

LAKELAND NEWSLETTER



WELCOME!

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Library News ✨ Staff News ✨ Resources ✨ Events ✨ Grants

Happy October!

We hope you've wound down from summer reading successfully - it sounds like it was a busy one this year! Now it's time to relax with a cup of cider or a pumpkin spice latte, while we celebrate all things banned and challenged during banned books week.



LAKELAND LIBRARY
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BANNED BOOKS WEEK



Banned Books Week celebrates the freedom to read and spotlights current and historical attempts to censor books in libraries and schools. For more than 40 years, the annual event has brought together the entire book community — librarians, teachers, booksellers, publishers, writers, journalists, and readers of all types — in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular. The books featured during Banned Books Week have all been targeted for removal or restriction in libraries and schools. By focusing on efforts across the country to remove or restrict access to books, Banned Books Week draws national attention to the harms of censorship.

In a time of intense political polarization, library staff in every state are facing an unprecedented number of attempts to ban books. ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom ALA documented 1,269 demands to censor library books and resources in 2022, the highest number of attempted book bans since ALA began compiling data about censorship in libraries more than 20 years ago. The unparalleled number of reported book challenges in 2022 nearly doubles the 729 book challenges reported in 2021. Of the record 2,571 unique titles targeted for censorship, most were by or about LGBTQIA+ persons and Black, Indigenous, and people of color.

The theme for Banned Books Week 2023 is "Let Freedom Read." When we ban books, we're closing off readers to people, places, and perspectives. But when we stand up for stories, we unleash the power that lies inside every book. We liberate the array of voices that need to be heard and the scenes that need to be seen. Let freedom read!

(from <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/banned>)

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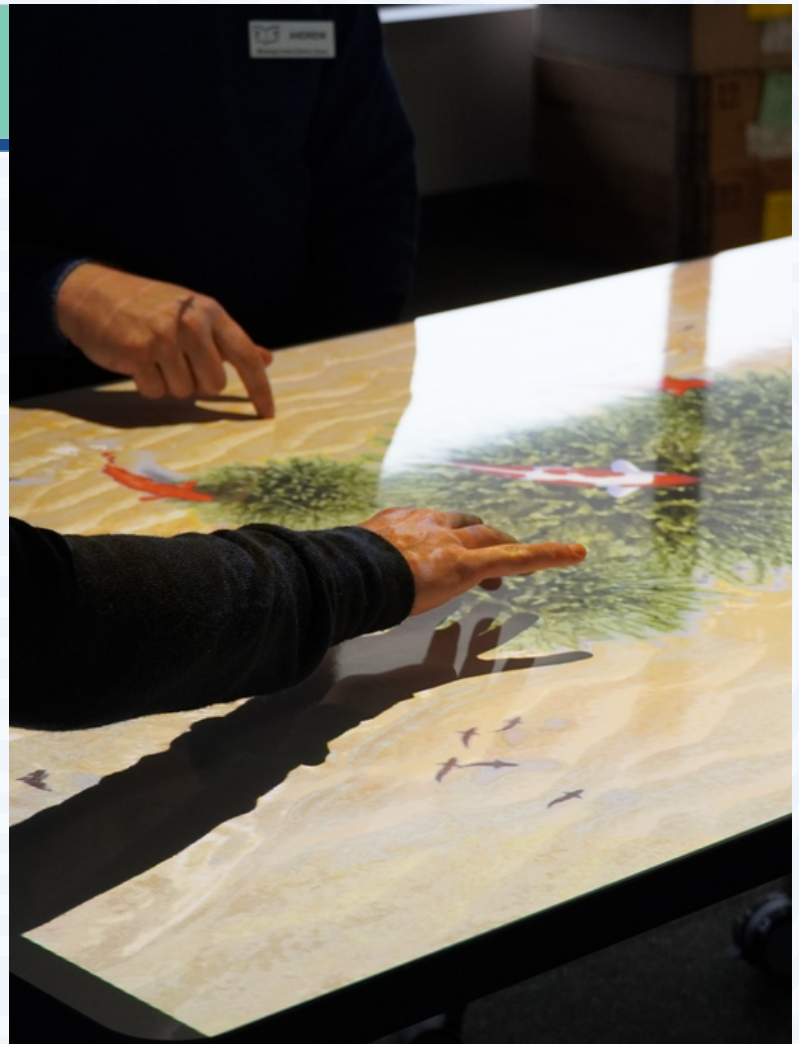


LEIGHTON TOWNSHIP

Leighton Township Library has the good fortune to be awarded a \$14,821.00 Grant from LSTA Public Library Services Grant! Congratulations to Leighton!

MUSKEGON AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

The Library for the Visually and Physically Disabled Branch of MADL has received the 2023 Sub-regional Library/Advisory and Outreach Center of the Year Award from the Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS)! Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden praised MADL's "24/7 commitment to ensuring that disability stops no one from experiencing the lifelong joy of reading." She said MADL is an "outstanding example of the service that NLS and its network of libraries provide to hundreds of thousands of people from coast to coast."



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HASTINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Hastings Public Library is excited to announce that we are one of 50 libraries across the U.S. chosen to receive a grant from PLA & AT&T to hold Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Workshops. With ACP funding, those who qualify for the subsidy from the FCC can get up to \$30 off their monthly internet service, and in some cases service can be FREE. We know many in our area can benefit from this given how popular our hotspots and public computers are. We will hold our first workshop on October 11, with more here at the Library and at partner locations.

LOUIT DISTRICT LIBRARY

We have some AWESOME news about our Summer Reading program!

We had 2426 registrations and 57% completed the program. A GRAND TOTAL of 2,773,669 minutes were read! We also surpassed our pre-COVID participation numbers! Each and every one of our staff, as well as many members across the community, played a part in making this year our biggest success.



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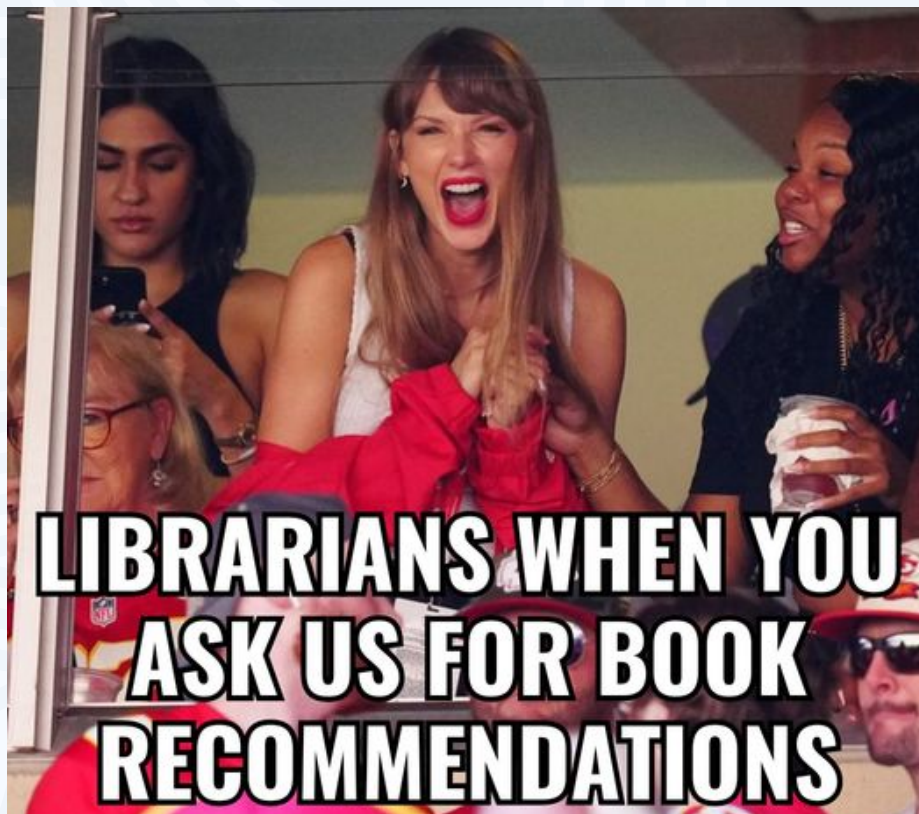


Herrick District Library

HERRICK DISTRICT LIBRARY

Herrick's main library location is under renovation. We wanted a fun way to get the word out to folks who don't follow news media or HDL's social media and might not be on our email list. We've been posting fun content to our accounts like [this video](#) to help spread the word. Great stats on Facebook and Instagram, and a fun time was had by all involved. Win-win!

[Check out the Facebook \(and memes\) here!](#)



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GEORGETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

Cheap and Easy Adult Program Success

Back by popular demand, puzzle competition!

Our community loves puzzling, we circulate them and always have one going in our quiet reading room. This Fall we will be hosting our third competition. The previous two were full programs with a waitlist.

This is a program that would benefit from resource sharing so we wanted to share our framework with the member libraries.

“Create your own team of up to four people and join us for a friendly puzzle competition. 10 teams with up to 4 people per team will compete to assemble one 300-piece puzzle and one 500-piece puzzle. The winners will take home a small prize. Please only register one person per team. Self-created teams may be made up of 1-4 people ages 12 and up if accompanied by an adult.”

Total program cost was \$170. \$150 for puzzles and \$20 for the prize. We also used previously purchased sheets of poster board for the teams to build their puzzles on. If any other libraries already own sets of identical puzzles that they are willing to share or are interested in hosting their own puzzle competitions we want to hear from you. Reach out to Laura Grant at lgrant@gtpl.org We would be happy to answer any questions and to share the 2 sets of 10 identical puzzles we own.

