

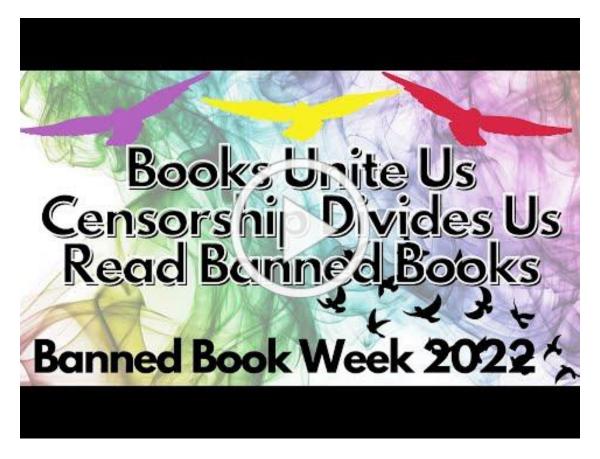
Racine Public Library

75 Seventh Street Racine, WI 53403 (262) 636-9217 RacineLibrary.info

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Banned Books Week



A Statement from the American Library Association

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 These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the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.

Read More

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What Is a Challenged or Banned Book?

According to the American Library Association (ALA), a challenge is an attempt to remove or restrict materials (aka anything you can check out from a library, books included), based on a person or group's objections. A banning is the ensuing removal of those materials. Challenges do not simply involve a person expressing a point of view; rather, they are an attempt to



remove an item from a curriculum or library, thereby restricting others' access to it. As such, challenges are a threat to freedom of speech and choice.

The Racine Public Library promotes the freedom to choose or the freedom to express one's opinions, even if that opinion might be considered unorthodox or unpopular, and stresses the importance of ensuring the availability of those viewpoints to all who wish to read them.

As of July 2022, book banning in the U.S. has hit its highest level in 40 years. Books about race, gender, diversity and inclusion are being targeted and removed from schools and libraries in every state.

Top 10 Most Challenged Books of 2021

The ALA Office for Intellectual











Freedom tracked 729 challenges to library, school, and university materials and services in 2021. Of the 1,597 books that were targeted, here are the most frequently challenged, along with the reasons cited for censoring the books:



"Gender Queer" by Maia Kobabe

Reasons: Banned, challenged, and restricted for LGBTQIA+ content, and because it was considered to have sexually explicit images

"Lawn Boy" by Jonathan Evison

Reasons: Banned and challenged for LGBTQIA+ content and because it was considered to be sexually explicit

"All Boys Aren't Blue" by George M. Johnson

Reasons: Banned and challenged for LGBTQIA+ content, profanity, and because it was considered to be sexually explicit

"Out of Darkness" by Ashley Hope Perez

Reasons: Banned, challenged, and restricted for depictions of abuse and because it was considered to be sexually explicit

"The Hate U Give" by Angie Thomas

Reasons: Banned and challenged for profanity, violence, and because it was thought to promote an anti-police message and indoctrination of a social agenda

"The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian" by Sherman Alexie

Reasons: Banned and challenged for profanity, sexual references and use of a derogatory term

"Me and Earl and the Dying Girl" by Jesse Andrews

Reasons: Banned and challenged because it was considered sexually explicit and degrading to women

"The Bluest Eye" by Toni Morrison

Reasons: Banned and challenged because it depicts child sexual abuse and was considered sexually explicit

"This Book is Gay" by Juno Dawson

Reasons: Banned, challenged, relocated, and restricted for providing sexual education and LGBTQIA+ content

"Beyond Magenta" by Susan Kuklin

Reasons: Banned and challenged for LGBTQIA+ content and because it was considered to be sexually explicit.

Hispanic Heritage Month

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from **September 15 to October 15**, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

Colección de Materiales en Español

En la Biblioteca Pública de Racine damos la bienvenida a los hispanos ofreciendo material y ayuda técnica en español. Estamos planeando expandir nuestra colección en español para poder servir mejor a nuestra comunidad. Gracias a ustedes, la comunidad de Racine, podemos llenar la necesidad de tecnología en los vecindarios de la ciudad que no tienen transporte para viajar a la biblioteca.

Estábamos muy emocionados de presentar la nueva tecnología móvil el 9 de Septiembre. Esta nueva biblioteca móvil traerá Internet, talleres de tecnología, capacitaciones STEAM después de la escuela y también ofrecerá tecnología lista para tomar prestada. Realmente queremos que los miembros de nuestra comunidad de habla hispana usen más de nuestros recursos y simplemente disfruten de la biblioteca como lo



hacemos nosotros. ¡Ay, una cosa más! Mi nombre es Brianna Fuentes y ahora estoy ofreciendo ayuda técnica a mi comunidad de habla hispana. Si tiene algún problema con su teléfono, tableta o computadora, venga a la biblioteca y pregunte por Bri. También puedes enviarme un correo electrónico a: ayuda.tecnica@racinelibrary.info. Estaré encantada de ayudarle con cualquier pregunta o problema tecnológico.

Brianna Fuentes Asistente de Tecnología

Libby for Spanish Speakers

Libby automatically uses the language your device or web browser is set to, as long as the language is supported in the app. Under **Settings** > **Choose Your Language**, you can also set a language for titles you search for. Then, you'll only see titles in your



preferred language when you browse or search your library.

Supported Languages on Libby

- Chinese (Simplified and Traditional)
- English
- French (Canada)
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Russian
- Spanish (Latin America)
- Swedish

Oral Histories of Racine









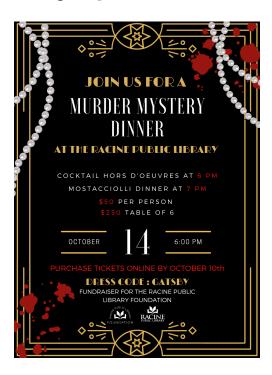
Get in the Spooky Spirit!

Coming Up Next: Murder Mystery Dinner Party

Dust off those flapper dresses and zoot suits — this dinner party is Gatsby-themed! This frightful whodunit will be an interactive theater performance hosted by The Murder Mystery Company. The evening kicks off with an hour of cocktails and appetizers while you browse our silent auction. The show itself starts at 7 p.m. while you enjoy a mostacciolli dinner.

All proceeds benefit the Racine Public Library Foundation.

Purchase a Ticket (\$50/person)



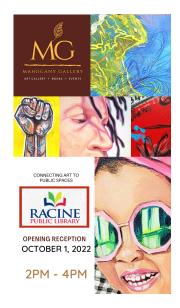
Purchase a Table (\$250/six people)

This Week's Programs

September and October Calendar

Never miss a thing at the Racine Public Library. There's always something exciting happening, from crafts to computer classes and history presentations to Pokémon Club. Take a look, and you're sure to find something fun to do.

Click here for the digital calendar, or you can grab a physical copy from the



Connecting Art to Public Spaces: Opening Reception

Oct. 1 | 2-4 p.m. Youth Services – 1st Floor All Ages No registration — just drop in.

Mahogany Gallery invites you to the opening reception of its art show, which will be on display in the youth space of the Racine Public Library this fall. The exhibition features visual artworks by local, regional and national artists.

Settle in for a Storytime

Monday:

*Ruff Readers | 4 p.m.

Tuesday:

Lap-Sit Storytime | 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Tales | 10 a.m. *Ruff Readers | 4 p.m.

Wednesday:

*Ruff Readers | 4 p.m. Bedtime Stories | 6 p.m.

Thursday:

Musical Family Storytime | 10 a.m. *Ruff Readers | 4 p.m.

Friday:

*Ruff Readers | 4 p.m.

*Please call the library to book your slot.

Ruff Readers

Everyone, meet Daisy! Daisy is one of the happy therapy dogs coming to the library to





listen to you read.

At Ruff Readers, snuggle and pet a therapy dog while practicing your reading skills at the ear of our gentle, non-judgmental canine friends. Sessions are open to kids



grades K through 5 only. Bookings are 15 minutes for a single child and must be reserved a week in advance, one week at a time.

Room: The Martin Room – Youth Services, 1st Floor

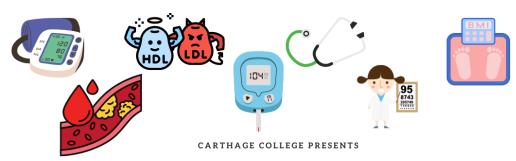
Age range: Grades K-5 Only

Registration is required — call (262) 636-9217.









HEALTH SCREENINGS AND EDUCATION

FRIDAY, SEPT. 23RD 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM THE ATRIUM - 1ST FLOOR



Carthage College nursing students are providing free health screenings and education at the library. Stop in to test your vision, blood pressure, blood sugar, ankle brachial index, body mass index and more.



Library Links

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