About Everylibrary

EveryLibrary is the first and only non-partisan national 501c4 for libraries.

We are a gold-rated non-profit organization that helps public, school, and college libraries secure new funding through tax and advisory referendum, bonds elections, negotiations with school boards, and advocacy at municipal, state, and federal levels. Our primary goal is to ensure stable funding and access to libraries for generations to come. We are a registered non-profit in the state of Illinois and have received 501(c)4 designation by the IRS as a social welfare organization.
About EveryLibrary Institute

The EveryLibrary Institute is a national 501c3 non-profit with a mission to support libraries and librarians in the United States and abroad.

We partner with allied organizations including foundations, philanthropic organizations, associations, non-profits, and academic institutions to enhance the perception of libraries and librarianship through direct engagement with the public.
EveryLibrary’s vision is that “Any library funding challenge anywhere should matter to every library everywhere”.

Our mission is to “Build Voter Support for Libraries”.

Our organizational value system is rooted in access, inclusivity, and empowerment and is expressed by being politically active about funding and policy.
If you’re looking for experts to speak, interview, or quote on library related issues, literacy, digital information access, or first amendment policy, we have you covered.
How are We Fighting Against Book Banning?

Fundraising For Ridgeland
We were proud to provide the crowdfunding platform to Ridgeland Friends of Libraries in Mississippi where the Mayor is withholding over $110,000 in funds because he didn’t like that the library had LGBTQ+ books on the shelves. To date, it has raised over $100,000!

“We are amazed and humbled by the overwhelming support and generosity you have shown. Please know that your donations will be used to help ensure that our library’s collections and programs continue to reflect the diversity of our community and will remain uncensored. Thank you.” Teresa Gerald, President - Friends of the Ridgeland Library

We’re proud to stand with American citizens who are standing up for their freedom to read and their local libraries.

As we continue to see attacks on the freedom to read across the country, EveryLibrary is working with dozens of local activists and organizations to give them the resources they need to fight back.
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**A Win In New Jersey**

In the North Hunterdon-Voorhees school district, the NH-V Intellectual Freedom Fighters (NHVIFF), a dedicated group of parents, residents, and educators, came together to campaign against the ban and to support the school librarian. We worked with local activists and the New Jersey Association of School Librarians to craft new messaging and then generate letters to the board requesting communication, transparency, and resolution. We helped them plan a digital action campaign which included an online petition and tools to identify community supporters to rally them into action.

HIGHLIGHTS

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Support for Libraries on the Ballot

We provide pro-bono support to library leaders in the run-up to an election as well as free campaign consulting to local Vote Yes campaigns.

We do this in three ways: by training library staff, trustees, and volunteers to plan and run effective Information Only campaigns; by assisting local Vote Yes committees on planning and executing Get Out the Vote work for their library’s measure; and by speaking directly to the public about the value and relevance of libraries and librarians.

Our focus on activating voters on Election Day is unique in the library advocacy ecosystem.

In each election cycle, tens of millions of dollars are at stake for public libraries.

From bonding for new or remodeled building projects to changing millages, levies, or taxes that impact staffing, collections, programs, and services, EveryLibrary is uniquely positioned to help libraries that are on the ballot.
Focusing on School Librarians

School libraries and school librarians are a central part of mission and work.

Our SaveSchoolLibrarians.org site provides two kinds of support for school library budgets and school library positions. The core of our advocacy and activism work is on school and district level problems. Like with public libraries, we work in two ways. One is at the local level to activate parents and other local stakeholders for school library funding and school librarians' jobs. The other is to work in partnership at state or federal levels to advance a policy or legislative agenda.
Building a National Network of Americans

Our Action platform at action.everylibrary.org allows EveryLibrary to conduct direct actions for libraries quickly and effectively.

On the Action site, we can create and field petitions that connect everyday Americans with elected officials when libraries are in crisis. Because of our donor support, we can have that campaign out in front of stakeholders that is supported by paid social media. It is the combination of grassroots techniques and paid advertising that makes us so effective.

Our public-facing digital magazine at medium.com/everylibrary creates and syndicates high-quality, engaging articles about libraries and librarians for a general audience. We know that librarians are solutions-providers for literacy, jobs skills, entrepreneurship support, community building, culture, and the arts. The library itself is the channel or vehicle for those librarian-led solutions.

“The guidance EveryLibrary provided to staff and trustees . . . was invaluable to us. All the more so because it was provided pro-bono. Their personal engagement helped allay fears and reassure us along the way, too.”

Jeannie Dilger, Executive Director of the Palatine (IL) Public Library District.
MEET OUR EXPERTS

JOHN CHRASTKA

Mr. Chrastka is a former partner in AssociaDirect, a Chicago-based consultancy focused on supporting associations in membership recruitment, conference, and governance activities. He is a former president and member of the Board of Trustees for the Berwyn (IL) Public Library (2006 – 2015) and is a former president of the Reaching Across Illinois Libraries System (RAILS) multi-type library system. Prior to his work at AssociaDirect, he was Director for Membership Development at the American Library Association (ALA). He is a member of ALA as well as the Illinois Library Association (ILA), and the American Political Sciences Association (APSA). He was named a 2014 Mover & Shaker by Library Journal and tweets @mrchrastka.

Contact at john.chrastka@everylibrary.org

EveryLibrary’s founder is John Chrastka, a long-time library trustee, supporter, and advocate.
MEET OUR EXPERTS

PATRICK SWEENEY

A 2007 graduate of the San Jose School of Library and Information Sciences, Mr. Sweeney is the former Administrative Librarian of the Sunnyvale (CA) Public Library and was Executive Director of EveryLibrary California, a statewide initiative to support library Propositions. He was awarded Library Journal’s “Movers and Shakers” award in 2015 for his library advocacy work. He is co-author of “Winning Elections and Influencing Politicians for Library Funding” as well as “Before the Ballot; Building Support for Library Funding.” He was recently recognized with a “40 Under 40” award by the American Association of Political Consultants for his work fighting for libraries at EveryLibrary. He is a lecturer at the San Jose Information School where he teaches courses on politics and libraries. He is active across social media as PC Sweeney.

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MEET OUR EXPERTS

PETER BROMBERG

Peter is a 1992 MLS graduate of Rutgers University and is Associate Director at EveryLibrary. He understands the crucial role libraries play in supporting democracy by creating a neutral space for respectful civic discourse, and by offering access and guidance to unbiased information. Over his 30 year career, Mr. Bromberg has held numerous leadership roles in state and national associations, including helping to create and launch ALA’s Emerging Leaders program and co-creating and delivering a statewide leadership institute for the Oklahoma Library Association. He can be found online at peterbromberg.com. active across social media as PC Sweeney.

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Peter Bromberg deeply believes in the potential of every person and believes that libraries play a significant role in helping us unlock and develop our abilities and move in the direction of our dreams.
As Seen in...
Our mission is to "Build Voter Support for Libraries". EveryLibrary staff members are frequently sought-after experts in library related subject material. We have been interviewed in a number of industry publications and publicly consumed media on a wide range of library related topics. Our staff are frequent speakers, presenters, conveners, and keynoters for library conferences and symposia across the country.

We provide workshops for staff, advocates, trustees, volunteers and anyone interested in building and understanding political acumen to benefit libraries.

These workshops include subject areas such as advocacy, fundraising, managing volunteers, political activism, holistic digital strategies, social media, developing strong coalitions and partnerships, and building effective messages.

Written by two experienced library campaigners, these action-driven manuals are filled with concrete steps that librarians, library staff, and boards can take to ensure that political support is there when they need it the most.

Winning Elections and Influencing Politicians for Library Funding helps readers understand the strategies, resources, and tactics necessary for positive political action; Before the Ballot: Building Political Support for Library Funding is designed to help library leaders understand and navigate the political nature of their work in the years leading up to a ballot measure or political initiative.
“EveryLibrary provided us with training that helped us develop messages about our new building proposal and understand how to most effectively prioritize our efforts to get those messages out into our community,”

Adrienne Furness, Director
Henrietta (NY) Public Library
THANK YOU.