022
God called me and said even he is unimpressed by this petition. Ya'll have some forgiveness to ask for.
- **Kim Gear** Nov 14, 2022
Absolutely object to these materials being available to children!

- **Anonymous** Nov 14, 2022
I oppose books promoting LGBTQ to children.
- **Anonymous** Nov 14, 2022
These books do not belong in the childrens section of the library. Shame on those librarians for doing this.
- **Ralph Crane** Nov 13, 2022
Rather telling that the large majority of hateful and bullying comments on this petition are from those supporting this grooming of this age group..appears that they want to influence these young children to decide what gender they are when they can't even decide yet whether they want a peanut butter or grilled cheese sandwich for lunch.

The book they should introduce to this library section and maybe have drag queens read is Tammy Bruce's 'The Death of Right and Wrong', which exposed, from the inside, this indoctrination agenda clear back in 2004.

To paraphrase that famous philosophical musical group, Pink Floyd, "Hey, librarians, leave those kids alone!" Let them be kids and let parents decide..

- **Shellie Worsfold** Nov 13, 2022
To be clear, I support the HPL and its policies to keep the library diverse.

I mistakingly thought I needed to sign the doc before making a comment.
Please know that if my name appears, it was purely by mistake

These books on the list are not “disgusting” (as I’ve read some comments), they are beautiful stories that may show a different perspective than yours, but remember- you don’t HAVE to check them out and read them, although I wish you would.

I support HPL!

- **Shellie Worsfold** Nov 12, 2022
Keep our library diverse.
- **Aaron Ford** Nov 12, 2022
I’m curious how your kids will make an “informed decision” without being informed? Kids will be kids, and some kids won’t be hetero-normative. Will you teach them to hate themselves and others? Who would Jesus hate? Suggesting that we burn books is a MAJOR red flag folks.
- **Literally TheDevil** Nov 12, 2022
Teach your kids to hate, not discuss. Burn books. Judge thy neighbor. Thank you for your help.
- **Ezekiel** Nov 12, 2022
Ezekiel 12:7-8 If it’s not white, it’s not right.
If it’s a bit gay, it sure ain’t OK
- **Anonymous** Nov 12, 2022
Please get these garbage books out of children's reach

- **Vasilisa Sanarov** Nov 12, 2022
This is not something that should be shoved in children's faces before they're old enough to even make informed decisions.
- **Mariamia basargin** Nov 12, 2022
So disgusting. These books should be burned
- **Polagia Kuzmin** Nov 12, 2022
We should not have to worry what our children read
- **lydiya gostevskyh** Nov 12, 2022
This is so sad
- **Valentina Basargin** Nov 12, 2022
Get these books out!!
- **Ivan F Basargin** Nov 12, 2022
Please keep this garbage away from our grandkids!
- **Domnika I martishev** Nov 12, 2022
Take those books out of the library! Let kids be kids!
- **Adolf Eichmann** Nov 10, 2022
Ja! Das final solution to der gays. Ich supports this petition to round up all ze gays unt send zem to a nice zummer campen met der big group showers.
- **Aaron Ford** Nov 10, 2022
Since you asked,

Drag queens are not strippers.

Gender identity is not salacious or inherently sexual.

The only people turning gender into a fetish or a conversation about sex acts, are you people.

The only people grooming or indoctrinating your children are yourselves. Everyone else is just trying to exist as they are.

Get your minds out of the gutter, you bunch of freaks. This petition has been denied by the library several times, and it's about to be denied again.

Stop fetishizing people who want nothing to do with you or your hateful ideology.

Ban the bigots so we can live in peace.

- **Lynsey Stow** Nov 10, 2022
This is so sad. Aren't we all flesh and blood human beings? What happened to 'love thy neighbor' or whatever the Bible states. You can't cherry pick what you want to believe. I hope your hearts becomes less cold and hard, and you can learn to love and accept everyone for who they are, including the children who are questioning their identities, because the world is a confusing place but ultimately beautiful when we can proudly be exactly who we are.

Signatures

- Jennifer Peterson United States
- Jody Fetterhoff United States
- Brooke Sanford United States
- Barb Jackson United States
- Stephanie Carroll United States
- Buncha Biggots United States
- FTFY United States
- Voldemort United States
- God United States
- Satan United States
- Kim Gear United States
- Dave Syren United States
- Ticee Graham United States
- Tina United States
- Ralph Crane United States
- Amanda United States
- Kaycee Edens United States
- Debi Clark United States
- Sarah Vance United States
- Brianna Ricketts United States
- Zoya kalugin United States
- Shellie Worsfold United States
- Literally TheDevil United States
- Ezekiel United States
- Lubava Martushoff United States
- Abby Shealy United States
- Tatiana Martushev United States
- Alexandra Kuzmin United States
- Ksenia reutov United States
- Varnava basargin United States
- Raisa I Kalugin United States
- Neanila United States
- Ulea United States
- Vasilisa Sanarov United States
- Mariamia basargin United States
- Elena United States
- Polagia Kuzmin United States
- Varvara Martishev United States
- Hionia kalugin United States
- Haretina reutov United States
- Alla Basargin United States
- Hristeena Kuzmin United States
- lydiya gostevskiyh United States
- Valentina Basargin United States
- Apolinarya Basargin United States
- Ivan F Basargin United States
- Domnika I martishev United States
- Emily Larson United States
- Jon Ralph United States
- Brandi Hesse United States
- Joy Marchbanks United States
- Daryl Bryant United States
- Kasandra stanislaw United States
- Jaelyn Arndt United States
- Adolf Eichmann United States

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Thu, 11/10/2022 - 6:14pm
50.216.225.148

First Name Caitlin
Last Name Walls
Email caitlinkwalls@gmail.com
Phone Number 303-919-1180
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts; it is a pleasure to comment on Agenda Item 10.C. My name is Caitlin Walls and I have been a resident of this area for 7 years—I like on East Skyline. I am both a frequent user of the library and the mother of a four year old—so I have a vested interest in the issue brought before the council today.

I would officially discourage the advisory board, council, and/or library from banning or removing books from any section in the library, especially LGBTQ+ books. I encourage the board to keep LGBTQ+ books in the children's and YA section. One of the most glorious things about the library is that it offers a window into the vast spectrum of humanity—the differences between us that make each of us unique, from personalities to individual interests to the way we grow up, to sexuality. As a mother, I want my daughter to be exposed to all kinds of people, places, and worlds. It is my responsibility to facilitate wonder in her and to guide her socio-emotional and ethical development. Books are a wonderful vehicle to do these things. They allow me to teach her about different places, people, and circumstances in the world.

The responsibility I have as a mother is a point I would encourage everyone to remember, but especially those concerned individuals who would seek to ban any material from the library. As a parent or guardian, you have the freedom to control what your child reads and absorbs when they are young. There is no sense—or rightness—in trying to apply that control to everyone else in the community. Not everyone thinks the way you do, and trying to implement a homogeneous small-mindedness makes us poorer as a community. Homer is not a place for small-mindedness, and it is not a place for needless strictures. These books also exist for those children who are seeking to know that there are others like them in the world—including people who identify as LGBTQ—so they can see themselves reflected in what they read. We all want to see ourselves in the world, and it is unethical to remove such wonderful books as Julian Is a Mermaid just because a few community members find (erroneous) offense.

Therefore, I ask that you do not ban or remove any books from the library. My daughter and I have read many of the books on the list, and most are a great window to joy, acceptance, and fun. For books I don't like, whether because they are poorly written or showcase a viewpoint I don't admire—guess what?—I can choose not to read them with my daughter again. It's as easy as that.

Thank you for your time today.

Electronic Signature

Caitlin Walls

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50020>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

November 11, 2022

Dear Library Advisory Board,

I am here to testify against any banning of any books or relocating of books in the Homer Public Library. PUBLIC is the key word here. It is a public library for use by all the people of the city of Homer and the surrounding area. Its contents should not be dictated by one group of people.

Children books are not written just for pure enjoyment. They are also written to help young people understand complicated topics at their level of understanding. The books also build understanding of those around them at a young age and hopefully this will develop empathy towards others.

Children books cover a variety of topics from divorce, autism, having a new sibling, to the variety of families that are in the world today and of course, the topic of concern of this petition LGBTQ. The books are written at a level that can be comprehended by the age of the reader they were written for. Through these books a young reader gains a better understanding of the world.

If a family wants to limit the exposure of their child, they can do so by reviewing the books that their child has chosen to bring home. In the same way that I would not tell them what books their child should be reading, I do not want anyone telling others what their own child should or should not be reading.

On a practical note. If the petition was accepted who is going to judge what is a LGBTQ book and what is not? Who is going to decide what is appropriate or not for each child? That needs to be left up to the parent or guardian.

All books in the library need to be made available to all patrons. All children books need to remain the in the children's' library.

Sincerely,

Janet Fink

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:53 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

-----Original Message-----

From: Amanda Lehm <amandalehm623@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2022 9:32 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

As a member of the Homer community I am submitting a written testimony in full support of the Library Director's decision to keep children's books in the children's library. Having a diverse library selection is imperative in order to be supportive and inclusive of our diverse community members. If certain books do not appeal to you as a parent/caregiver than monitor what your children are reading - this is not the responsibility of the library nor should the rest of the library goers suffer the loss of wonderful and enjoyable children's books. Thank you for your time,
Mandy Lehm

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Fri, 11/11/2022 - 2:00pm
146.71.68.250

First Name Karen
Last Name Nogle
Email Karenenogle@gmail.com
Phone Number 907-299-0964
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I just read the Homer News article regarding placement of books in our library. I agree with all the statements made by library director, Dave Barry. He has my full support. Books should not be hidden or stigmatized. I'm more concerned about the confused child that needs to read one of these books. Who can say their life hasn't been changed, by a book they just happened across ? Maybe a non reader.

My husband wants to add his voice in agreement: Lloyd "Wendall" Cummings

Electronic Signature

Karen Nogle

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50025>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Fri, 11/11/2022 - 11:54am
146.71.68.18

First Name Sara
Last Name Reinert
Email saralreinert@gmail.com
Phone Number 9073998736
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I am writing today to address the petition requesting segregation of certain books away from the children's section of the Homer Public Library and their placement in a separate area. I think that would be inappropriate and an action with a narrowed viewpoint.

There a couple of points I would like to discuss before tackling the notions of segregation and accessibility;

First would be the notion that gender issues are concerned with, or equated with, sexual conduct. Questions about how one fits into society in general, or how one attempts to find a place for oneself in our world, are questions for every human, regardless of gender and of every age. And harder with each passing year.

Gender is not a minor issue. Nor is skin color, body type, body size, religious background, place of birth, citizenship, disability, on and on...

(Particularly offensive is the association, in the petition, of gender identity information with "grooming" by sexual predators.)

Second. The inference (assumptive language in the petition) that availability of information is tantamount to "promotion" or "indoctrination" is misguided and misleading, and implies the library personnel have a hidden agenda.

Availability, freedom of, and access to information is a hallmark of our first amendment rights, and there is little to hide in that statement.

The segregation of selected topic books from the children's section is equivalent to suppression of information. Relocating children's books away from the children's room denies accessibility to those books.

Moving specific books physically out of the way of their intended audience (children) is a form of censorship.

In the petition, the author expresses a desire for children to be able to "browse freely", and I wholeheartedly agree with that sentiment! But what is "free" about a segregated library section? All those books need to be accessible to be able to browse them.

Censorship and and suppression run counter to the main mission of a library—being a public entity for all, where everyone has equal access and rights.

The prejudices of an individual group should not be allowed to dictate access to books.

I am old enough to remember a censorship attempt in the 1970's, over John Lennon's song "Imagine". He asks the the

listeners to imagine a world with no religion, which caused quite a kerfuffle in some quarters, and requests are made to ban the song from the radio. The key word, of course is "Imagine"...a thought, an idea. Suppression of thoughts, ideas and experiences is what censorship of books aims to do.

Thank you for your time, your service, and for reading through all of this material.

Electronic Signature

Sara L Reinert

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50024>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:52 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Childrens Books

From: Valentina Ivanov <valentinaivanov@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 10:17 AM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Childrens Books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I stand with Maddy Velstra and agree that these books need to be taken out of the childrens section. The board is chosing to desensitize these kinds of books for children which causes confusion and steals their innocence. These kinds of books are too over sexualized for young children. Its disgusting. I want my young boys to be able to browse through book freely without coming across some nonsense where they start to question why a dad is dressed like a woman. TAKE THEM OUT!

Thank you.

Valentina Basargin

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sat, 11/12/2022 - 8:57am
66.91.27.51

First Name Catherine
Last Name Bursch
Email tcbursch@gmail.com
Phone Number 907-235-5111
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I would like to comment about the appeal to have dozens of books removed from the childrens section og the library and moved to the adult section because they do not align with some peoples family values.

First of all, I support and trust our library staff and believe they are running the library as library's in the USA should be run. I would think most libraries in the USA have a variety of family values represented in their children's sections.

I have traveled to many other countries, some that do not have the freedoms that the USA has. I know what that can look like, and I am afraid that once we start curtailing our freedoms....where do we stop? Who draws the lines? I am not comfortable with beginning down that slippery slope and going against our patriotic duty of upholding our constitution.

I would suggest that the underlying problem here is fear. Fear of ones child being influenced by sources outside the family and thus turning out differently than a family or parent would like.

We can all understand fear as we have all felt it. At times its scary watching our kids grow and step into their own lives . However, we cannot control the whole world and it is constantly changing.

My belief, and I know it is not shared with everyone, is to be there when children are exposed to new things and discuss them. THIS is the time to impart family values.

Hoping we can work through this and understand each other better in a kind way.

Electronic Signature

Catherine Bursch

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50029>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sat, 11/12/2022 - 10:23am
24.237.134.171

First Name Marylou
Last Name Burton
Email burtons1967@gmail.com
Phone Number 9072996318
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: LGBTQ book relocation

Written Testimony

We live in a diverse world that includes people of different races, ethnicities, politics, religions - and yes, sexuality. That diversity is something to be celebrated, not feared. Moreover, giving children the opportunity to learn about diversity is not indoctrination, it is education. Children are born with open minds - it is adults that close them. I support the library's judgment of books to be included in the children's room as well as the other sections of the library.

Electronic Signature

Marylou Burton

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50031>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:53 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Library Advisory Board MEeting

From: rchia@horizonsatellite.com <rchia@horizonsatellite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 6:02 AM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Library Advisory Board MEeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Library Advisory Board,

As a teacher of creative writing for the past twenty-five years, I find the petition to eliminate books featuring LGBTQ+ characters from the children's library frankly absurd. The argument that these books promote an ideology assumes that stories advocate the way of life of the fictitious characters within them.

Following this logic, westerns must intend for readers to strap on six guns and ride off into the sunset, detective novels apparently are recruitment tools for law enforcement, and books about ballet dancers, firefighters, or astronauts are similarly designed to sway readers to embrace the lifestyles of those characters—each of which could presumably offend certain members of the community who might dislike the idea of their children becoming cowboys, police officers, and so forth.

Fictions are depictions of other people's lives, not advertisements for them. Stories offer us an awareness of others, promoting the development of empathy toward people who may be different than each of us. Before we can learn to respect others, we have to discover that they exist. That's one of the many good things a diverse and eclectic collection of library books does for a community. Please do not let that be undermined by a minority of library users, to the great loss of all others.

I applaud Homer Library Director David Barry's decision to resist this well-intended but misguided petition, and I hope the Library Advisory Board will support him on this matter.

Richard Chiappone

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:52 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Library Advisory Board's Decision on Restrictive Access to LGBTQ Books

From: Nina Faust <aknina51@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 11:12 AM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Library Advisory Board's Decision on Restrictive Access to LGBTQ Books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Please send this to the Library Advisory Board members. Thanks!
Nina

P.O. Box 2994
Homer AK 99603

November 10, 2022

Homer Library Advisory Board
Homer AK 99603

Dear Library Advisory Board Members:

As a retired English teacher, citizen, avid reader, and library supporter, I am opposed to the censorship of books in our public library, and that includes restricting access. Our library's mission statement exemplifies how a public library in a free society should serve its community:

The Homer Public Library serves the diverse needs of our community members by providing access to information, promoting literacy, and facilitating lifelong learning. We foster education, personal well-being, cultural creativity, community engagement, and economic development. Our resources are offered without charge to people of all ages and abilities within our service area.

I want our library to be inclusive, supportive, informative, and accessible. The library is a resource for all users, young and old. The approach the library has taken for creating programs, acquiring educational materials, and its mission have made the library a well-respected, welcoming, and valued local institution.

As to the decision by the Homer Library Board on not restricting access to books on a long list presented to the Library Board recently, the Library Advisory Board made the right decision to allow free access to these resources for everyone.

Considering the statistics on suicide; the bullying, harassment, and non-acceptance; and the difficulty in understanding why they are different; access to information is vital to young people who face gender identity issues. Just knowing there are others facing the same difficulties can be a big relief. Many books that have a character who is LGBTQ center around common difficulties that most young people face in growing up. Reading about how others deal with problems in their lives can be very helpful. It can also be enlightening to those who bully people who are different.

I think it is important to maintain access to information across all categories of our library resources. I support the Library Advisory Board's decision, the constitutional one, that maintains access to information for all.

Sincerely,

Nina Faust

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sat, 11/12/2022 - 12:17pm
104.254.229.89

First Name Sharon
Last Name Gorman
Email sharonmtgorman@gmail.com
Phone Number
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Dear Library Board,

A family is many things with many different values for all of us but their are a lot of values we all share. Some are respect, acceptance, kindness, responsibility, love, caring, structure, safety, fun, and sense of belonging. Accepting, respecting, enjoying and celebrating seems essential for all people to flourish.

Please keep the library children books in your collection that explore and celebrate all differences.
warmly, Sharon Gorman and Joe Spaeder

Electronic Signature

Sharon Gorman

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50033>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sat, 11/12/2022 - 9:22am
63.140.103.226

First Name Therese
Last Name Lewandowski
Email thereselew@gmail.com
Phone Number 9074357222
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Hello,

I write regarding the item under New Business on your Nov 15 agenda: Decision regarding children and young adult materials. I am adamantly opposed to censoring out books in the children/young adults section of the library that are related to LGBTQ people/families/parents/lives. The petitioners desire to have such a censorship believe such materials will influence a gay lifestyle on children/young adults. I have no such concern, most people probably do not either. Of grave concern to me are materials related to hunting, guns, war games and violent topics in this section of the library that I believe have the possibility to influence children and young adults to grow up to know violence and war as the norm and acceptable. How much better the future for our young people would be without accepting war and violence as normal. The bottom line, however, is this is a Public Library, not a religious institution. The petitioners for censoring any material are gravely wrong. I put full confidence in you, the Library Advisory Board and the Library director to make proper decisions on its holdings. Also- if parents do not want their children to be subjected to any topic they deem influentially harmful, it is their responsibility to oversee what they read and view. That includes all the devices kids use to play war games on.
Respectfully, Therese Lewandowski

Electronic Signature

Therese Lewandowski

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50030>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:53 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: library collection policy

From: Nancy Lord <njlord250@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 4:17 AM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: library collection policy

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Please add this message to the packet for the Nov. 15 LAB meeting.

I have reviewed our library's Collection Development Policy and fully support the library director's decision, based on that policy, to maintain a balanced and diverse books and materials collection in the library, including in the children's room. Clearly, there are community members who would like to impose their personal religious views on others, but that is not appropriate for the city as a whole and all who live here. Can we not favor kindness and appreciation for all who share our world instead of fostering ignorance, divisiveness, and hate? To those people who want to remove books they find objectionable--use the opportunity to talk with your children, not to put blinders on them. I trust that the LAB will support the director and allow our library professionals, who are truly professional as well as sensitive to community needs and desires, to do their jobs.

Nancy Lord
city resident

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sat, 11/12/2022 - 8:46am
65.74.107.92

First Name Rudy
Last Name Multz
Email rudyrocks@gmail.com
Phone Number 9072998210
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

Item 10C: Freedom means having choices. Public institutions such as the library allow citizens to choose to educate or entertain themselves freely without censorship of those voices or their choices within the limits of what is legally allowed. Banning books is censoring choice and that is definitely not freedom. A dangerous precedent is set when we start limiting choices. If parents are concerned about content of children's books then they need to monitor and guide their children until they turn 18 and can be legally responsible for themselves. Please do not censor and limit choices that constitute the freedoms we have in this nation. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Electronic Signature

Rudy Multz

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50027>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:52 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Children's books

From: Gurgi89 <jcptodd@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 1:55 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Children's books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To: Library Advisor Board
Topic: LGBTQ+ Books in the Children's Library
Date: 12 November, 2022
From: Janice C.P. Todd

I write as a parent and grandparent and a past Homer LAB member and president. I've taken college courses on Children's Lit and Fairy Tales. Both of my daughters are pediatric nurses and I have lived in the Homer area over 40 years.

Children books with LGBTQ+ themes should remain in the children's library. The fear of these books reminds me of Sleeping Beauty, a fairy tale we all know and love. The King and Queen were proud, thrilled to be new parents. They want the very best for their child. She's a princess after all. Then the angry fairy curses their tiny princess. Fortunately, a good fairy steps in and though she can't erase the curse, she sideswipes it. The horrified parents try to erase the curse. They're powerful. Every spindle and every spinning wheel in the country is burned. But the precautions failed... What if instead, the princess had learned to spin? What if she had learned about the curse? Would she have been able to overcome the curse? Isn't that what growing up means?

The books on the list are well written. They represent people in our very community. They are respectful and encourage inclusion, compassion, diversity and freedom to make our own choices so long as others are not hurt. Isn't this what our country is about? These books allow us to explore questions our children may have about ideas we may be unfamiliar or uncomfortable with. Questions our children want to or do ask. These books

say, “We’re not all the same. That’s natural and that’s Ok. We can still accept each other and be friends.”

Children will question what it means to be a boy or a girl. Why can girls wear jeans, but boys can’t wear a dress? Should boys cry? Should girls be strong and independent?

Children hesitate or struggle to ask questions if their parents are loath to discuss topics outside their beliefs. If a child ‘stumbles across’ one of these books, it opens a door for parent and child to explore and learn together. These books share the other side of the coin. The one the parent may not want to look at.

These book expose children to a multifaceted world of ideas and conflicts. Removing them closes the door on a reality that *some* children will find they are a part of. Banning them doesn’t stop the ideas and questions. It doesn’t stop life from happening. Don’t burn the spindle.

Sincerely,
Janice Todd
jcptodd@gmail.com
907 235 7049

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony to City Council](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sat, 11/12/2022 - 3:20pm
146.71.68.108

First Name Shellie
Last Name Worsfold
Email shelliew@gci.net
Phone Number
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which City Council Meeting do you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

To be clear, I support the HPL and its policies to keep the library diverse.

I mistakingly thought I needed to sign the iPetition doc before making a comment.
Please know that if my name appears in support of removing books, it was purely by mistake.

These books on the list are not "disgusting" (as I've read some comments), they are beautiful stories that may show a different perspective than yours, but remember- you don't HAVE to check them out and read them, although I wish you would.

I support HPL

Electronic Signature
Shellie Worsfold

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/50038>

Links
[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-city-council>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:51 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: LAB Regular Meeting 10.C - LAB 22-006

From: Laura Zeiset <aklaura@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 6:18 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: LAB Regular Meeting 10.C - LAB 22-006

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To the Library Advisory Board,

I am a resident of Homer and a user of the Homer Public Library.

I know families that agree and I know families that disagree with LGBTQ books being in the children's section of the library. I have two suggestions that could be a compromise for both groups. I love how the picture books are stored in color coded bins by book type, rhyming, families, Alaska, holidays, and more. A new themed bin could be made to house the LGBTQ picture books. The books with LGBTQ characters would be easier to find for those looking for that type of book and it will also help those families not wanting to read them to know what bin to stay away from. My second idea is if a dedicated bin would not work, a simple rainbow sticker on the spine of books with LGBTQ characters would set the books apart and easily distinguishable.

As a mom with four kids who read a lot, I know I would be very happy to be able to easily distinguish the books with LGBTQ characters and those without.

Thank you for the consideration.

Laura Zeiset

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:51 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Library LAB22-006

From: mark zeiset <markz423@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 7:33 PM
To: Circ Admin <CircAdmin@ci.homer.ak.us>; Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Library LAB22-006

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hi,

My name is Mark Zeiset and I am a city of Homer resident.

As a father of 4 I am very concerned about any sexual books, transgender, LGBTQ, heterosexual or any others in the kids section. I think the books should be removed. I am aware that this is a big argument across our nation. As a compromise at least move these books out of the kids area.

Thank you for considering my comments on Library LAB22-006.

Mark

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sun, 11/13/2022 - 9:38pm
162.142.119.13

First Name Sarah
Last Name Allan
Email sarahallan00@gmail.com
Phone Number
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I am a Homer resident, the parent of two young children (4 and 6), and a frequent library user. I appreciate the diversity of offerings at the Homer Public Library and fully support the continued inclusion of a wide range of books for children and young adults in the children's section of the library, including books that address diversity and LGBTQIA+ identities, families, and individuals. The books that have been identified for removal or relocation are age appropriate, important contributions that should be available to families without barriers or stigma.

As a parent, I am empowered to choose what books and other materials my children spend time with and to share literature and culture in the context of our family values. While I may not find that everything in the library aligns with my family's values, I appreciate that all perspectives are represented and I do not believe it is protective of my children or our community to censor books. Please maintain children's books, including those identified for removal or relocation in the current appeal, in the children's section of the library, along with the full range of literary offerings for families.

The Library's Collection Development Policy is robust, politically neutral, and responsive to the diverse needs and interests of our community. I strongly support this Policy, the Library Bill of Rights, and the broader understanding that censorship is contrary to preservation of freedom and democracy. I thank the Library for their continued commitment to providing opportunities for everyone in our community to expand their knowledge and understanding of the world we live in.

Electronic Signature

Sarah Allan

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50049>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sun, 11/13/2022 - 10:06pm
146.71.64.153

First Name Thorey
Last Name Munro
Email thorey.rk@gmail.com
Phone Number 9072996131
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I am a resident of Kachemak City, a new mother, and a born-and-raised Homer community member and I fully support the current Library policy regarding inclusion of diverse books and viewpoints in our community library. Those who are requesting certain books be banned are fostering fear and meanness towards actual members of our community and contribute to a damaging atmosphere for young people to grow up in. Several of my loved ones in this town are gay or gender fluid and everyone I know has an aspect of their being that does not easily fit into traditional categories. Books- especially children's books- are important for teaching that difference is okay and wonderful, and the library's current policy adequately supports this. Please deny this petition that seems to have more to do with an abstract political agenda than it does with actual people that we know, love, work and coexist with in this town.

Electronic Signature

Thorey Munro

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50050>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sun, 11/13/2022 - 3:01pm
104.254.226.143

First Name Susie
Last Name Amundson
Email susie.amundson@gmail.com
Phone Number 5099981009
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

It seems like each parent in our community wants to be the best parent they can be: nurturing, protective, and wise for their little ones. It's a hard job. Although I fully support parents operating in their own sphere of influence for their children (e.g., what foods to eat, what books to read, what video games to play), it's truly ill-advised for them to make decisions for other parents.

That is why I believe the children's books (even those that might have confusing topics such as LGBTQIA+2s, childhood friendships, and even Christianity) need to remain in the children's section of the Homer Public Library.

It's OK if a parent doesn't want their child to interact or check-out a specific book, that's the parent's choice. However, I believe one of the greatest gifts to children is using our wisdom as adults and parents. And with that wisdom, may each of us help children make sense of a world where the landscape is not black or white. But where we help children make sense that there is space and belonging for every human being in this world.

Please allow the children's book to remain in the children's section of the public library.

Electronic Signature

Susie Amundson

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50048>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sun, 11/13/2022 - 11:00pm
104.254.230.165

First Name KD
Last Name Dixon
Email kdd@fromktoj.com
Phone Number 907 235-6697
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

Topic: Appeal of Library Director's Decision Regarding Children and Young Adult Materials:
After reading the library director's statement, I wanted to write in support of their thoughtful choice to keep the challenged titles in their original spots on the shelves. Thank you for this gift of access to our community.

Electronic Signature

KD Dixon

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50051>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sun, 11/13/2022 - 12:00am
146.70.100.30

First Name Vivian
Last Name Finlay
Email vivianfinlay@gmail.com
Phone Number 907-435-7030
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I am opposed to the petition that is trying to remove library books from general circulation. The word "indoctrinate" is used in that petition. I object to the notion that books are written to "indoctrinate" anyone. We all have choices as to which books we read, and parents can make those choices for their children. We must not cross the line of censoring books otherwise we start on the slippery slope of individuals, according to their personal beliefs, deciding what is best for everyone. We each have our beliefs and values, and all those need to be respected. Removing books (putting them in special sections) means that some people decide what is appropriate for everyone and what is not. We need to be able to make our own decisions as parents/grandparents as to what is appropriate for our children/grandchildren. .

Electronic Signature

Vivian Finlay

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50044>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:50 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Public Comment - Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

From: Karianna Ford <kariannaford@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2022 2:39 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Public Comment - Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hear this and hear it well,

The racially marginalized, queer and disabled of all ages deserve to have their lived experiences represented in books at their local library. ^[1]_{SEP}This abhorrent petition for the erasure of queer representation shows a complete lack of intimate awareness and highlights the cultural incompetence of our neighbors in dealing with racism, gender and sexuality. Specifically, how we as a community treat people of different gender identities.

“Social force has maintained gender norms for centuries via reference groups and implicit information. That has a lot to do with access to cultural frameworks that either aided or forced you to have reference groups tied to your reality” to quote Ashtin Berry, educator.

When your reference group is a white, hetero-normative, cisgendered, sexist, evangelical community who demonizes others you’re destined to be upset by anything that contradicts this reality, especially your children.

Berry goes on to say “They are not upset that we are taking up space in fictional stories. They are upset that we’re taking it up in real life. Writing entirely white, [hetero-normative, cisgendered] worlds in fantasy is a form of storytelling/visual eugenics. A made up world and everyone is white [and heterosexual]. These folks are imagining a world where no one else exists. THAT is their eugenics fantasy.”

All parents should be free to direct the upbringing of their own children; furthermore, LGBTQIA+ children shouldn’t be adultified and forced to find books in the adult section. Prohibiting these titles altogether violates the rights of other parents and the rights of children. In doing so, you’re removing the possibility for LGBTQIA+ children to hold meaningful conversation and relationships with their families while laying the groundwork for increased bullying, disrespect, and violence.

The profound misunderstandings about the LGBTQIA+ community stated in this petition serve as a textbook example of the type of adults that children raised in hyper-controlled environments can grow up to become. To be clear, a person's gender identity and expression are not the same as their sexuality; gender identity isn't a choice or a "sin"; LGBTQIA+ folks are not a monolith; and queer and trans folks aren't inherently sexual. Sexualizing and fetishizing the LGBTQIA+ community, making fun of the acronym LGBTQIA+, misgendering, and speaking as a white cis-het person on behalf of an entire marginalized community you don't share a lived experience with is unacceptable.

This petition states that it's most concerned about sexually suggestive storylines but, unsurprisingly, most of these books contain no sexually explicit content whatsoever. That includes a book about a barnyard rooster, families, babies, and a Black child being proud of and celebrating their Black culture ("Black is a Rainbow Color"). Which shows that this petition is also anti-black in addition to being anti-queer. Please see this petition for what it actually is: trash.

Finally, and most importantly, don't forget to check in on your LGBTQIA+ friends and family while the town is reeling. Events like these are extremely isolating and triggering. While our neighbors show their true characters, LGBTQIA+ folks are the ones who are impacted most.

You can find more resources for LGBTQIA+ youth locally at The REC Room and online at The Human Rights Campaign Foundation at <https://www.hrc.org/>.^[1] For mental health support, call the Trevor Project's 24/7 support line at 866-488-7386. You can also reach a trained crisis counselor through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling or texting 988 or by texting "HOME" to 741741.

Thank you.

- Karianna, Anchor Point, Alaska.

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:50 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Written testimony: Appeal of Library Director's Decision

From: lyn maslow <davelyn@gci.net>
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2022 11:18 AM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Written testimony: Appeal of Library Director's Decision

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Advisory Board Member,

We are longtime residents of Homer who avidly support and use the library frequently. Growing up here, our children were able to take advantage of HPL's rich programming, diverse book selections, and friendly staff who were able to steer our boys toward books that were enriching, interesting and appropriate. As parents we appreciate the staff's ability to add highly regarded books to the children's collection that reflect the entire community of Homer and connect youth with peers whose experiences are different. As a parent, I always felt that it was my responsibility to discuss book choices with my children.

The library's role is not to promote any one individual or group's personal beliefs. However, it is their role to provide access to information and literature for everyone. The library's policy clearly states that "individual or group prejudice about a particular item or type of material in the collection may not preclude its use by others."

We support Library Director Dave Berry's decision not to remove the materials in question from the children's room. He is following library policy, and we request that the LAB also uphold current policy.

Lyn Maslow and David Lewis, Homer residents

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Sun, 11/13/2022 - 2:58pm
216.67.3.11

First Name Cynthia
Last Name Morelli
Email cmorelliclay@gmail.com
Phone Number 9072352846
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: Appeal to move books

Written Testimony

It is my understanding that the Homer Public Library's policy clearly states that parents are encouraged to facilitate their children's reading and it is not the library's responsibility nor job to censor anyone's reading choices. Please continue to uphold the Library Director's decision to leave children's books in the children's library, in accordance with the city's collection and development policy. Free access to information creates opportunities for discussion about differences among us.

Electronic Signature

Cynthia Morelli

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50047>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 11:40am
65.74.105.50

First Name Louise
Last Name Ashmun
Email leashmun@gmail.com
Phone Number 907 299 6360
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I strongly reject the appeal by members of the community who want 40+ books moved from the children's library into the adult library because they don't align with their family values. This action would clearly be censorship that is not allowed by the current Collection Development Policy. I want those materials to be available to my grandchildren and others. I encourage the community members seeking this action to simply steer their children away from materials they find objectionable.

Electronic Signature

Louise Ashmun

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50057>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony to City Council](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 8:50pm
73.169.36.144

First Name Mandy
Last Name Bernard
Email mandybernard@gmail.com
Phone Number 907-299-5635
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which City Council Meeting do you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony

I am writing in support of the Library's existing catalogue of children's books, and reject the petition filed October 25th to relocate several titles to the adult section. The library should continue to be a haven of enrichment and information accessible to anyone, regardless of their age or their parents' bigotry.

Electronic Signature

Mandy Bernard

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/50067>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-city-council>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 9:14am
71.80.156.131

First Name Lolita
Last Name Brache
Email lolitagrace@gmail.com
Phone Number 9072990694
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: Library Advisory Board

Written Testimony

I support the Library Board in following their stated policies and procedures: to keep all books relating to LGBTQ+ , trans experience and sex education themes in place whether in the children's or young adult sections. I believe it is important for families to have access to these items. Those who do not want their children to read them have the right to manage their children's access. Knowledge/examples of these aspects of life is all around us in our community and on media. The children will be exposed, regardless. As a lesbian raising two daughters in Homer, I found the community to be generally very supportive and unbiased. Unfortunately my daughters did have to bear some bullying in school. I can only think that the children who would be mean and rude came from families where there was no or only limited discussion of what it means to be gay or lesbian. That perhaps fear was instilled due to lack of information and understanding. Books about these issues help us all bridge gaps of ignorance, fear and misunderstanding. I hope we can all listen to one another with compassion as we help our community become ever more diverse, safe, and open hearted.

Electronic Signature

Lolita Brache

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50052>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 1:39pm
65.74.105.231

First Name Sky
Last Name Cady
Email skyforchrist@aim.com
Phone Number 907299-1483
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Regarding LGBTQ+ childrens books: The Homer library functions as a resource for our community to learn and grow. While it can be useful to expose citizens to different viewpoints and worldviews (one of which is someone's understanding of sexual identity) - this does not necessarily apply to making young children aware of sensitive topics. This topic is one that many parents view as controversial, if not detrimental to the health of personal sexual identity. It's the parents responsibility to expose their children to these things and at the proper time - and should not have to worry about explaining sexual bondage to their 7 year old. If this is indeed within the book - should we also be asking what other types of bondage(as if it could ever be good) is paraded as good within childrens books? While some things may be explored in a private bedroom and discussed among like minded peers, this type of content should be kept away from normal circulation while still being made available to anyone who wants to teach their children using this content. By exposing children to the sexual practices as represented in these types of books we risk encouraging our children to have sexual expression outside of the proper age. We risk disenfranchising those who love and use the public library because they view this expression of sexuality as evil and don't want their kids thinking it's good. We now open the door for other controversial minority sexual practices to be explored and normalized through a children's medium (book or otherwise) such as the objectification of women, bestiality or polygamy. While these topics have a place in the public discourse, that place is not on the low shelf in the children's section.

Electronic Signature

Sky Cady

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50060>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 9:43am
146.71.68.66

First Name Melody
Last Name Chesley
Email melodychesley@gmail.com
Phone Number 9072996406
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I urge you to uphold the current City's Collection Development policy and support the Director's decision to leave all children's books in the children's library. I fully support the current Library policy that reading choices and access by children should rest with parents or legal guardians. I also fully believe that LGBTQ+ books for children need to remain in the library and that these books represent our community in a safe and meaningful way.

Electronic Signature

Melody s chesley

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50053>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: David Berry
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:22 PM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Removal of books

From: Adam Christensen <ccvadam@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:14 PM
To: David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Re: Removal of books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Please do! I will plan on attending via zoom!

Thank you again!

Adam

On Mon, Nov 14, 2022, 3:01 PM David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us> wrote:

Thank you! Would you mind if I forward your comment to the City Clerks, for inclusion in the LAB packet tomorrow?

Cheers!

Dave Berry

Director, Homer Public Library
907-435-3151 (office)

907-299-5490 (cell)
dberry@ci.homer.ak.us

Notice: Emails to and from this address are subject to disclosure under the Alaska public records law.

From: Adam Christensen <ccvadam@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 2:05 PM

To: David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: Removal of books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

David,

I am writing in regard to an article I just read about LGBTQ+ books in the Homer Library. I want to thank you for denying the request previously made by Melissa Martin, and to encourage you to stand your ground again tomorrow. I very much agree with your statement that it is better to “add rather than subtract”

Please do not allow ANY books to be moved, removed, or censored - Especially ones that are so important to the under-represented. The library should be an inclusive place to ALL - if these (and potentially other) books are removed, we are only doing further damage to our friends that historically don't feel safe, or welcomed.

“When you tear out a man's tongue, you are not proving him a liar, you're only telling the world that you fear what he might say.” - GRRM

Thank you again for having the upstanding character it takes to deny the hateful and fearful request to remove books. Please stand your ground again tomorrow.

Adam Christensen

Ninilchik

907-953-7335

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:50 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Library Advisory Board Meeting Agenda Item 10.C (11/15/22)

From: Deborah Cox <debdcox@mac.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2022 3:06 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Library Advisory Board Meeting Agenda Item 10.C (11/15/22)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Members of the Homer Public Library Advisory Board,

I am writing in support of Library Director Dave Berry's decision regarding Children and Young Adult Materials (Item 10.C. on LAB Meeting Agenda 11/15/22). I request that all books on the list for reconsideration be left in the children's section. (In fact, moving them would draw further attention to the books, as well as draw children into the adult section of the library).

I have read the arguments in favor of the petition, as well as those in favor of leaving the books where they are in the children's section of the library. In order to avoid repeating what so many in support of Mr. Berry's decision so eloquently stated, I will just add a few comments here.

I find it ironic that Mrs. Veldstra, a children's book author herself, would head up such a petition to censor books in our children's section of the library. According to the Barnes and Noble overview of Mrs. Veldstra's book "[A Christmas Parade](#)", "The world always stops for Christmas" (in fact, it does not). When Michael Armstrong interviewed her for a lovely article in the Homer News, he describes the story, where the girl "puts on a new costume, and leads parade watchers in Christmas songs". This book is very similar to *Julian Is a Mermaid* (Love, Jessica), in that both books have a child dressing up and participating in a parade.

The petition to remove books from the children's section of the library states that the books in question are "promoting transgender ideology, and...intend to indoctrinate children into LGBTQ+ ideologies". Taking *LGBTQ+* books out of the library would be like taking books dealing with *Christmas* out of the library. What if I do not believe in Christmas, nor celebrate it, and do not want my children indoctrinated to its ideologies? (All hypothetical here). Should I request that all books on Christmas be removed, or put in the adult section?

As a certified Librarian, I am familiar with the role of libraries, and librarians. I believe in the First Amendment, Intellectual Freedom and the Library Bill of Rights. If you visit our incredible public library, and find a book that you do not want to read: *put it back on the shelf. Choose another book.*

If you want to “police” the books that your child reads, feel free to do so. There are many ways for you to do this.

If you were to walk the halls of Homer High School, where I am currently the librarian, you will see an incredible array of people, with a wide range of beliefs, interests, and gender fluidity. All of us do not need to agree on our beliefs, but we must agree to disagree respectfully. The people that signed the petition, in no way, need to read books that they are uncomfortable with. They can choose not to read them. They can choose to censor these books from their children. But they can NOT censor them from anyone else.

I firmly believe that the reconsidered books should remain where they are in the library, in the children’s section.

I want to thank Library Director Dave Berry, and acknowledge his expertise. I also thank all members of the Homer Public Library Advisory Board for upholding the clear and professional library policies that are currently in place.

Sincerely,
Deb (Cox) Curtis
Homer High School Librarian

Sources:

Armstrong, Michael (December 8, 2021). <https://www.homernews.com/life/a-christmas-parade-is-local-authors-first-book/>

Barnes and Noble. <https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/a-christmas-parade-madeline-a-hawthorne/1140549722>

Love, Jessica. *Julian Is a Mermaid*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PHsixlARQPM>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:56 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: Library Advisory Board meeting re: LGBTQ books

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tara Findlay <ramblinarat@gmail.com>
Date: November 14, 2022 at 7:55:04 PM PST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: **Library Advisory Board meeting re: LGBTQ books**

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To Whom it may concern:

As I am well aware that our poor city clerk is being inundated with public commentary on the subject, I will attempt to be as concise as possible, though I'm not sure my rage will allow it.

The mere suggestion of this ban by Ms Veldstra and others is not only a dangerous and deeply personal affront to me and some of my most beloved family and friends, but an assault on free speech, representation, education, diversity, and so much more.

I am perhaps overly confident that Homer Public Library and it's supporters will prevail and this petition will be shut down, but given the political climate I am weary that Veldstra and cohorts will portray themselves as victims of a "woke movement" and continue to attack and censor school curriculums, teachers, and others in interest of insulating children and preserving their myopic worldview. We must stay vigilant and stand strong against these frightened and misled bigots and defend our children and their access to free education that represents the broad spectrum- rainbow, if you will- of perspectives and lived experiences in our community, country, and world at large.

"The future is caramel and queer, baby."
-ilana glazer

With respect,
Tara Findlay

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 1:57pm
74.123.241.8

First Name Jill
Last Name Gann
Email gann.jill@gmail.com
Phone Number 907-513-9348
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

As a librarian on the Kenai Peninsula and a supporter of libraries. I support the librarians decision to keep these books on the shelves. Parents have the right to choose what their children can read and access but not what others can access and read. The librarian chooses the books that meets the wide varied needs of the community and thus has a great responsibility to provide materials that meet those needs.

We must not censor these books every persons has the freedom to read.

Please support your library by keeping these books in the regular collection so all have access to them.

Thank you

Electronic Signature

Jill Gann

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50061>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:50 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Public testimony about library issue

-----Original Message-----

From: Maggie Goedeke <maggie_kay89@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2022 7:24 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Public testimony about library issue

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

The plight to have children's books that don't match the hetero-gender-roles formula removed from the children's library in Homer AK is a homophobic and transphobic act. Please help us support access to knowledge, representation and freedom. Limiting access to diversity breeds racism, homophobia, transphobia, hate, intolerance and violence as children grow into closed minded adults who are afraid of people who are different than their upbringing. The human condition is a spectrum of skin color, gender and sexuality which can be seen throughout history despite suppression, erasure and violence against them. Please help protect acceptance and diversity as we are all humans who exist. Thank you, Maggie G

Sent from my iPhone

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 10:27am
76.121.39.81

First Name Cheryl
Last Name Green
Email GREENCL45@hotmail.com
Phone Number
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Thu, 12/01
What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I use the Homer Public Library twice a month and I stand with their current policy to keep all books exactly where they are and available for review, reading and checking out. Do not change anything! Thank you for hearing my statement.

Electronic Signature

Cheryl Green

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50054>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:57 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: Testimony Regarding Children & YA Materials

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kayci Hanson <kaycihanson@gmail.com>
Date: November 14, 2022 at 5:40:14 PM PST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Testimony Regarding Children & YA Materials

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello,

I would like to provide testimony regarding the proposal to remove literature raising awareness of LGBTQ+ ideology from the children's section of the Homer Public Library.

I believe it is our responsibility to ensure that access to education is not handpicked, but instead reflects realities from all walks of life. Failure to engage in dialogue and viewpoints from those who are traditionally underrepresented is a reflection of fear-driven biases. **Regardless of whether we elect to encourage our own children to see the world through all minority lenses or not, it is NOT the responsibility of the library to manage these parental decisions.** All children should have equal opportunity for education in a public library environment, and it should not be up to the individual guardian to determine what minority subjects other children in the community have exposure to.

I implore you to retain your selection of LGBTQ+ literature in the children's section of the Homer Public Library. I appreciate your wonderful facility, and thank you for all your hard work in maintaining a safe, inclusive, and equal-opportunity public space.

All the best,

Kayci Hanson
Ninilchik
(907)953-6908

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:57 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting - 10C- Appeal of library director's decision

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: karen jensen <kljensen64@gmail.com>
Date: November 14, 2022 at 6:01:50 PM PST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting - 10C- Appeal of library director's decision

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Homer Library Advisory Board:

Imagine for a moment if the letter of testimony sent to you by Madeline Veldstra had, instead of the word LGBTQ, the word "Black," or perhaps "Jewish," or even "Latino." Is it not immediately apparent that it is outright discrimination of a single group? Try a substitution and read it aloud. Would you ever consider putting all books by or about Black people in a separate section in the library? How would you respond to a request to do so? That's how you need to respond here. To put everything written about or by one group of people in its own segregated library section is a beginning step toward community annihilation. They have no "sympathy for those within the transgender community;" they merely want people who are transgender or gay to disappear forever.

Did you know that people tried to ban kids' books in the 1950s about black and white people being together, kids swimming together, mixed "race" marriages? Will you repeat that history now for those in the LGBTQ community? Will you hide the books in a separate section so children don't know about LGBTQ people?

<https://www.npr.org/sections/npr-history-dept/2015/05/06/404470968/4-hot-button-kids-books-from-the-50s>

The long list of books on these petitions reveals this group's true intent; none of those testifying have read these books. If I had to bet, I'd bet most don't read any books at all.

One only needs a quick read-through of "Everywhere Babies" to know that the complaints are founded not on the concern about any book, but instead inspired by lists circulated by national groups like the American Family Association, listed by the Southern Poverty Law Center as a hate group. The goal is to intimidate, harass, and threaten people in the LGBTQ community. It is to silence their voices and their full participation in our society, starting with hiding their existence from children. At least a few of those testifying were bold enough to state their true beliefs outright, hateful as they are.

Each book challenge must be taken on its own merit or lack thereof. Let professional librarians do their jobs, and parents who are concerned about *any* book can accompany their children and supervise their checkouts, just as they monitor what their children buy at the store or watch on tv. Stop this overt attempt at unlawful discrimination.

Sincerely,
Karen Jensen
Fairbanks Alaska

This message is my own, from my personal email and not approved or endorsed by my employer.

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 8:36pm
104.254.224.215

First Name Heather
Last Name Kallevig
Email heatherkallevig@hotmail.com
Phone Number 9072523431
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.
Public Hearing Agenda Item: 10.c. moving material fro children's and young adult section of the library

Written Testimony

It is not the job of the library to censor or remove items because they are considered offensive to individuals or a group of people. If this were the case, there would be very little material available that would be deemed appropriate by all users. In one way or another, most items are deemed inappropriate for children by one person or another. If we are to remove content concerning LGBTQ+ themes we not only risk silencing an already marginalized group, we also run the risk of setting a very dangerous precedent. What about those who are offended by violence, warfare, evolution, religion? Are books that touch on any of these themes to be removed as well? Is this really a path we want to begin? If a parent is concerned about the materials their children are exposed to, they should join them in the library and take an active interest in their reading choices. They should not seek to censor the rights and voices of others.

Electronic Signature
Heather Kallevig

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50066>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 2:26pm
162.142.118.20

First Name Alex and Cindy
Last Name Koplin
Email cindy.koplin@gmail.com
Phone Number
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

We feel like there is a good system in the Homer Public Library to place books in appropriate age group sections. The librarians are highly skilled, and the purpose of a library is to promote learning and literacy. Books do not "indoctrinate" anyone about anything, they just provide more information.

We feel that the petition to ban or remove the books in question is not in the best interest of the Homer community.
Cindy and Alex Koplin

Electronic Signature

Alex and Cindy Koplin

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50062>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 11:13am
146.71.64.153

First Name Lisa
Last Name Krebs
Email lckrebs@gmail.com
Phone Number 9073992485
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I fully support the Homer Public Library administration in its selection and placement of books and other materials for our library. The staff are highly trained and follow specific guidelines that are appropriate for placement in the children's room. Books can represent our diverse world and community and can encourage inclusion. Banning books that reflect this diversity breeds distrust and comes from a place of hate. A true public library should serve the entire community. Thank you

Electronic Signature

Lisa Krebs

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50056>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 9:21pm
65.74.107.179

First Name Megan
Last Name Malcolm
Email meganfmalcolm@gmail.com
Phone Number 4065993314
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

This pertains the the proposed book bans/relocation of LGBTQI+ children's books at the Homer Public Library.

I believe that those who want the books banned should be required to provide a written review of every book they've identified as being harmful/confusing to children, highlighting every passage that they think is harmful to the psycho-social development of children, citing peer reviewed scientific research to support their position.

Every respected industry specialist who is even tangentially tied to LGBTQI+ (e.g. psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, educators, public policy experts, etc) have decades of research to support the position that books do not turn a person gay/trans/etc; perpetuate hate and exclusion; reinforce biases they're exposed to - for example in the home; and removing access to informational knowledge that encourages justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, only breeds hate.

Some parents would rather have a child who is depressed, suicidal, and forced to hide their true self out of fear their parents/peers will reject them. Do not take away an avenue that helps children learn about acceptance and love... particularly if they are not getting it at home from parents who want to spread their hate, bias, and uneducated views throughout our community.

Electronic Signature

Megan MALCOLM

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50068>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:56 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: Library advisory board meeting LGBTQ+

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Elizabeth Morphis <shirleyrigamorphis@gmail.com>
Date: November 14, 2022 at 7:22:11 PM PST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Library advisory board meeting LGBTQ+

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Greetings!

I do not agree with this ban on LGBTQ+ Books at the public library!

This can not happen!

These books are necessary for our community here in Homer. I am out raged.

Sincerely someone apart of this community.

Sent from my iPhone

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 11:07 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: comments for Library Advisory Board November 15 meeting

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: marshall@xyz.net
Date: November 14, 2022 at 12:13:02 PM CST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: comments for Library Advisory Board November 15 meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Please include my comments in the supplemental packet for the upcoming meeting. Thank you for this opportunity to express my concern.

As a long time patron of the Homer Public Library, I support the Library's policies regarding the procedures of placing books in the appropriate locations. The library offers inclusive and free access to its patrons regarding the selection of the materials. Children's books are housed in the children's section of the library and in order to provide free access, that's where all the children's books should remain. The proposed request to remove or relocate particular books from the children's section would deny equal access. The library serves ALL members of the community, regardless of political affiliations/religious beliefs. No one has the right to prevent other families from reading/reviewing the collection which includes making it more difficult to access particular books.

When my child was younger, it was MY job to supervise her reading selection, her media exposure and her interactions with the world outside of our family home. I, as most parents, took that responsibility to heart, by being involved in reading choices and information access. I continue to maintain that it is up to the parents to oversee what their child is reading. It was our family's choice to raise a child in an inclusive environment and the children's library diverse reading selection helped foster that.

Please support the Library Director's decision to keep the targeted books where they belong...as part of the overall children's reading selection. Our library needs

to continue to serve all patrons by providing free access to all materials.

Thank you,
Karen Murdock
East End Road
Homer, AK

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 3:43pm
209.112.136.147

First Name Alice
Last Name Porter
Email aliceporteralaska@gmail.com
Phone Number 907-299-6529
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Please let me comment on item 10c of the LAB regular meeting about moving LGBTQ+ books from the children's section of the library. I stand for unity in diversity, forbearance, mercy, compassion and loving-kindness towards all the peoples and kindreds of the earth. Prejudice of any kind is entirely against the spirit of life and is based on ignorance. We are one human family, let us gain knowledge and embrace difference, rather than divide.

Electronic Signature

Alice Porter

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50065>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 2:29pm
209.112.213.121

First Name kathy
Last Name smith
Email splinter@xyz.net
Phone Number 9072355523
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.
Public Hearing Agenda Item: Petition to move Homer Public Library materials from Children's area

Written Testimony

I am a long term Homer resident and a registered user of the Homer Public Library. I am also a volunteer who mends library books on a weekly basis. I do sympathize with the people who put forth this petition. It isn't easy to raise children in today's expanding world. I am a parent, and a grandparent of a 6 year old and two teenagers who attend local schools. When my children were young, we used the library a lot, and we read a lot of books together. Our book choices varied widely, but at times I made it a point to choose books that would help them to learn the values of compassion and fairness. I don't get to make parental choices for my grandchildren. This is a job for their parents, not for me or for you or the people who run our library. I don't want concerned citizens making reading choices for me or my family. These people have chosen 40 books they want moved from the Children's area to another part of the library. Other people might choose different books they would like moved or removed. Where does it end? I support the policies the Homer Library already has in place.

Electronic Signature

KATHY SMITH

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50063>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Mon, 11/14/2022 - 10:48am
104.254.230.150

First Name Kim
Last Name Sweeny
Email kimsweeny4@gmail.com
Phone Number (907)299-7332
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I am in favor of trusting the library staff to select appropriate books for the Homer Library, including the children's section. Parents will take the lead in helping their children explore topics of interest through radio, TV, the internet, and written material including books. If parents feel strongly about book topics, they have every opportunity to restrict or open access to those books accordingly through guided parental discussions. The Homer Library has an outstanding variety of reading matter to promote learning about an endless array of topics. I support the Library Board in continuing to feed learning.

Electronic Signature

Kim Sweeny

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50055>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony to City Council](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 10:59am
65.74.104.120

First Name Kate
Last Name Balderas
Email k8them8@yahoo.com
Phone Number 15125078206
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which City Council Meeting do you want to participate in? Worksession (if scheduled)

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony

Librarians are specially trained to make decisions on what children books are and how to uplift the community. Hiding valuable children books in the adult section only serves a community that is trying to censor what they wish their children to see. We already have many churches, we need this library and the diversity it offers. LBGTQ children has a high rate of suicide and the library should be a safe place for all children. Suppressing and censoring children only causes discourse and depression. Let the librarians do their jobs.

Electronic Signature

Katherine Mary Balderas

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/50076>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-city-council>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 10:43am
104.254.226.151

First Name Dale
Last Name Banks
Email dale@loopylupine.com
Phone Number 9072990524
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I'm sorry that you have to waste so much of your time and effort to defend the Library's Collection Development Policy against attempts to censor content based on a set of personal beliefs that only heterosexual content should be allowed in the children's section. If you replace "LGBTQ" with "Heterosexual" in the appeal statement, it reveals how absurd it is. Children's literature should inspire and entertain, but also reflect positively all of society, not just a certain select set. Please support the Library Director's response to the petition. Thank you.

Electronic Signature

Dale L Banks

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50075>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 9:18am
65.74.105.239

First Name William
Last Name Bell
Email wmbell51@gmail.com
Phone Number 9073991042
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

RE: Library Board Meeting

If a library is to serve its community well it must include an uncomfortable diversity of opinions through many media. Otherwise the library will just be a mouthpiece for the entitled. The necessity for a wide ranging collection is as true today as it was in Alexandria in 50 BC. Critical wide ranging thinking about all current events is as important now as it was then. If I want to read Mein Kampf to understand history I can do that, but that exposure will not turn me into a Nazi. If I want to read about the psychology of a murderer I can read In Cold Blood but I am not going to go on a murderous rampage. If I want to read angrily written books about racism, I may disagree with many tenets but I may well get some insights into my own behaviors. If I read about LGBTQQ+ issues I am not going to suddenly change my sexuality but I expect to have a better understanding of the lives of those I interact with. Copernicus and Galileo had their books banned (at great physical peril also) because they were determined to be heresy. Books are not a contagion, they provide us with insights into worlds we don't live in, give us a platform to build our moral foundation. Any restriction of books by one particular group can only lead to a blinder driven world view that will severely limit our growth as an inclusive, surviving community

Bill Bell

Electronic Signature

William Bell

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50073>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:55 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: LGBTQ+ Books

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ann Daigle <annbdaigle@gmail.com>
Date: November 15, 2022 at 9:31:52 AM PST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: LGBTQ+ Books

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Library Advisory Board,

Thank you for your consideration in the matter of possibly removing LGBTQ+ books from the children's section of the library. I believe it would be wise to move these materials to a confined portion of the library accessible to children whose parents feel they are ready for such content. This is not banning books, it is moving them. As a teacher, mother and grandmother, I beseech you to preserve the innocence of young children. In time they will grapple with these ideas which confuse and conflict us even as adults.

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 8:24am
162.142.119.11

First Name Allison
Last Name Galbraith
Email ak.nanooks@gmail.com
Phone Number
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: 10.c

Written Testimony

I would like to voice opposition to the removal of books. Removing books due to what some would deem "inappropriate" or "uncomfortable" content is a slippery slope and a truly inappropriate action for a publicly funded institution. To those who submitted this petition: everyone has different opinions and different levels of comfort and yours should not dictate what I can do or how I teach my children. If you find something you decide is inappropriate, steer your child toward something you find more palatable, but do not assume you know what's best for my family because of your own insecurities and preferences.

Electronic Signature

Allison Galbraith

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50070>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 11:45am
107.77.205.10

First Name Matthew
Last Name Iverson
Email iverson.matthew@gmail.com
Phone Number 9078858518
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

This is regarding the petition to remove certain LGBTQ-themed books from the children section of the Homer Library. I want to state that, as someone raising a child in our community, it is extremely important to me that these books continue to be available for him, as from what I can tell from a quick survey (having not read them all), the purpose of these books is NOT to "groom" children towards any sort of "lifestyle" in any way, but rather their purpose is to educate, to show children how many ways of being in the world there can be, and to promote tolerance and understanding. This seems right at the heart of what the entire children's section should be about! Further, as a bisexual man, I am very disturbed at the notion that a book simply recognizing my orientation would be considered inappropriate reading material for our community of kids to engage with. As far as I can tell, this petition is simply an attempt at blatant discrimination under the supposed guise of "protecting" children. I can tell you I sure wish such books had been around when I was a child, they would have been a great source of comfort. Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Electronic Signature

Matt Iverson

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50078>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 6:10am
193.37.33.161

First Name Ron
Last Name Keffer
Email ron.keffer01@gmail.com
Phone Number (907) 235-8293
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: An appeal by members of the community who want 40+ books moved from the children's library into the adult library.

Written Testimony

I have confidence in our library staff and I support its policies. I strongly oppose any actions that hurtfully marginalize LGBTQ+ people by restricting mention of them, as this change would do. Under the current policy, parents have full control over the materials their children access. It's important to realize that the nature and use of the library's materials is being misrepresented by those who started this campaign. A particular group wishes to control not just the access of their own children but that of everyone's children. That is gross overreach. Thank you for considering my comments.

Electronic Signature

Ronald Keffer

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50069>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 11:27am
97.120.89.1

First Name Florence (Flo)
Last Name Larson
Email putts5646@yahoo.com
Phone Number (907) 399-5560
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

To whom this my concern:

Having served on the Homer Library Board in the past for several years, the protest of children's books is a gross misrepresentation of Homer Public Library's service to Homer and the wider communities. The Homer Library does not indoctrinate or educate anyone at any age. The library built in the heart of Homer is the envy of every visitor I have hosted since it was built.

Parents and children are encouraged to choose books of their liking. The library makes effort to serve the whole community, excluding no one, as public libraries do with support of tax paying citizens. Parents protesting books on the shelf have the right to choose books for their children but not the wider community.

Librarians are trained professionals deserving the respect they have earned. The City screens those hired to serve the library.

Public discussion serves community making at all levels. Contentious arguments divide a community.

Wanting peace in this Hamlet By The Sea,

Flo Larson
Citizen of Homer

Electronic Signature

Florence Larso

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50077>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 10:37am
209.193.52.150

First Name Susan
Last Name Post
Email alaskasuefb@gmail.com
Phone Number
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I am not able to attend the LAB meeting tonight but would like to submit my comments here. If books are removed from the Children's Library due to concerned parents over the content inside, this is the start of a VERY slippery slope and I am adamantly opposed to these books being removed. Our society is already too divided because of certain people not being able to handle certain facts or certain realities. Why can't we all just work on accepting one another and accepting that every individual has the right to be who they want to be. Reading about two penguins who band together to keep one of their chicks alive is part of nature. There is nothing wrong with children reading this. If humans could be as sensible as these two penguins, we wouldn't have to continue with this nonsense of trying to move books to protect the minds of our children. Heather Has Two Mommies? Two Grooms on a Cake? Really? What is wrong with either of these books. Love is love and it doesn't matter if it is between two women or two men or a man and a woman. Love is love and if more of our society could just accept that, it would be so much better for the whole of society. It's Okay to be Different- another book with a very important lesson. Every human is different and by trying to make our children fit into a certain model, it causes so much conflict and angst within those children. I could go on, but I am sure the meeting will be long enough so I won't. Although I do not "live" in Homer, I do live within the Homer area and I have a business in the city and spend almost all of my time in Homer. I have supported the library since I was 10 years old when we used to visit Homer in the summer, and as soon as we moved to Homer full time, I was thrilled to have such a great library to use. I hope that many children will continue to use our library for years and years to come. It was one of my saving graces when I used to spend summers here and didn't have much to do. Thank you for all you do to help make Homer such a special place.

Electronic Signature

Susan Post

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50074>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 9:15am
65.74.106.39

First Name Francie
Last Name Roberts
Email francie.roberts@gmail.com
Phone Number 9072351068
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I support following the HPL Collection Development Policy as it stands. Parents need to be responsible for their children's reading choices, not the library. I also feel it limits the rights of some people if they have to ask to see a certain group of books which are set aside in a special place, making them feel awkward to ask. Thank you for your service to the City of Homer.

Electronic Signature

Francie Roberts

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50072>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 8:47am
162.142.119.16

First Name candy
Last Name rohrer
Email candy@xyz.net
Phone Number 907235-1314
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I want to express confidence in our library staff, support for its policies and opposition to any actions that hurtfully marginalize others and impinges on their rights to access reading materials of interest to them and their families in an inclusive environment. The present policy of the library gives parents full control over the materials their children access and I have complete confidence in our library to follow the library mission statement. The petition material presented by, "Greater Parental Discretion", about books and material that the Homer Public Library has is being misrepresented. If a parent wishes to control the access of their own children so be it, but that of everyone's children is gross overreach. I have confidence the Homer librarians have in place policies that provide fail-safe parental controls.

Electronic Signature

candy rohrer

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50071>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 11:50am
107.77.205.10

First Name Katherine
Last Name Schake
Email kaschake@gmail.com
Phone Number 907-205-0235
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I am writing against the petition to remove LGBTQ related books from the children section of the library. It is fundamental that the library not censor any books. It is important that books for all ages of children related to sexual orientation be discoverable and accessible. Removing these books can cause harm to those individuals who identify with minority perspectives.

Electronic Signature

Katherine Schake

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50079>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:55 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: Good morning

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Elizabeth Spofford <emspofford@yahoo.com>
Date: November 15, 2022 at 8:07:55 AM PST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Good morning

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To Whom This May Concern,

This message is in response to the proposal to remove literature which raises awareness for LGBTQ+ identities from the children's section of the Homer Public Library.

Andrew Carnegie once wrote, "A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert." To this I would add, libraries can only be a spring when all voices are represented.

I am a mother of an 11-year old girl, and I want her and all other children to have equal opportunity and access to literature written from a wide variety of voices.

Please retain your selection of LGBTQ+ literature in the children's section of the Homer Public Library. Thank you for all that you do to make Homer Public Library a welcoming, inclusive and safe space for all people.

Sincerely,

Elise Spofford

emspofford@yahoo.com
907-252-9544

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:55 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: Comments on the LAB Agenda Item 10.C Appeal of the Library Director's Decision Regarding Children and Young Adult Materials

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jenny Stroyeck <wordfolk@xyz.net>
Date: November 15, 2022 at 12:20:26 AM PST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Comments on the LAB Agenda Item 10.C Appeal of the Library Director's Decision Regarding Children and Young Adult Materials

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Thanks to those who volunteer time and talents to serve on the Library Advisory Board.

Regarding the petition by a group of local citizens to remove books identified as "promoting the LGBTQ agenda", I am glad there is a process in place for concerns and for public testimony, but sometimes it seems to give undue weight to a very vocal minority. This petition to remove books took several months to garner the signatures presented. The counter petition to keep the books in the children's section of the library and maintain the status quo easily reached double the amount of signatures in a few days. To me this is reflective of the nature of Homer's population.

I support the criteria for collection development at the Homer Public Library, as developed by the ALA, approved by the Homer City Council, and interpreted by Mr. Berry, the current library director. Inclusivity and diversity should be core values of a library's collection- every patron deserves to see a reflection of his/her/their persona in a book. It is not and should not be the job of librarians to monitor the reading habits of children. A healthy society allows the introduction of ideas from and acceptance of many diverse viewpoints-especially those that may have been stifled by a dominant class, religion, or culture in the past. The inclusion of all enriches the lives of all.

Jenny Stroyeck
65240 Diamond Ridge Rd.
Homer, AK 99603

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 12:51pm
146.71.65.28

First Name Annie
Last Name Williams
Email ppod51@hotmail.com
Phone Number 9073997087
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

To the Library Advisory Board:

First, I want to thank the board for their work. The Homer Public Library has been an outstanding performer in attending to the informational, literary, educational, and recreational needs of our community for the entire 42 years that I have lived here. Never have I questioned their judgement in reading the needs for this community as it has grown. They have addressed with quiet assuredness many issues that confront their patrons and have sought to address those needs without great fanfare. The world and Homer are changing at a rapid pace. For alot of us, it seems too fast but it is the reality of the technological age we live in. To find shelter from that onslaught, I look to the beauty of our surroundings, the kindness and openness of our community, and even to the many faith based groups who practice in harmony here. I would never expect or demand that an institution, based on the premise of addressing the needs of its public be responsible for filtering what I don't want to see. That is my job. As a parent whose children were raised within the library's influence, I also believed it was my job not theirs to filter what I deemed appropriate for their age. I loved the fact that there was so much diversity of life styles and living environments portrayed in their book selections. I felt that it generated conversation with my kids; it gave them a "safe" exposure to the unknown and unexplored so that they could ponder upon what they might encounter when they left for the bigger world. This to me is the library's job: to allow for rich exploration and growth. Please do not tamper with the freedom the library has been given to judge what is suitable and where it can be found. The library takes that responsibility very seriously and they have never disappointed me. Please let them know I support them and as their Board, I implore you to do the same.

Electronic Signature

Annie Williams

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50081>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Date: 14 November, 2022

To: Homer Library Advisory Board

From: John P. Calhoun

RE: Agenda Item 10C. Library Director's Decision Regarding Children and Young Adult Material

As a parent, grandparent, and great-grandparent I take exception with this decision. Issues regarding sexual education including sexual orientation and choices are matters between a parent and their child especially in their formative years.

Parents are given the responsibility of raising children. Serious and sensitive issues need to be presented by parents who have a grasp of the maturity and the understanding of the individual child. Furthermore, if a parent does not want their children exposed to other people's views on sexuality it is their decision, not the government's. Many parents' moral values differ from that of LGBTQ lifestyles. Again, exposure to and discussion of these lifestyles should be parental decisions, not the government's.

The government restricts the sale of firearms to minors because they are concerned younger people do not have the maturity firearm ownership dictates. However, the government has no problem with a parent purchasing a firearm and teaching their child to shoot.

In the matter of children's books regarding sexuality and alternate lifestyles, I feel the same discretion should be used by our local government. Presenting mature matter to immature minds without the parental guidance is irresponsible government at its worst.

I request the Homer Library Advisory Board ask the director to place these types of books in their appropriate adult section.

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 3:11pm
162.142.118.16

First Name Holly
Last Name Brennan
Email hollyfromhomer@gmail.com
Phone Number
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I am writing to support the Homer Public Library staff in upholding an extremely important and core value of public libraries: freedom of information. There should be no censorship of books deemed offensive by individuals (which includes special labeling or separate locations). I could go on and on and on, but this is really simple. Public libraries are for all, and no one gets to say what can and can't be there. The professionals who work at our wonderful Homer Public Library alone should determine the best location for resources, using the Library Bill of Rights as a guide. "Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment." Simple as that. Thank you to all those awesome people at the library who are having to deal with the extra workload associated with the current challenge. You are awesome.

Electronic Signature

Holly Brennan

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50087>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 2:30pm
146.71.69.32

First Name Libby
Last Name Bushell
Email libbybushell@gmail.com
Phone Number 9073994694
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I support the Homer Public Library Director's decision in full, to leave children's books in the children's library.

Knowledge is power. The Public Library's role is to be a place of free exchange of ideas. To limit those ideas in order to appease the sensitive ideologies of certain religious groups disempowers our youth.

I believe that our youth are not so fragile that they will be "indoctrinated" by views that don't align with their own. Rather, by having access to stories from a perspective outside their own, they might learn compassion and empathy. They might not be so afraid to encounter people from other backgrounds. They might learn to build bridges and share ideas, rather than to build walls and ban books. They might find community.

I do not support the banning of any books.

Sincerely,

Libby B Bushell

Citizen of Homer, Alaska since 1985

Electronic Signature

Libby B Bushell

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50086>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 1:07pm
209.112.145.45

First Name kathryn
Last Name carssow
Email kcarssow@live.com
Phone Number 19073993738
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Thank you, members of the Library Advisory Board, for your commitment to preserving and improving the quality of our library.

With regard to selecting books on our library shelves, I appreciate and have full confidence in our library staff. As a concerned grandparent, I support our library policies for ensuring the breadth and quality of literature available to children, young adults and their parents. I oppose any actions that hurtfully marginalize any individuals or families in our community, especially our youth.

I am comfortable with the control parents now have over the materials their children access on our library shelves. It is critical that this control not be jeopardized by those who wish to censor what other families read.

Electronic Signature

Kathryn Carssow

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50082>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 4:46pm
162.142.118.16

First Name Kim
Last Name Fine
Email alela@horizonsatellite.com
Phone Number 9073995356
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Public libraries...

Open to all, free for all

Safe spaces for the joy of learning and discovery

Forums for information and ideas

Committed to inclusivity and respect for diversity

The above virtues of essentially all public libraries is beautifully represented in Homer Public Library's very own mission statement.

To serve the diverse needs of our community members by providing access to information, promoting literacy, and facilitating lifelong learning.

Tonight, I ask for the Library Advisory Board to stay true to the above mission statement and its commitment to serving the diverse needs of our community members.

The petition to ban or move books from the children's section of the Homer Public Library represents excessive control over what is available to all families and goes directly counter to the Library Advisory Board's own Collection Development Policies.

I fully support the Library Advisory Board's policies and have the utmost respect and confidence in the library's trained staff to curate and share reliable knowledge and books.

With these solid and sound library policies already in place, I respectfully ask the board to uphold Library Director Dave Berry's decision to keep the books in question in their present location in the library.

Thank you,

Kim Fine

Electronic Signature

Fine

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50089>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 4:01pm
166.198.34.129

First Name Markus
Last Name Fuhrman
Email dj.grimm.x3x@gmail.com
Phone Number 907 435 1246
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

My name is markus im 16 and im transgender I believe that LGBTQ people deserved to have their voice heard in written literature At the public library it would be unfair if people who are biased got to take away books from LGBTQ youth who are trying to learn who they are thank you

Electronic Signature

Markus fuhrman

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50088>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 2:21pm
216.67.10.253

First Name Steve
Last Name Gibson
Email gibsons@alaska.net
Phone Number 9072881227
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing Agenda Item: Petition to censor book access to young readers

Written Testimony

It is my hope that you do not constrain the approval process of the Library in their selection of books for different age access. In addition, I feel the petitioners' request is contrary to the important function of our library's welcoming and exploratory foundation. The younger people ought to have the ability to learn of the broadest freedoms in discovery of new materials that are age appropriate; it would be poor policy to restrict children to learning of only Shia beliefs in a Sunni dominated country and vice-versa. Mores change, as once upon a time prevalent thought was that only men had the mind to vote--and only white men at that. LGBTQ+ are important aspects of life in advanced civilization and denial of the availability of its existence does no service to our young. Thanks for your consideration of my thoughts.

Electronic Signature

Steve Gibson

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50085>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 1:23pm
65.74.107.23

First Name MICHAEL
Last Name HAWFIELD
Email MCHAWFIELD@ALASKA.EDU
Phone Number 9072990290
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Regarding the need for full and complete access to any and all collections in the Homer Public Library, my family has absolute confidence in our library staff and we fully support the Library's robust and deeply thought-out policies ensuring open and uncensored collections. Library policy and Library staff ensure that parents have full control over the materials their children access in Library collections. Exercising censorship over our public library collections is overreach and unacceptable. Further, we firmly oppose all efforts to stigmatize or marginalize our neighbors and fellow citizens of Homer. There is no compelling reason to alter or modify the excellent policies of the Homer Public Library.

Electronic Signature

Michael C Hawfield

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50083>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:38 PM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Keri Keller <mskeripoppins@gmail.com>
Date: November 15, 2022 at 2:04:01 PM AKST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: **Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting**

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To whom it may concern, in regard to LGBTQ books in the children's section of our Homer, AK public library:

Books like these teach confidence, inclusion and appreciation for all and help to create a more loving community at home today and beyond tomorrow. Please continue to include these books for children to explore the wide beautiful world of diversity, with safety and support, at their own public library.

Kind regards,
Keri Keller

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 4:59pm
65.74.105.239

First Name Mary Lou
Last Name Kelsey
Email mlkelsey53@gmail.com
Phone Number 9072991985
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I support the current City of Homer Collection Development Policy and reject the idea of banning books.

Electronic Signature

Mary Lou Kelsey

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50090>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:38 PM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: Regarding Nov 15 LAB meeting

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jim Lavrakas <jlav@gci.net>
Date: November 15, 2022 at 1:54:10 PM AKST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Regarding Nov 15 LAB meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To the Homer Library Advisory Board,
We support Director Berry's decision to keep the 41 titles listed by M. Veldstra where they are located in the Children's Section of the library.

+++++

Jim and Ruth Lavrakas
Homer, AK 99603
907-299-8393 / cell

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:53 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

-----Original Message-----

From: Amanda Lehm <amandalehm623@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2022 9:32 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

As a member of the Homer community I am submitting a written testimony in full support of the Library Director's decision to keep children's books in the children's library. Having a diverse library selection is imperative in order to be supportive and inclusive of our diverse community members. If certain books do not appeal to you as a parent/caregiver than monitor what your children are reading - this is not the responsibility of the library nor should the rest of the library goers suffer the loss of wonderful and enjoyable children's books. Thank you for your time,
Mandy Lehm

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 1:49pm
104.254.226.102

First Name sharon
Last Name Roufa
Email sharonybaloney@gmail.com
Phone Number 9072996626
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I support the Homer Public Library director. Nobody has the right to use the government to stigmatize other citizens. They have a right to ban books for themselves, not for the rest of us. If they don't want library books they can stay home.

Electronic Signature

Sharon roufa

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50084>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 5:11pm
65.74.105.215

First Name charles
Last Name barnwell
Email barnwellce@gmail.co
Phone Number 907-602-1213
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I strongly feel that a library's contents, including books, should not be determined by select groups of people. I believe the recent request to ban or restrict a certain collection of books in the Children's Library is wrong for these reasons:

1. a certain genre of literature should not be banned in a public library. In this case books relating to sexual orientation and education.
 2. parents should hold responsibility for the books their children read. The parents, if concerned, should monitor what their kids are reading. And not determine what kids in general should be reading.
 3. I fully appreciate as a parent wanting in some cases to exclude certain books in the library from their kids, but again, this is an issue of parenting, not pulling certain books out of the library for fear their kids will read them.
 4. I think it is a slippery slope once started with book banning. Who is to say that any particular genre of literature should be banned? This is a case of a group of folks wanting to ban books from the public library, pure and simple, and we should not get into this business. It is not what our American public libraries are meant to do. Beginning with Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson who donated large quantities of various books to the first American public libraries. We should entrust our professional librarians and Library Board with the proper judgement on the content and quality of literature in the library.
- Thank You,
Charles Barnwell

Electronic Signature

Charles Barnwell

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50091>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 7:41pm
104.254.228.140

First Name Christine
Last Name Bonnett
Email cbonnett59@icloud.com
Phone Number 970-615-0669
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

I agree with the request made by Maddy Velstra to isolate the LGBTQ agenda books outside the children's general area. I wonder if I could find a copy of Little Black Sambo or The Story About Ping in there. How can the woke movement be so one-sided against their call outs but expect their choices to be accepted? Young children's books and public libraries are not the arena for these arguments to be staged.

Electronic Signature

Christine Bonnett

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50095>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 5:20pm
162.142.118.1

First Name Linda
Last Name Franklin
Email linda1franklin@gmail.com
Phone Number 907-299-8009
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

I wish to add my voice of support for maintaining Homer Public Library's policies that allow full access to all materials. I want our Library to continue to be informative, inclusive and accessible. I support Library director Dave Berry's decision to not remove the questioned books from the children's room, He is following Library policy, and I hope the Advisory Board will do the right thing by upholding current policy.

Parents have the right to monitor what their children read, but not to restrict access for other children. Restricting access undermines a Library's ability to fulfill it's important educational, cultural and social roles in our society. The one thing all of our Library's roles have in common is guaranteed access to knowledge. Restricting access to the children's books in question would be the opposite - it would be a form of suppression.

When I have read the books in question I do not see evidence of indoctrination, persuasion or glamorization of different identities (as the petitioners state or imply). I see books that actually reflect the diverse world we live in, and I am thankful that ALL young people today have opportunities to see themselves in books.

I commend the Library for it's commitment to providing access to knowledge to all people. I trust the LAB will support this commitment and policy.

Electronic Signature

Linda Franklin

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50092>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 8:30 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Library council meeting 11/15/22 testimony

From: {Hanna} Tiny Trees <hanna@tinytreesforestschoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 6:12 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Library council meeting 11/15/22 testimony

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

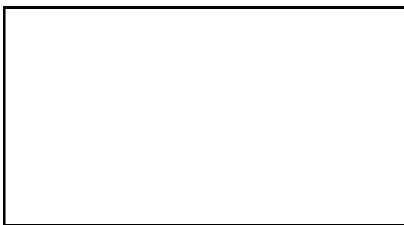
I Hanna Young testify that it should be up to parents to choose what books their kids check out. Books related to LGBTQ+ should be available to all including young children. I support the library policy to keep the books in the library and in the childrens section.

-Hanna Young

--

Hanna Young
Tiny Trees Forest School
www.tinytreesforestschoo.com
209-703-9892

*I will respond to emails Monday-Thursday 8-4 and Fridays 9-12



Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 5:47pm
107.122.81.123

First Name Kyle
Last Name Schneider
Email kylelschneider@gmail.com
Phone Number 7736203833
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15
What type of comments will you be giving?
Public Hearings - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing when the Presiding Officer opens the Public Hearing.
Public Hearing Agenda Item: LAB #10.C

Written Testimony

To the members of the library advisory board:

Censorship of books and library collections smacks of dictatorships and oligarchies throughout history. Nazis, the Klan, white supremacists, and even faith-based organizations throughout the annals of history have chosen to curtail access to information that might run contrary to the goal of the controlling party. There is absolutely no reason whatsoever why any book or title within a library collection should be removed, relocated, or limited from the access of the public at large without following the prescribed path of challenge and also being found wanting by investigation by those appropriately educated or certificated in library sciences . The already-established process within the Homer Public Library's robust language of challenge regarding the acceptance of titles into collections is testament to the professionalism of the organization as a whole.

If an individual - or group of individuals - wish to challenge a title (or series of titles), they're welcome to do so per the library's language. Public petitions filed with inflammatory language - particularly inflammatory language that is also inaccurate, less than truthful, and/or libelous - are not the appropriate behavior to model. If parents choose for their child not to read a specific book, that is their choice. That being said, there is no reason the library should ever feel the need to further limit collections or kowtow to a concurrent majority (which is - in fact - a functional societal minority in an area or region) in regards to access to materials in collections - educational, entertaining, informational, or otherwise.

Such behavior is antithetical to the purpose of public libraries as a whole - being free-and-public spaces for all readers and learners. As Andrew Carnegie so prophetically spoke: " There is not such a cradle of democracy upon this earth as the Free Public Library, this republic of letters, where neither rank, office, nor wealth receives the slightest consideration."

Please protect and defend this never-failing spring in the desert.

Electronic Signature

Kyle Schneider

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50093>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 5:18 PM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment for 11/15/22 Library Advisory Meeting

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Kaufmann <david.j.kaufmann@gmail.com>
Date: November 15, 2022 at 5:03:35 PM AKST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: **Public Comment for 11/15/22 Library Advisory Meeting**

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello,

I'd like to include the following written testimony in regards to agenda item 10.C on tonight's Library Advisory Board meeting. I believe it to be under 3 minutes. Thank you.

Dear Neighbors on the other side of the divide,

I hear your concerns and I believe they are valid. One of the hardest decisions we face as parents is in regards to the how and the when to teach our children about complex and difficult subjects. There are so many tough ones. Though I understand the instinct to curate, soften, or gloss, I don't believe that path leads us to our common goal of raising children who are alive with curiosity and empathy. I believe for every age there is an age appropriate way to describe any subject matter, including even the darkest corners of humanity. And yet here we are hand wringing about something that is by comparison, the absolute brightest of lights: the glorious and magnificent way that we have all been shaped (in God's image if you so choose) to be the unique beings that we are, each one with a truly one of a kind string to offer to the collective woven cloth. I struggle to understand why you would attempt to erase for your children some of us from that collective brightness.

Let me try to spin this around. If I was in the library with my child and they brought a book to me that talked about some Christian values that I disagreed with, what might I say to them? If the book said that they must accept Jesus into their heart or else they will

spend the afterlife suffering in eternal damnation, how might I work through that with them? I might try something like this:

"Wow, that is an interesting idea. Some people I know, good people, believe that is true because they read it in the Bible. I don't agree with those good folks. It just doesn't feel right in my heart. But they are our friends and neighbors and we love and respect them no matter what they believe as long they are not hurting anyone."

The next time your child comes to you and asks about something that doesn't sit right in your heart, I hope you'll find it within yourself to craft something similar in the spirit of guidance as a parent, and inclusion of all your brothers and sisters on this great spinning world.

Sincerely,

Dave Kaufmann
Fritz Creek

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 5:18 PM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Fwd: Testimony Re: LAB agenda item 10C

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Amanda K <amanda.k29@gmail.com>
Date: November 15, 2022 at 4:56:45 PM AKST
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Testimony Re: LAB agenda item 10C

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello,

I am a City of Homer resident and I'd like to submit the following written testimony to the LAB:

I support the Homer Public Library in having reading and educational materials that reflect the diversity of humanity. No one is forced to read anything they don't want to. We have the freedom to choose. The same parties who want to ban books are those who proclaim themselves to be great patriots, shouting about freedom and first amendment rights. Why, now, are they trying to limit our freedoms? They complain about parental rights, which no one has taken away. They still have a right to oversee what their children are doing and reading. They claim to be in favor of small government and against overreach and meddling. Why are they trying to impose restrictions on the entire community based on their narrow point of view- an overreach into the lives of their fellow citizens? We cannot let these bigoted hypocrites make decisions for the entire community. Their rights have not been violated, their freedoms have not been taken away, but they wish to take away the freedoms of others. Un-American!

Thanks,
Amanda Kelly

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Tue, 11/15/2022 - 5:50pm
107.122.81.47

First Name Elizabeth
Last Name Schneider
Email bethiemae15@gmail.com
Phone Number
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 11/15

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

To members of the Library Advisory Board,

I respectfully ask that you uphold the director's decision to leave these titles on their current shelves. Censorship in any form is wrong and can be hurtful. It's every parents prerogative to raise their child, but it is not their right to force it onto others. This should be an opportunity to talk to their children, not an opportunity to limit others. I worry that having these books moved to their own section is one step closer to someone watching that section to make a list of "users" who could be harassed both at the library and outside of it. This shouldn't be acceptable at any level.

Thank you for your time.

Electronic Signature

Elizabeth Schneider

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50094>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 8:30 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Library books for kids

From: Kendall Young <kyoun725@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 5:48 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Library books for kids

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

This is my commentary on the public library book meeting that is supposed to happen tonight.

Let kids be kids. Keep all books concerning sexuality out of the kids area. Period.

Respectfully,
Kendall

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 8:35 AM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Kasilof Weighs In

-----Original Message-----

From: Alaskans <davetami@alaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 7:19 AM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Kasilof Weighs In

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Please,

No censorship in a public library.

Thank you, Dave Flanders

Nov. 16, 2022

Dear Library Board Members,

While last night's meeting is still in my mind—a lot of processing to do there—I thought I would write a few notes.

First, I much appreciate the respectful and inclusive manner in which the meeting was held and the excellent leadership of Kate Finn. Clerk Rachel exemplified calm competence managing Zoom and the challenging sound system.

I am aware, as you are, that “book banning” is a national movement led by conservatives and Christian nationalists. Probably you've read plenty about this already, but I found an extensive article from PEN America (which supports the freedom to write) about book bannings in schools. It had this to say about the groups who lead these and the parallel issue in libraries:

“These groups share lists of books to challenge, and they employ tactics such as swarming school board meetings, demanding newfangled rating systems for libraries, using inflammatory language about “grooming” and “pornography,” and even filing criminal complaints against school officials, teachers, and librarians. The majority of these groups appear to have formed in 2021, and many of the book bans counted by PEN America can be linked in some way to their activities. Some of the groups espouse **Christian nationalist** political views, while many have mission statements oriented toward reforming public schools, in some cases to offer more religious education. ...

... This evolving censorship movement has grown in size and routinely finds new targets and tactics, homing in on the books encompassed in **district book purchases** or **digital library apps**. A parallel but connected movement is also targeting **public libraries**, with calls to ban books; efforts to intimidate, **harass**, or **fire librarians**; and even attempts to suspend or **defund** entire libraries.”

The link to an April Washington Post article about libraries is here:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2022/04/17/public-libraries-books-censorship/>.

I'm embarrassed (and disturbed) that this movement has raised its ugly head in Homer, where we (most of us, I believe) like to think we live in a friendly, tolerant, educated, and arts-oriented community. I certainly heard plenty of barely disguised

homophobia and bigotry at last night's meeting. I also heard plenty of pleas for representation and a well-spoken majority in favor of our library's collection policy and freedom to read. I trust that at your next meeting you'll uphold Director Berry's decision to keep children's books in the children's library and assure access to the children for whom they're intended. (Of course parents can still monitor their own children's reading.) I also hope that neither you nor library staff will feel intimidated or back off in any way from serving our entire community.

I'm so proud of our library—its building, staff, services, and programs! I'm proud that it serves as a centerpiece for Homer and welcomes everyone to its doors. I thank you for your volunteerism with our city and its library.

Sincerely,

Nancy Lord

Njlord250@gmail.com

Rachel Tussey

From: David Berry
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 11:51 AM
To: Connie Anderson Ozer
Subject: RE: Censorship

Thanks. I will pass it along!

Cheers!
Dave Berry

From: Connie Anderson Ozer <connie.a.ozер@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 11:47 AM
To: David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Re: Censorship

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Thank you for your response. It's fine with me if it's forwarded. I didn't mean to sound too harsh about Ms Martin, but I feel strongly that Libraries are for everyone, and every patron should have access to books that are important and relevant to that patron.

Keep up the good work.

Connie Ozer

On Wed, Nov 16, 2022 at 10:05 AM David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us> wrote:

Thank you! Do you mind if I forward your comment to the City Clerks, for future meetings of the Library Advisory Board?

Cheers!
Dave Berry
Director, Homer Public Library
907-435-3151 (office)
907-299-5490 (cell)
dberry@ci.homer.ak.us

Notice: Emails to and from this address are subject to disclosure under the Alaska public records law.

-----Original Message-----

From: Circ Admin <CircAdmin@ci.homer.ak.us>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 7:09 PM
To: David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: FW: Censorship

-----Original Message-----

From: Connie Ozer <connie.a.ozier@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 6:55 PM
To: Circ Admin <CircAdmin@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Censorship

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I love the Homer Library, even though I visit infrequently as I don't live in Homer. I am distressed that there are people in Homer who want to remove books that may be "confusing" to young readers. These folks should be thrilled that there is funding for a library and easy access, when, in many areas of the country and of the world, readers are without such access, let alone books.

I hope you and your Board of Directors can stand firm and keep books on the shelves that appeal to every reader. I know it makes almost too much sense to repeat, but if Ms Martin doesn't want to read the books that she finds personally objectionable, she doesn't have to. It's yet another example of fear and narrow-mindedness, and if it weren't so critical, I could feel more sympathy for her.

I appreciate the Library Director's opinions, as I read them in the Anchorage Daily News. May he and your Library prevail and keep the shelves filled with books for every reader!

Thank you for your very good stewardship of freedom and diversity through books.

Connie Ozer
PO Box 190767
Anchorage, AK 99519
907-240-4914

Rachel Tussey

From: David Berry
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 10:35 AM
To: Jim Raymond
Subject: RE: I support you

Thank you! If you happen to be in town soon, drop by the library!

Dave Berry

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Raymond <pacemakerjim@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 10:21 AM
To: David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Re: I support you

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Absolutely! My daughter is the President of the Anchorage Library Foundation. We are big supporters of all libraries. And when we come down to Homer to our second house, she always takes the kids to the library down there. And one of her children (our grandchild) is a trans individual so we are even more sensitive to attempts to reduce the availability of books for "those" who choose to read them.

Jim

Sent from my iPhone

> On Nov 16, 2022, at 10:03 AM, David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us> wrote:
>
> Thank you! Do you mind if I forward your comment to the City Clerks, so they can include it in future discussions of the Library Advisory Board?
>
> Cheers!
> Dave Berry
> Director, Homer Public Library
> 907-435-3151 (office)
> 907-299-5490 (cell)
> dberry@ci.homer.ak.us
>
> Notice: Emails to and from this address are subject to disclosure under the Alaska public records law.
>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Jim Raymond <pacemakerjim@hotmail.com>

> Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 6:11 PM

> To: David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>

> Subject: I support you

>

> CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

>

> Dave,

>

> I am a property tax payer in Homer and want you to know I fully support your efforts to keep all books available in the library. I agree with you that if you don't like a book, then don't read it.

>

> Please count on me on supporting you.

>

> Sincerely,

>

> Jim Raymond.

>

> Sent from my iPhone

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Thu, 11/17/2022 - 9:17pm
104.254.227.66

First Name Gina
Last Name Creedon
Email coneyconnor@yahoo.com
Phone Number 9072353683
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? Non-City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board
What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Thu, 11/17
What type of comments will you be giving?
Comments of the Audience - Citizens may comment on any topic.

Written Testimony

It may take a village to raise a child, but the village of Greater Homer may not be as eager to have their children raised as hateful bigots as the 200-300 signatures on the petition to deny reality by banning children's books that are not inclusive.

I don't think we should ban or segregate books in the children's section because that section is for use by children who SHOULD BE SUPERVISED BY THEIR PARENTS - even the LBGT parents, who may actually SEEK such books to help their children see their families as acceptable, or by LBGT CHILDREN who may be made to feel accepted and included, perhaps reducing the appalling suicide rate of even very young LBGT kids in unaccepting communities or families.

These books are not explicit. No children are 'gayed' by them... but some children may be saved by them. Unlike the signers of the petition, I would prefer live children to emotionally troubled, psychologically abandoned, or dead children.

Electronic Signature

Gina Creedon

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50099>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

Rachel Tussey

From: Melissa Jacobsen
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2022 1:04 PM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: FW: Book ban. Please don't remove books from the library.

From: Elizabeth Kandror <liska.alaska@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2022 12:14 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Book ban. Please don't remove books from the library.

Having all sorts of books at the library is the ultimate free speech.
Please oppose any bans or removals of book hist because someone does not like it.

Elizabeth Kandror.
Fritz Creek.
617-9106821

Rachel Tussey

From: Mary Williams <homermwroses@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2022 2:10 PM
To: Rachel Tussey
Subject: Please share with the Library Board

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

During the November meeting of the Homer Public Library Board meeting, my daughter, Alana Greear, spoke about her son and my grandson, Falcom, not utilizing the library. She did not mention that her daughter and my granddaughter, Marina, served as the Student Liaison to the library board during her senior year at Homer High School. Two ends of the spectrum in the same family.

When I was an Air Force wife and we were stationed at a radar site in Texarkana, Texas, I will always remember when the Civil Rights Act was passed. My Baptist neighbor said to me and I quote: "The Nigras are always welcome in our church. We have a section all roped off for them".

Please never "rope off" any section of our library for any reason.

Mary Williams
359 W Fairview Ave.
Homer, AK 99603

Rachel Tussey

From: Rachel Tussey
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2022 3:50 PM
To: 'Madeline Veldstra'
Subject: RE: A Message for the Members of the LAB

Hi Maddy,

To respond to your request for reformatting the meeting: The City of Homer has an established public meeting format and process in accordance with Alaska Statutes, our Homer City Code, and the bylaws of the respective board/commission or Council. We are obligated by law to ensure all members of the public who wish to speak have an opportunity to be heard at every public meeting in a consistent format. This is why the LAB's January meeting will be held in the same manner.

Thank you for your comments and I will forward your message onto the board as part of the written testimony I have been forwarding them on a weekly basis.

Rachel Tussey, CMC

Deputy City Clerk II
Sister City Coordinator
Deputy Public Information Officer



City Clerk's Office

Homer City Hall
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, AK 99603
(907) 435-3107 Direct

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: Most e-mails from or to this address will be available for public inspection under Alaska public records law.

From: Madeline Veldstra <maddyveldstra@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2022 3:03 PM
To: Rachel Tussey <rtussey@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: A Message for the Members of the LAB

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hi Rachel,

Would you be so kind as to forward this message to the members of the Library Advisory Board?
Thank you very much,

Maddy V.

Dear Members of the Library Advisory Board,

I spoke with Kate last week about the form of your next meeting in January and voiced some concerns that having a repeat of the November 15th meeting seemed counterproductive. She listened kindly, but ultimately said that it would likely proceed similarly to last month's meeting, hopefully without the technical issues.

However, I am writing to urge you to reconsider your approach to next month's meeting. As you know, I was one of the few people who stuck it out for the full length of November's meeting, so I know how exhausted you must have been after so many hours of three minute speeches. Like mine, your heads must have been swirling with words. It is difficult for me to imagine how after hours of public comment on November 15th and then two months of receiving written comments, another several-hours long comment session would be beneficial, especially given that you have not been able to discuss your thoughts on this issue with your fellow members. So, I would like to propose an alternate approach. Open up public comment for a limited time frame (30 minutes? 45 minutes?), then allow each board member to posit his or her views on what course of action would be best. Before making your decision, allow Dave Berry and myself to make our final cases. Finally, allow any additional discussion between board members, and if board members have questions for Mr. Berry or me allow them to ask said questions before making the final decision.

Please take time to consider this proposal.

On a final note, let me debunk one objection to moving material on the subject of sexual orientation and gender identity: Many of my opponents have said, "keep children's books in the children's section." The Homer Library does have current standards that allow for exceptions to this "rule." Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* is housed in the juvenile section, which makes sense given the target age of the work. However, it's sequel *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is kept in the adult section. The book targets the same age range as *Tom Sawyer*, but includes a lot more racial themes which would explain the library's choice to not keep it in the juvenile section. This choice is not a ban on Mark Twain's book, but rather a recognition that the topics covered in the story are controversial and involve complex themes that might require adult oversight. This is the very reason why we are asking for books like *Sex is a Funny Word*, *This Day in June*, and *The Hips on the Drag Queen Go Swish, Swish, Swish* to be moved to the adult section. If it is not a ban when it is a Mark Twain book or a Dr. Suess book (in 2021 the library removed several Dr. Suess books from its collection because they contained what some perceived as racist themes), it is not a ban when it is a drag queen book. Please see through the flimsy argument that this is about banning books.

Thank you for considering what I have to say.

Blessings and a merry Christmas to each one of you,

Maddy Veldstra

maddyveldstra@gmail.com

Submission information

Form: [Submit Written Testimony for Commission and Board Meetings](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Wed, 01/11/2023 - 12:29pm
216.67.18.201

First Name Ann
Last Name Dixon
Email dixonannr@gmail.com
Phone Number
Are You A City or Non-City Resident? City Resident

Which commission/board meeting do you want to attend? Library Advisory Board

What is the type of meeting you want to participate in? Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting you want to participate in? Tue, 01/17

What type of comments will you be giving?

Public Comments - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing or Plat Considerations (Planning Commission only) such as Consent Agenda items, Minutes, Reports, Pending Business, New Business, and Informational Materials.

Written Testimony

Dear Library Advisory Board,

Your decision regarding the request to remove or sequester books from the children's library because of their supposed LGBTQ+ content will set an important precedent. Does our public library support its mission of providing materials that serve the entire community? Or does our library serve the agenda of a single, vocal portion of the community?

The books in question have been characterized as harmful to children; as destroying their innocence; as being part of an effort to push an LGBTQ+ agenda on our children; and worst of all, of sexualizing children and grooming them for abuse. I find these accusations mostly absurd, offensive in their bias, and dangerous in their proponent's desire to impose their world view on a public institution.

The only agenda I see in this entire saga is homophobia, based on fear of others who may be different from what the offended group sees as normal or acceptable. This fear is justified in terms of two powerful forces: religion and the near-universal desire to protect our children.

In this country, we thankfully enjoy freedom of religion. Religions have differing values and belief systems. Religious beliefs of one group should not be allowed to dictate policies in the public institutions of a diverse community.

Everyone wants what is best for children. Public librarians are charged with providing materials that meet the needs of ALL children in their communities. Homer, like most communities, includes children who are LGBTQ+, or whose parents or other family members are. These children deserve to see their families and their selves reflected in books. They should not be excluded and stigmatized as dangerous or "other" by having those books singled out for removal or for placement in a separate section, away from other children.

As the Montreal Holocaust Museum puts it, the process of “othering” occurs in two stages:

- “Categorizing a group of people according to perceived differences, such as ethnic origin, skin colour, religion, gender, or sexual orientation;
- Identifying this group of people as inferior and adopting an “us vs. them” mentality in order to isolate them.
- Othering is therefore a process that denies the humanity of targeted individuals, and promotes inequality, discrimination, and persecution.”

Lest we think that this process of “othering” is no big deal, please recall that on November 19, just four days after the LAB meeting when petition supporters voiced their concerns about the purported LGBTQ+ “agenda” in these books being harmful to children, 5 people were killed and 17 others injured when a shooter opened fire at a gay nightclub in Colorado. Which raises the question of who is being harmed — and by whose agenda?

Children’s books that are not self-published go through a significant vetting process by agents, editors, art directors, sales teams, booksellers, book reviewers, and librarians, all of whom have training and/or experience in the creation, production, and distribution of children’s literature. Age groups are assigned, based partially on the format and subject matter, but perhaps most significantly by how the subject matter is addressed. Sensitive topics are covered more directly as children mature. Because children vary widely in their interests, needs, developmental stages, reading ability, comprehension, etc., these age ranges are fairly broad. The Young Adult section of the library, for example, contains materials for ages 13-19 — a huge range in maturity. Adult supervision and engagement with their children’s reading is always encouraged.

It is the responsibility of the parents/caregivers to monitor their own children's reading but not the reading of others.

Imposing restrictions such as those suggested by the petition to remove or move these books to a separate section based on nothing but LGBTQ+ content -- in some of these books, almost impossible to find -- would set a terrible precedent. Consider also what it might mean going forward. What other groups might wish materials they find offensive to be removed or isolated? Who determines what constitutes LGBTQ+ content? Will the petitioners next tackle some other issue they find offensive, or start combing through every book in the library? I guarantee there is something in a public library to offend almost everyone! Myself included. But that diversity of viewpoints and creative expression is one of the strengths and glories of a public library in a free society.

Lastly, I would suggest that age-appropriate exposure to seeing diverse children and families in literature is important not only for LGBTQ+ children and families to engage with, but for all children and families — not to push some nefarious LGBTQ+ agenda, but to include and reflect reality.

I’m sorry I can’t attend your meeting. But I trust you will make a wise decision that supports the mission of the Homer Public Library and the librarians who carry out that important work.

With many thanks for the work you do,

Ann Dixon

Electronic Signature

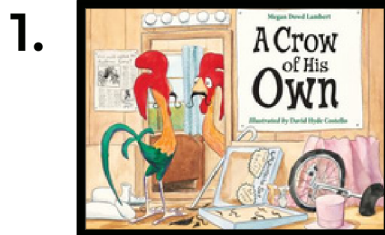
Ann Dixon

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree that I am the person identified above and that I acknowledge and agree to the above Terms of Acceptance.

Source URL:<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60481/submission/50225>

Links

[1] <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/submit-written-testimony-commission-and-board-meetings>

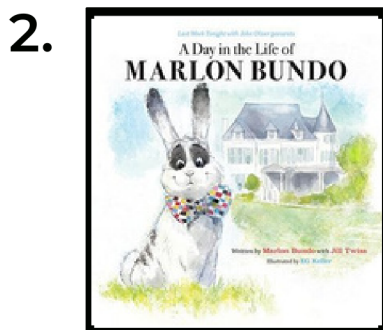


*Picture Book
Children's Library*

A Crow of His Own

by Megan Dowd Lambert | Published 2015

Clyde is the new rooster at Sunrise Farm. But he's having trouble fitting in and replacing Larry—the beloved rooster whose wake-up calls were legendary. The cow, the gaggle of hens, and the sheep reminisce about Larry while poor Clyde fails to croon the farmyard awake with the same finesse. Clyde attempts to win over the farm by wearing an elaborate costume and putting on a show like Larry was known to do, but in the end, Clyde realizes that imitating Larry is not the way to succeed.



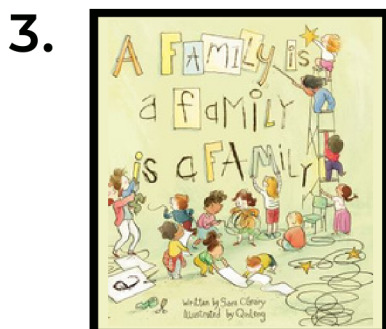
*Picture Book
Children's Library*

A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo

by Marlon Bundo | Published 2018

Meet Marlon Bundo, a lonely bunny who lives with his Grampa, Mike Pence the Vice President of the United States. But on this Very Special Day, Marlon's life is about to change forever...

With its message of tolerance and advocacy, this charming bunny book for kids explores issues of same sex marriage and democracy. This book is dedicated to every bunny who has ever felt different.



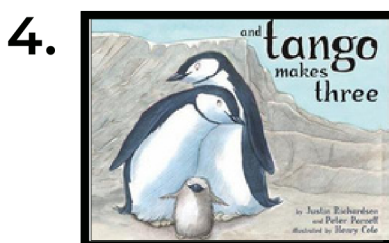
*Picture Book
Children's Library*

A Family is a Family is a Family

by Sarah O'Leary | Published 2016

When a teacher asks the children in her class to think about what makes their families special, the answers are all different in many ways — but the same in the one way that matters most of all.

As her classmates describe who they live with and who loves them — family of every shape, size and every kind of relation — the child realizes that as long as her family is full of caring people, it is special.



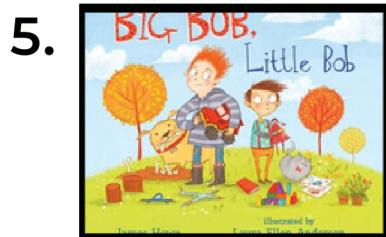
*Picture Book
Children's Library*

And Tango Makes Three*

by Justin Richardson | Published 2005

The heartwarming true story of two penguins who create a nontraditional family.

At the penguin house at the Central Park Zoo, two penguins named Roy and Silo were a little bit different from the others. But their desire for a family was the same. And with the help of a kindly zookeeper, Roy and Silo got the chance to welcome a baby penguin of their very own.



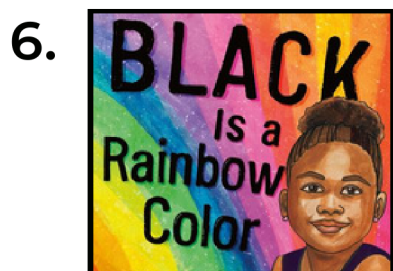
Picture Book
Children's Library

Big Bob, Little Bob

by James Howe | Published 2016

It's not easy to become friends with someone who is nothing like you—but surprising things can happen when you give it a try.

Despite the fact that they share a name, Big Bob and Little Bob are different. Big Bob likes trucks and throwing balls and being loud. Little Bob likes dolls and jingling bracelets and being quiet. No matter what they do, they do not do it the same. Could they possibly be friends despite these differences? With humor and tenderness, James Howe and Laura Ellen Anderson beautifully depict the struggles and rewards that come when friendships are forged between different kinds of people.



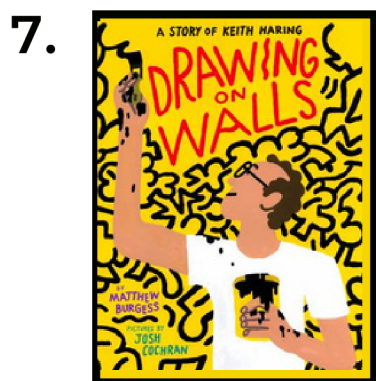
Picture Book
Children's Library

Black is a Rainbow Color

by Angela Joy | Published 2020

A child reflects on the meaning of being Black in this moving and powerful anthem about a people, a culture, a history, and a legacy that lives on.

From the wheels of a bicycle to the robe on Thurgood Marshall's back, Black surrounds our lives. It is a color to simply describe some of our favorite things, but it also evokes a deeper sentiment about the incredible people who helped change the world and a community that continues to grow and thrive.



Juvenile Biography
Children's Library

Drawing on Walls: A Story of Keith Haring

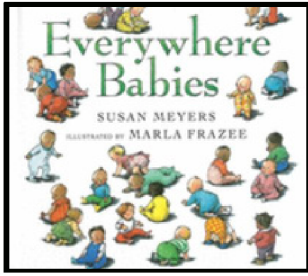
by Matthew Burgess | Published 2020

I would love to be a teacher because I love children and I think that not enough people respect children or understand how important they are. I have done many projects with children of all ages. —Keith Haring

Truly devoted to the idea of *public* art, Haring created murals wherever he went.

From Matthew Burgess, the much-acclaimed author of *Enormous Smallness*, comes *Drawing on Walls: A Story of Keith Haring*. Often seen drawing in white chalk on the matte black paper of unused advertising space in the subway, Haring's iconic pop art and graffiti-like style transformed the New York City underground in the 1980s. A member of the LGBTQ community, Haring died tragically at the age of thirty-one from AIDS-related complications. Illustrated in paint by Josh Cochran, himself a specialist in bright, dense, conceptual drawings, this honest, celebratory book honors Haring's life and art, along with his very special connection with kids.

8.



*Picture Book
Board Book
Children's Library*

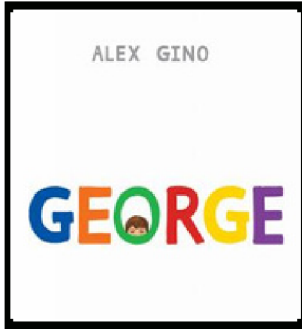
Everywhere Babies

by Susan Meyers | Published 2001

With an irresistible rhyming text and delightfully endearing illustrations, here is an exuberant celebration of playing, sleeping, crawling, and of course, very noisy babies doing all the wonderful things babies do best.

Every day, everywhere, babies are born. They're kissed and dressed and rocked and fed—and completely adored by the families who love them.

9.



*Juvenile Fiction
Children's Library*

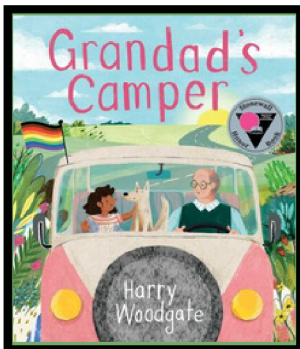
George (also published as Melissa*)

by Alex Gino | Published 2015

When people look at Melissa, they think they see a boy named George. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl. Melissa thinks she'll have to keep this a secret forever. Then her teacher announces that their class play is going to be Charlotte's Web. Melissa really, really, REALLY wants to play Charlotte. But the teacher says she can't even try out for the part . . . because she's a boy.

With the help of her best friend, Kelly, Melissa comes up with a plan. Not just so she can be Charlotte—but so everyone can know who she is, once and for all.

10.



*Picture Books
Children's Library*

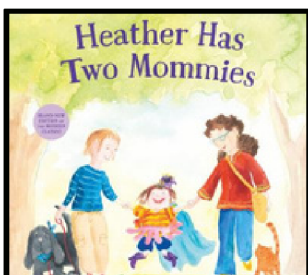
Grandad's Camper

by Harry Woodgate | Published 2021

Gramps and Grandad were adventurers. They would surf, climb mountains, and tour the country in their amazing camper. Gramps just made everything extra special. But after Gramps died, granddad hasn't felt like traveling anymore. So, their amazing granddaughter comes up with a clever plan to fix up the old camper and get Grandad excited to explore again.

This beautiful picture book honors love and reminds us not only to remember those we have lost, but to celebrate them.

11.



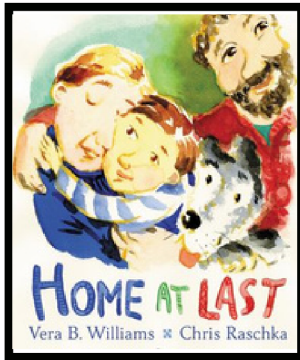
*Picture Book
Children's Library*

Heather Has Two Mommies

by Lesléa Newman | Published 2015

Heather's favorite number is two. She has two arms, two legs, and two pets. And she also has two mommies. When Heather goes to school for the first time, someone asks her about her daddy, but Heather doesn't have a daddy. Then something interesting happens. When Heather and her classmates all draw pictures of their families, not one drawing is the same. It doesn't matter who makes up a family, the teacher says, because "the most important thing about a family is that all the people in it love one another.

12.



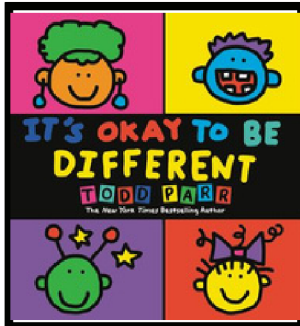
Picture Book
Children's Library

Home at Last

by Vera Williams | Published 2016

After Lester is adopted by Daddy Albert and Daddy Rich, he develops a big problem—he can't fall asleep. Night after night he creeps into his parents' room and attempts to crawl in between his two daddies, confident that if he's with them and their dog, Wincka, nothing bad will happen to him ever again. But every night, Lester's new dads walk him back to his own room, hoping that eventually Lester will get used to the new house and his new family and feel as though he belongs. They buy him a bike and take him for ice cream. They make cocoa and introduce him to his cousins. But no matter how happy Lester seems during the day, he still gets scared and worried at night! It's the sweet dog Wincka who finally solves the problem when she climbs into Lester's bed and promptly falls asleep, serving as both his pillow and his protector. Lester feels home at last.

13.



Picture Book
Children's Library

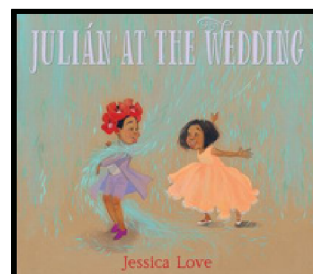
It's Okay to Be Different

by Todd Parr | Published 2001

It's okay to need some help.
It's okay to be a different color.
It's okay to talk about your feelings.

Told with Todd Parr's signature wit and wisdom, *It's Okay to Be Different* cleverly delivers the important messages of acceptance, understanding, and confidence in an accessible, child-friendly format. The book features the bold, bright colors and silly scenes that made Todd a premiere voice for emotional discussions in children's literature. Targeted to young children first beginning to read, this book will inspire kids to celebrate their individuality through acceptance of others and self-confidence--and it's never too early to develop a healthy self-esteem. *It's Okay to be Different* is designed to encourage early literacy, enhance emotional development, celebrate multiculturalism and diversity, and promote character growth.

14.



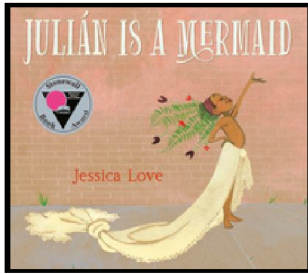
Picture Book
Children's Library

Julián at the Wedding

by Jessica Love | Published 2020

Julián and his abuela are going to a wedding. Better yet, Julián is in the wedding. Weddings have flowers and kissing and dancing and cake. And this wedding also has a new friend named Marisol. It's not long before Julián and Marisol set off for some magic and mischief of their own, and when things take an unexpected turn, the pair learns that everything is easier with a good friend by your side. Jessica Love returns with a joyful story of friendship and individuality in this radiant follow-up to *Julián Is a Mermaid*.

15.



*Picture Books
Children's Library*

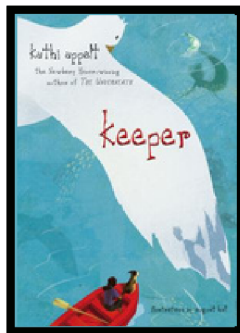
Julián is a Mermaid

by Jessica Love | Published 2018

While riding the subway home from the pool with his abuela one day, Julián notices three women spectacularly dressed up. Their hair billows in brilliant hues, their dresses end in fishtails, and their joy fills the train car. When Julián gets home, daydreaming of the magic he's seen, all he can think about is dressing up just like the ladies in his own fabulous mermaid costume: a butter-yellow curtain for his tail, the fronds of a potted fern for his headdress. But what will Abuela think about the mess he makes - and even more importantly, what will she think about how Julián sees himself?

Mesmerizing and full of heart, this jubilant story is a radiant celebration of individuality and self-love.

16.



*Juvenile Fiction
Children's Library*

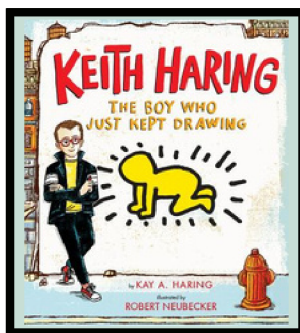
Keeper

by Kathi Appelt | Published 2010

Newbery Medal Honoree Kathi Appelt enchants with a tale about mermaids, mermen, and what happens when you believe in fairy tales for too long.

Keeper was born in the ocean, and she believes she is part mermaid. So when she accidentally sets off a series of disasters, she goes out looking for her mother—an unpredictable and uncommonly gorgeous woman who swam away when Keeper was three. Keeper heads right for the ocean, right for the sandbar where mermaids are known to gather on full moon nights. But her boat is too small for the surf—and much too small for the storm that is brewing on the horizon.

17.



*Juvenile Biography
Children's Library*

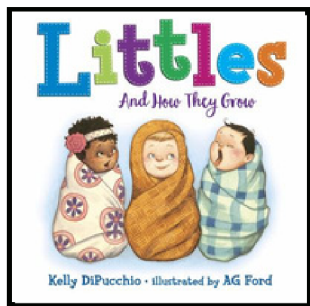
Keith Haring: The Boy Who Just Kept Drawing

by Kay Haring | Published 2017

Iconic pop artist Keith Haring comes to life for young readers in this picture book biography lovingly written by his sister.

This one-of-a-kind book explores the life and art of Keith Haring from his childhood through his meteoric rise to fame. It sheds light on this important artist's great humanity, his concern for children, and his disregard for the establishment art world. Reproductions of Keith's signature artwork appear in scenes boldly rendered by Robert Neubecker. This is a story to inspire, and a book for Keith Haring fans of all ages to treasure.

18.



Picture Book
Children's Library

Littles and How They Grow

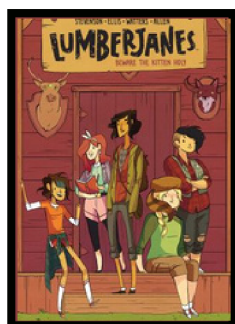
by Kelly DiPucchio | Published 2017

A rhyming celebration of babies, or Littles, who are cared for by loved ones in every way and grow big in the blink of an eye.

In this unforgettable, squeal-filled, tear-inducing love song to babies and how quickly they grow up, author Kelly DiPucchio's heart-tugging rhyme meets the gorgeous, dimple-cheeked, multicultural babies of illustrator AG Ford. With adorable scenes from the busy life of a "little"—peekaboo, feedings, tantrums, giggles—and a final scene that reminds us how they become big kids all too soon, this book is for any new parent and their child.

19.

A



YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner

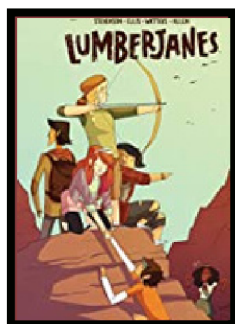
Lumberjanes Vol. 1: Beware the Kitten Holy*

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2015

Friendship to the max! Jo, April, Mal, Molly and Ripley are five best pals determined to have an awesome summer together...and they're not gonna let any insane quest or an array of supernatural critters get in their way! LUMBERJANES is one of those punk rock, love-everything-about-it stories that appeals to fans of basically all excellent things. It's Buffy the Vampire Slayer meets Gravity Falls and features five butt-kicking, rad teenage girls wailing on monsters and solving a mystery with the whole world at stake. And with the talent of acclaimed cartoonist ND Stevenson, talented newcomer Grace Ellis writing, and Gus Allen on art, this is going to be a spectacular series that you won't want to miss.

19.

B



YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner

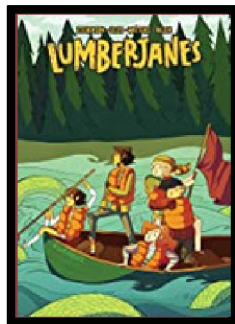
Lumberjanes Vol. 2: Friendship to the Max

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2015

Jo, April, Mal, Molly, and Ripley are not your average campers, and Miss Qiunzella Thiskwin Penniquiquil Thistle Crumpet's Camp for Hardcore Lady-Types is not your average summer camp. Between the river monsters, magic, and the art of friendship bracelets, this summer is only just beginning. Join the Lumberjanes as they take on raptors and a sibling rivalry that only myths are made of.

This *New York Times* bestseller and Eisner award-nominated series is written by awesome all-star ND Stevenson (*Nimona*) and brilliant newcomer Grace Ellis, and illustrated by the tremendously talented Gus Allen (*A Home for Mr. Easter*).

19.
C



YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner

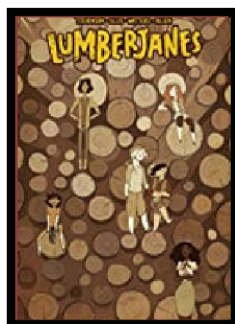
Lumberjanes Vol. 3: A Terrible Plan

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2015

If you got it, haunt it!

Trying to take advantage of the first quiet day at camp in a while, Mal and Molly's date takes a bizarre turn with the appearance of the bear woman! Back at camp, Jo, April, and Ripley must stay on their toes as they try to earn every badge possible which ends up being a lot harder than any of them ever planned.

19.
D



YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner

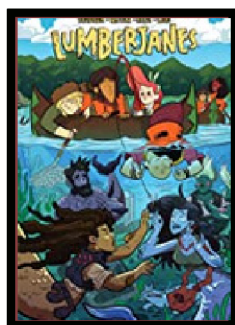
Lumberjanes Vol. 4: Out of Time

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2016

The mystery of history!

Jen just wants to have a normal lesson with her cabin, teaching Jo, April, Mal, Molly, and Ripley the basic survival skills needed without any supernatural intervention when a blizzard hits camp! Separated from her girls, Jen finds herself in more trouble than ever...until a mysterious stranger swoops in to save the day. Who is this taxidermist? What is her relationship to Rosie? Join Jen as she finds a way back to her girls, and a way to save the day!

19.
E



YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner

Lumberjanes Vol. 5: Band Together

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2016

The Lumberjanes meet rock n' roll mermaids!

Excited for the annual Bandicoot Bacchanal, Ripley recruits her friends to help her get ready for the dance. But before the Lumberjanes know it, something mysterious begins to bubble to the surface of the lake near camp! Will the Lumberjanes be able to bring peace to the lake in time for the Bacchanal?

19.
F



YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner

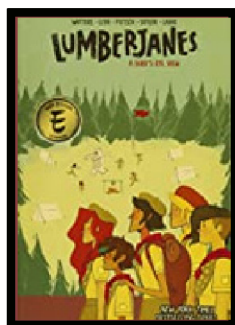
Lumberjanes Vol. 6: Sink or Swim

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2017

Knot on your life!

Camp is about more than just crafts and acquiring badges when you're a Lumberjane. When April, Jo, Mal, Molly, and Ripley all decide to learn more about the mysterious Seafarin' Karen, things take a turn for the strange. Shapeshifters, strange portals, and friendship to the max make for one summer camp that never gets boring!

19.
G



YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner

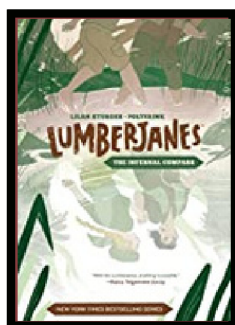
Lumberjanes Vol. 7: A Bird's-Eye View

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2017

All Lumberjanes are on deck when the High Council comes to camp for inspection!

The High Council is coming to camp and counselor Jen is determined to make everything perfect, even though a storm is brewing and kittens from the boys' camp are manifesting magical powers. It's every Lumberjane on deck as the girls do their best to prep the grounds for inspection . . . but there are some storms no one can prepare for.

19.
H



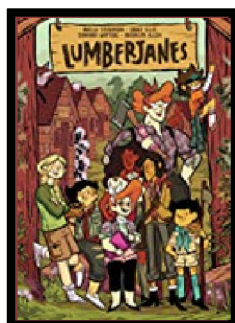
YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner

Lumberjanes Vol. 8: The Infernal Compass

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2018

When the 'Janes start to become separated during an orienteering outing thanks to a mysterious compass, Molly becomes more and more insecure about the effect of her relationship with Mal on the other girls. Meanwhile, a lonely explorer is trying to steal the compass, with the help of her weirdly polite automaton butlers.

19.
I



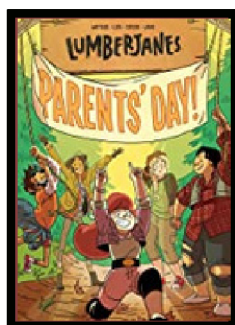
YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner

Lumberjanes Vol. 9: On a Roll

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2018

You just gotta learn to roll with the punches! When the yetis are kicked out of their humble treehouse abode, it's up to Jo, April, Mal, Molly and Ripley to get them back where they belong amongst the trees...and not leeching the camp's power and making all the ice cream melt. To get the sasquatches to clear out, though, the Roanoke girls will have to challenge them to a roller derby match!

19.
J



YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner

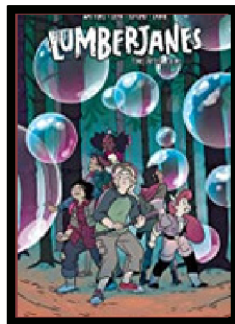
Lumberjanes Vol. 10: Parents' Day

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2018

It's PARENTS' DAY at the Lumberjanes camp!

Yetis, greek gods and grootslangs are old news to the Roanoke cabin but now the Lumberjanes face their most harrowing experience yet: their parents! It's PARENTS' DAY at the camp, and with all the fun they've been having, the Lumberjanes realize that maybe their parents might not understand! Now the Lumberjanes must try to keep their parents away from the supernatural, even as a mysterious force tries to intervene!

19.
K



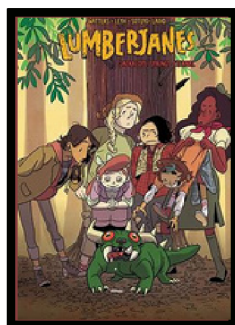
*YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner*

Lumberjanes Vol. 11: Time After Crime

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2019

When Molly makes a deal with a mysterious Voice in the woods surrounding Miss Qiunzella Thiskwin Penniquiquil Thistle Crumpet's Camp for Hardcore Lady Types to slow down time, she isn't hoping for an endless summer! All she wants is more time to spend with her friends at camp, hiking and doing crafts, and playing music and having fun. What she doesn't bargain for is time starting to skip, and freeze, and make campers' ages jump forward and back... It's up to Roanoke Cabin to to set time right again, and save camp!

19.
L



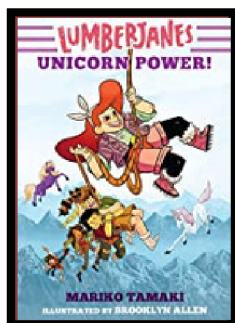
*YA Graphic Novel
Library - Teen Corner*

Lumberjanes Vol. 12: Jackalope Springs Eternal

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2019

In the aftermath of the time shenanigans set off by Jo's Mysterious Time Thingy, the Roanoke scouts are a little bit uneasy on their feet. It's up to Counselor Jen to cheer them up and help them get back up and off adventuring again, with a quest to seek out the most mysterious mythological monster of all...the mighty JACKALOPE!

19.
M



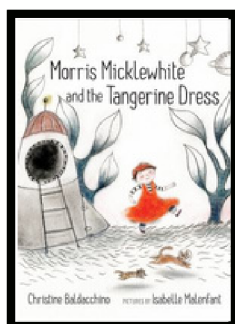
*Juvenile Fiction
Children's Library*

Lumberjanes: Unicorn Power!

by Noelle Stevenson and others | Published 2019

Welcome to Miss Qiunzella Thiskwin Penniquiquil Thistle Crumpet's Camp for Hardcore Lady Types. The five scouts of Roanoke cabin—Jo, April, Molly, Mal, and Ripley—love their summers at camp. They get to hang out with their best friends, earn Lumberjane scout badges, annoy their no-nonsense counselor Jen . . . and go on supernatural adventures. This hilarious, rollicking adventure series brings the beloved Lumberjanes characters into a novel format with brand-new adventures.

20.



*Picture Book
Children's Library*

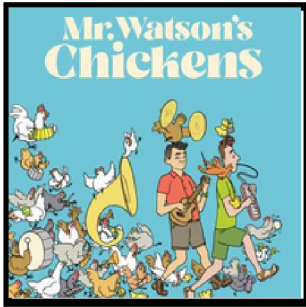
Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress

by Christine Baldacchino | Published 2014

Morris is a little boy who loves using his imagination. He dreams about having space adventures, paints beautiful pictures and sings the loudest during circle time. But most of all, Morris loves his classroom's dress-up center — he loves wearing the tangerine dress.

This is a sweetly told story about the courage and creativity it takes to be different.

21.



Picture Book
Children's Library

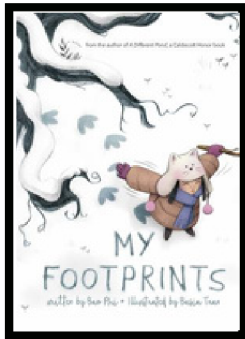
Mr. Watson's Chickens

by Jarrett Dapier | Published 2021

With rollicking rhythms, nonsensical refrains, and too many chickens to count, this modern classic will inspire unstoppable giggles and endless rereads. Bawka-bawka!

Mr. Watson has 456 chickens in the sink, on the bed, in the bread box. When his partner, Mr. Nelson, threatens to leave, Mr. Watson takes his chickens to town to sell only for them to escape! Young readers will follow Mr. Watson all around town as he gathers up his chickens. But, when they're all rounded up, does he have the heart to sell them? Does a different fate await these chickens?

22.



Picture Book
Children's Library

My Footprints

by Bao Phi | Published 2019

Every child feels different in some way, but Thuy feels "double different." She is Vietnamese American and she has two moms. Thuy walks home one winter afternoon, angry and lonely after a bully's taunts. Then a bird catches her attention and sets Thuy on an imaginary exploration. What if she could fly away like a bird? What if she could sprint like a deer, or roar like a bear? Mimicking the footprints of each creature in the snow, she makes her way home to the arms of her moms. Together, the three of them imagine beautiful and powerful creatures who always have courage - just like Thuy.

23.



Picture Books
Children's Library

My House

by Byron Barton | Published 2017

Using bright, simple illustrations and clean prose, Byron Barton deftly familiarizes young readers with the various rooms and important parts of a house in this companion to his critically acclaimed *My Car*, *My Bike*, and *My Bus*.

Jim the cat leads readers through the bedroom, the kitchen — and even onto the roof — before his owner, Jane, comes home and makes his dinner. The rhythmic text and bright bold illustrations make this the perfect book for very young children and repeated readings.

24.



*Picture Book
Board Book
Children's Library*

One Family*

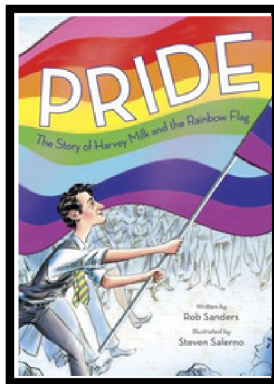
by George Shannon | Published 2015

Just how many things can "one" be?

One box of crayons. One batch of cookies. One world. One family.

From veteran picture book author George Shannon and artist Blanca Gomez comes a playful, interactive book that shows how a family can be big or small and comprised of people of a range of genders and races.

25.



*Juvenile Biography
Children's Library*

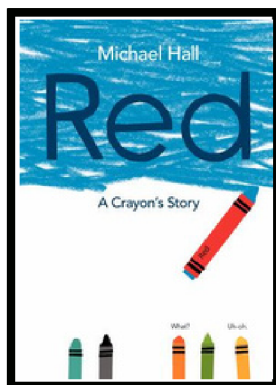
Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag

by Rob Sanders | Published 2018

Celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Rainbow Pride Flag with the very first picture book to tell its remarkable and inspiring history!

In this deeply moving and empowering true story, young readers will trace the life of the Gay Pride Flag, from its beginnings in 1978 with social activist Harvey Milk and designer Gilbert Baker to its spanning of the globe and its role in today's world. Award-winning author Rob Sanders's stirring text, and acclaimed illustrator Steven Salerno's evocative images, combine to tell this remarkable - and untold - story. A story of love, hope, equality, and pride.

26.



*Picture Books
Children's Library*

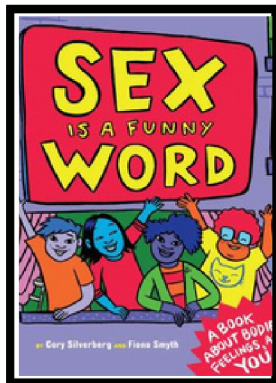
Red: A Crayon's Story*

by Michael Hall | Published 2015

Red has a bright red label, but he is, in fact, blue. His teacher tries to help him be red (let's draw strawberries!), his mother tries to help him be red by sending him out on a playdate with a yellow classmate (go draw a nice orange!), and the scissors try to help him be red by snipping his label so that he has room to breathe. But Red is miserable. He just can't be red, no matter how hard he tries!

Finally, a brand-new friend offers a brand-new perspective, and Red discovers what readers have known all along. He's blue!

27.



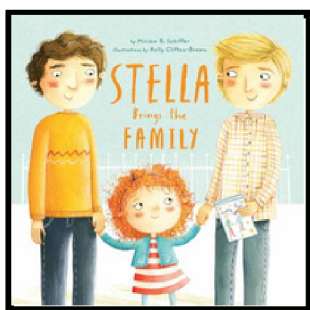
Juvenile Nonfiction
Children's Library

Sex is a Funny Word

by Cory Silverberg | Published 2015

A comic book for kids that includes children and families of all makeups, orientations, and gender identities, *Sex Is a Funny Word* is an essential resource about bodies, gender, and sexuality for children ages 8 to 10 as well as their parents and caregivers. Much more than the "facts of life" or "the birds and the bees," *Sex Is a Funny Word* opens up conversations between young people and their caregivers in a way that allows adults to convey their values and beliefs while providing information about boundaries, safety, and joy.

28.



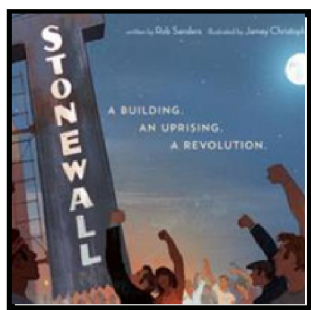
Picture Books
Children's Library

Stella Brings the Family*

by Miriam B. Schiffer | Published 2015

Stella's class is having a Mother's Day celebration, but what's a girl with two daddies to do? It's not that she doesn't have someone who helps her with her homework, or tucks her in at night. Stella has her Papa and Daddy who take care of her, and a whole gaggle of other loved ones who make her feel special and supported every day. She just doesn't have a *mom* to invite to the party. Fortunately, Stella finds a unique solution to her party problem in this sweet story about love, acceptance, and the true meaning of family.

29.



Juvenile Nonfiction
Children's Library

Stonewall: A Building. An Uprising. A Revolution

by Rob Sanders | Published 2019

A powerful and timeless true story that will allow young readers to discover the rich and dynamic history of the Stonewall Inn and its role in the LGBTQ+ civil rights movement--a movement that continues to this very day. In the early-morning hours of June 28, 1969, the Stonewall Inn was raided by police in New York City. Though the inn had been raided before, that night would be different. It would be the night when empowered members of the LGBTQ+ community--in and around the Stonewall Inn--began to protest and demand their equal rights as citizens of the United States.

Movingly narrated by the Stonewall Inn itself, and featuring stirring and dynamic illustrations, *Stonewall: A Building. An Uprising. A Revolution* is an essential and empowering civil rights story that every child deserves to hear.

30.



Picture Books
Children's Library

The Adventures of Honey and Leon

by Alan Cumming | Published 2017

Honey and Leon are rescue mutts who love their dads very much. But their dads often have to go away on glamorous and important business, which worries the dogs. Honey and Leon are done staying home and fretting—they're off on a dad-protecting adventure! Careful to remain incognito, the two pups shadow their dads on a trip across the sea, keeping them out of danger at every turn! How did they survive without Honey and Leon's protection for this long?

31.



Juvenile Graphic Novel
Children's Library

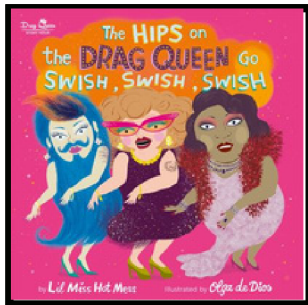
The Cardboard Kingdom

by Chad Sell | Published 2018

Welcome to a neighborhood of kids who transform ordinary boxes into colorful costumes, and their ordinary block into cardboard kingdom. This is the summer when sixteen kids encounter knights and rogues, robots and monsters--and their own inner demons--on one last quest before school starts again.

In the Cardboard Kingdom, you can be anything you want to be--imagine *that!*

32.



Picture Books
Children's Library

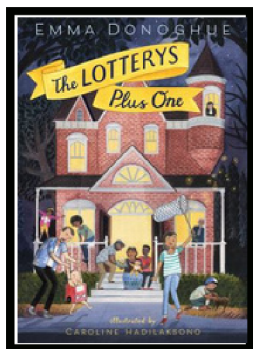
The Hips on the Drag Queen go Swish, Swish, Swish

by Lil Miss Hot Mess | Published 2020

The Hips on the Drag Queen Go Swish, Swish, Swish encourages readers to boldly be exactly who they are. Written by a founding member of the nationally recognized Drag Queen Story Hour (DQSH), this playful picture book offers a quirky twist on a classic nursery rhyme by illustrating all of the ways to "work it". The story plays off "The Wheels on the Bus" as it follows a drag queen who performs her routine in front of an awestruck audience.

A fun frenzy of fierceness, this book will appeal to readers of all ages.

33.



*Juvenile Fiction
Children's Library*

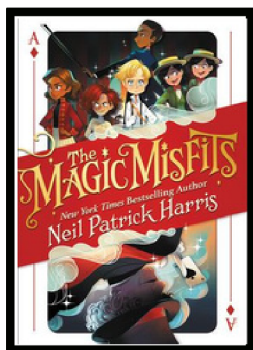
The Lottery Plus One*

by Emma Donoghue | Published 2018

Sumac Lottery is nine years old and the self-proclaimed "good girl" of her (VERY) large, (EXTREMELY) unruly family. And what a family the Lotterys are: four parents, children both adopted and biological, and a menagerie of pets, all living and learning together in a sprawling house called Camelottery. Then one day, the news breaks that one of their grandfathers is suffering from dementia and will be coming to live with them. And not just *any* grandfather -- the long dormant "Grumps," who fell out with his son so long ago that he hasn't been part of any of their lives. Suddenly, everything changes. Sumac has to give up her room to make the newcomer feel at home. She tries to be nice, but prickly Grumps clearly disapproves of how the Lotterys live: whole grains, strange vegetables, rescue pets, a multicultural household... He's worse than just tough to get along with -- Grumps has got to go! But can Sumac help him find a home where he belongs?

34.

A



*Juvenile Fiction
+ Audiobook
Children's Library*

The Magic Misfits*

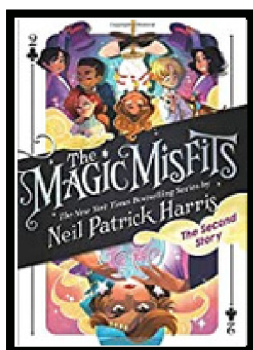
by Neil Patrick Harris | Published 2018

When street magician Carter runs away, he never expects to find friends and magic in a sleepy New England town. But like any good trick, things change instantly as greedy B.B. Bosso and his crew of crooked carnies arrive to steal anything and everything they can get their sticky fingers on.

After a fateful encounter with the local purveyor of illusion, Dante Vernon, Carter teams up with five other like-minded illusionists. Together, using both teamwork and magic, they'll set out to save the town of Mineral Wells from Bosso's villainous clutches. These six Magic Misfits will soon discover adventure, friendship, and their own self-worth in this delightful new series.

34.

B



*Juvenile Fiction
+ Audiobook
Children's Library*

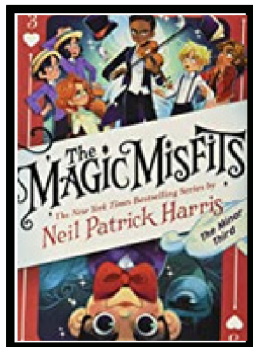
The Magic Misfits: Second Story*

by Neil Patrick Harris | Published 2019

Growing up in an orphanage, Leila was bullied for being different. She turned her hardship into skill by becoming an escape artist-- a valuable trait when you belong to a group of magical best friends. But when a famous psychic comes to town, Leila and her pals can't escape the big mystery heading their way. Whether chasing mad monkeys or banishing ghosts from haunted hotels, these six friends will do their best to keep their home of Mineral Wells safe--but can they protect themselves?

Join the Magic Misfits as they discover adventure, friendship, and more than a few hidden secrets in this delightful new series. Whether you're a long-time expert at illusion or simply a new fan of stage magic, hold onto your top hat!

34.
C



*Juvenile Fiction
+ Audiobook
Children's Library*

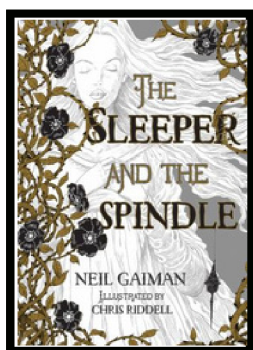
The Magic Misfits: The Minor Third*

by Neil Patrick Harris | Published 2020

Theo Stein-Meyer loves being part of the Magic Misfits. Armed with his trusty violin bow, he completes the team with his levitation skills, unflappable calm, and proper manners. But when a girl named Emily begins to spend time with the group and the other Misfits grow suspicious, Theo is surprisingly drawn to her. She seems to understand the pull he feels between music and magic, family and friends.

Then a famous ventriloquist arrives in town, and the Misfits are sure he (and his creepy dummy Daniel) are up to no good. With their mentor, Mr. Vernon, suddenly called away and tension simmering among the friends, will they be able to come together to stop this newest member of the mysterious Emerald Ring? It's time for Theo to make a choice about where -- and with whom -- he belongs.

35.



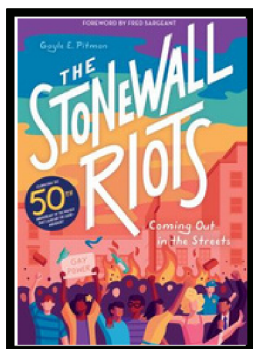
*YA Fiction
Library - Teen Corner*

The Sleeper and the Spindle*

by Neil Gaiman | Published 2015

On the eve of her wedding, a young queen sets out to rescue a princess from an enchantment. She casts aside her fine wedding clothes, takes her chain mail and her sword and follows her brave dwarf retainers into the tunnels under the mountain towards the sleeping kingdom. This queen will decide her own future – and the princess who needs rescuing is not quite what she seems. Twisting together the familiar and the new, this perfectly delicious, captivating and darkly funny tale shows its creators at the peak of their talents.

36.



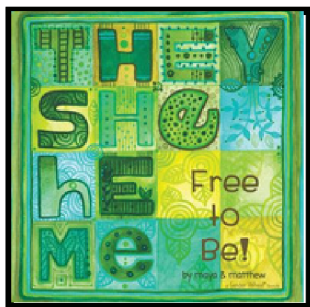
*YA Nonfiction
Library - Teen Corner*

The Stonewall Riots: Coming Out in the Streets

by Gayle E. Pitman | Published 2019

This book is about the Stonewall Riots, a series of spontaneous, often violent demonstrations by members of the gay (LGBTQ+) community in reaction to a police raid that took place in the early morning hours of June 28, 1969, at the Stonewall Inn in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of Manhattan, New York City. The Riots are attributed as the spark that ignited the LGBTQ+ movement. The author describes American gay history leading up to the Riots, the Riots themselves, and the aftermath, and includes her interviews of people involved or witnesses, including a woman who was ten at the time. Profusely illustrated, the book includes contemporary photos, newspaper clippings, and other period objects. A timely and necessary read, *The Stonewall Riots* helps readers to understand the history and legacy of the LGBTQ+ movement.

37.



Picture Books
Children's Library

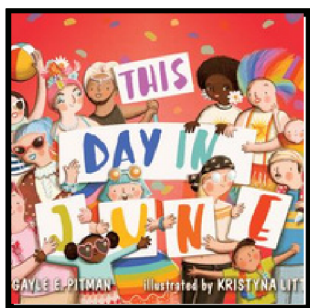
They, She, He, Me: Free to Be!

by Maya Christina Gonzalez | Published 2017

Pronouns serve as a familiar starting point for kids and grown-ups to expand ideas about gender and celebrate personal expression with fun imagery that provides a place to meet and play.

They She He Me, Free to Be shows many gender presentations under each pronoun and invites even more. A go-to place to help keep the conversations alive, break down assumptions of who is “she” or “he” and expand beyond the binary to include “they” and more.

38.



Picture Books
Children's Library

This Day In June

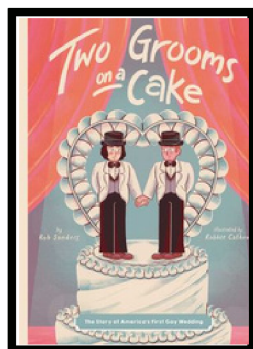
by Gayle E. Pitman | Published 2014

This day in June.... Parade starts soon.... Rainbow arches.... Joyful marches!

In a wildly whimsical, validating, and exuberant reflection of the LGBTQ+ community, *This Day in June* welcomes readers to experience a pride celebration and share in a day when we are all united. Also included is a Note to Parents and Other Caregivers with information on how to talk to children about sexual orientation and gender identity in age-appropriate ways as well as a Reading Guide chock-full of facts about LGBTQ+ history and culture.

This Day in June is an excellent tool for teaching respect, acceptance, and understanding of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people.

39.



Picture Books
Children's Library

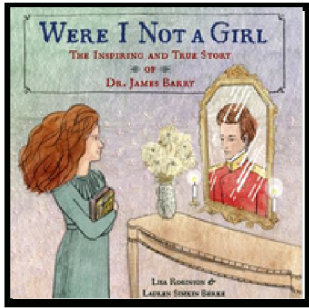
Two Grooms on a Cake: the Story of America's First Gay Wedding

by Rob Sanders | Published 2021

This is the story of Jack Baker and Michael McConnell and their inspiring story becoming the first married gay couple in the US fifty years ago.

Long before marriage equality was the law of the land, two grooms stood on a wedding cake with their feet firmly planted in fluffy white frosting. That cake belonged to Jack Baker and Michael McConnell, who were wed on September 3, 1971, becoming the first same-sex couple in America to be legally married. Their struggle to obtain a marriage license in Minnesota and their subsequent appeals to the Minnesota Supreme Court and the Supreme Court of the United States is an under-told story of LGBT history. This beautiful book celebrates the love story of two pioneers of marriage equality for all through the baking of their wedding cake!

40.



*Juvenile Biography
Children's Library*

Were I Not a Girl: The Inspiring and True Story of Dr. James Barry

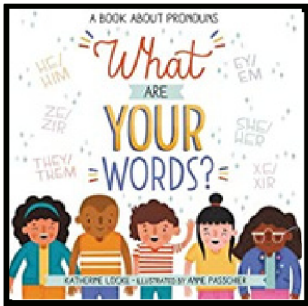
by Lisa Robinson | Published 2020

This unique picture book biography tells the story of Dr. James Barry, born female, who lived as a man from age 18 to his death.

Like other girls of her time, Margaret Bulkley didn't go to school. She wouldn't grow up to own property, be a soldier, a doctor, or hold any job other than perhaps maid or governess--such was a girl's lot in 19th century England. And was she comfortable born in a girl's body? We will never know. What we do know is that at the age of 18, she tugged off her stockings and dress, cut her red-gold curls, and vanished. In her place appeared a young man. Margaret became James Barry. James would attend medical school, become a doctor and a soldier, travel the world. He would fall in love, deliver babies, and fight in a duel. And he would live a rich full life.

Here is a picture book that is both a fascinating and sensitively drawn portrait of someone who would not be undervalued, and an important introduction to the concept of gender identity.

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*Picture Books
Children's Library*

What Are Your Words? A Book About Pronouns

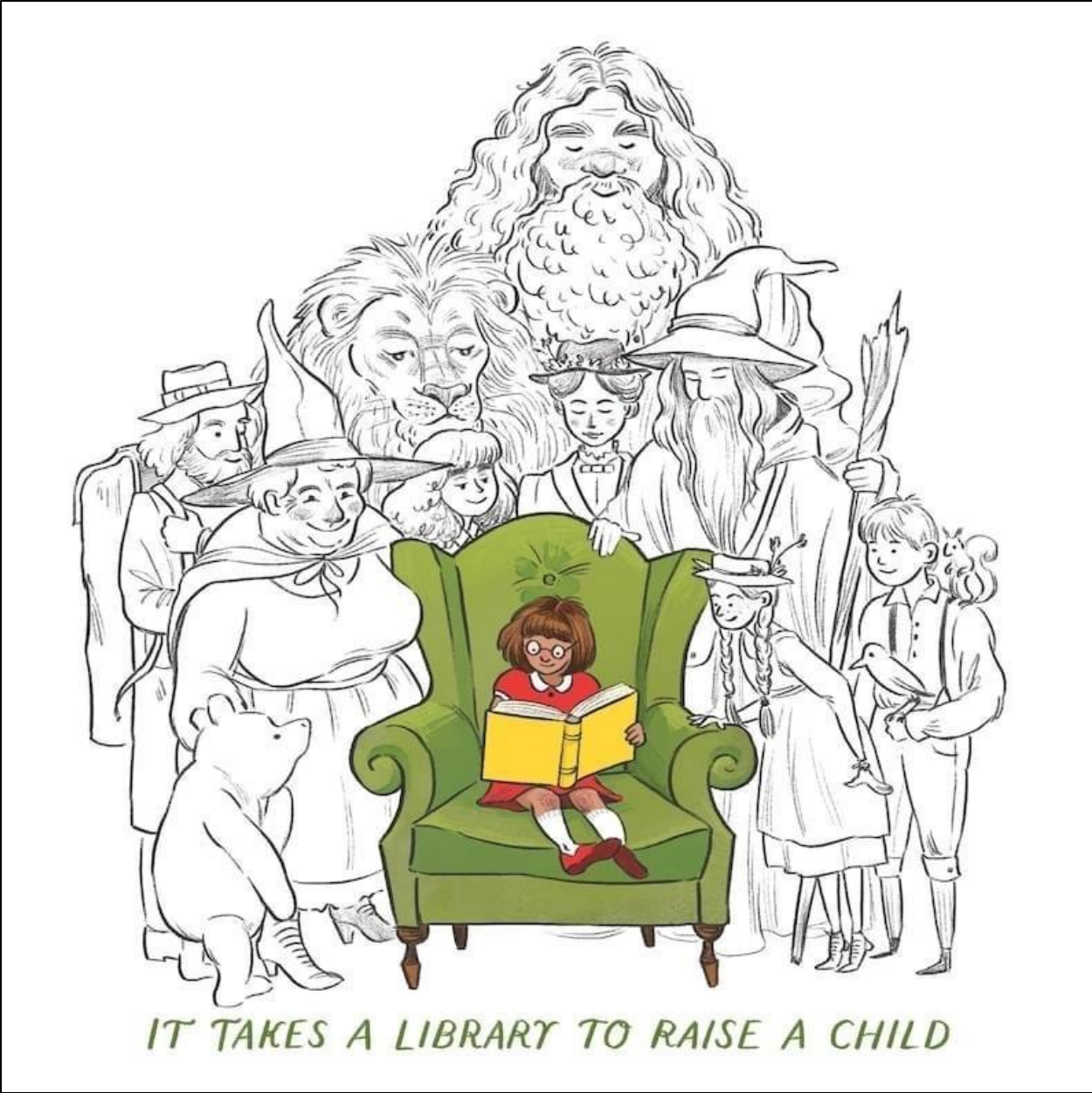
by Katherine Locke | Published 2021

Whenever Ari's Uncle Lior comes to visit, they ask Ari one question: "What are your words?" Some days Ari uses she/her. Other days Ari uses he/him. But on the day of the neighborhood's big summer bash, Ari doesn't know what words to use. On the way to the party, Ari and Lior meet lots of neighbors and learn the words each of them use to describe themselves, including pronouns like she/her, he/him, they/them, ey/em, and ze/zir. As Ari tries on different pronouns, they discover that it's okay to not know your words right away—sometimes you have to wait for your words to find you.

Filled with bright, graphic illustrations, this simple and poignant story about finding yourself is the perfect introduction to gender-inclusive pronouns for readers of all ages.

Informational Materials

Submitted by Chair Kate Finn



LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD 2023 Calendar

	AGENDA DEADLINE	MEETING	CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR REPORT*	ANNUAL TOPICS/EVENTS
JANUARY	Wednesday 1/11 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 1/17 5:30 p.m.	Monday 1/23 6:00 p.m.	
FEBRUARY	Wednesday 2/15 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 2/21 5:30 p.m.	Monday 2/27 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Review of Library Fees, Policies, Rules & Regulations • Annual Review of Board's Bylaws
MARCH	Wednesday 3/15 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 3/21 5:30 p.m.	Tuesday 3/28 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk Reappointment Notices Sent Out
APRIL	Wednesday 4/12 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 4/18 5:30 p.m.	Monday 4/24 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms Expire April 1st • Advisory Body Training Worksession • Election of LAB Officers • Celebration of Lifelong Learning; National Library Week, Library Workers Day, & Library Legislative Day
MAY	Wednesday 5/10 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 5/16 5:30 p.m.	Monday 5/22 6:00 p.m.	
JUNE	No Regular Meeting			
JULY	No Regular Meeting			
AUGUST	Wednesday 8/9 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 8/15 5:30 p.m.	Monday 8/28 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library Budget Review *may not be applicable during non-budget years
SEPTEMBER	Wednesday 9/13 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 9/19 5:30 p.m.	Monday 9/25 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library Card Sign-up Month
OCTOBER	Wednesday 10/11 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 10/17 5:30 p.m.	Monday 10/23 6:00 p.m.	
NOVEMBER	Wednesday 11/8 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 11/21 5:30 p.m.	Monday 11/27 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Friends of Libraries Week • Approve Meeting Schedule for Upcoming Year
DECEMBER	Wednesday 12/13 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 12/19 5:30 p.m.	1/8/2024 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Review of Strategic Plan/LAB Goals

*The Board's opportunity to give their report to City Council is scheduled for the Council's regular meeting following the Board's regular meeting, under Agenda Item 8 – Announcements/ Presentations/ Borough Report/Commission Reports.