EVERYLIBRARY

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS AS OUR NATION'S POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE FOR LIBRARIES
OUR 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Because each and every library matters.

For 10 years, EveryLibrary has worked to amplify the agenda of local library stakeholders. Whether it is on the ballot, at the statehouse, or fighting for the First Amendment with boards and commissions, our aim is to create a future where libraries thrive in every community and school.

EveryLibrary was founded on the principle that providing aid, support, and assistance is additive to the cause. We listen to the people and professionals who are affected before we act.
ABOUT US

The Only National Political Action Committee for Libraries

EveryLibrary is focused on securing new or stable funding that creates and supports library jobs, and ensures that all Americans have access to excellent library services.

We are deeply engaged in the fight to protect the First Amendment in libraries and work to safeguard librarians and library workers who are facing censorship and attacks on their jobs.
EveryLibrary's core work is supporting public libraries on Election Day. This year we celebrated our 130th library campaign. Over the last 10 years, we have won 85% of our campaigns and have secured nearly $2.4 billion in stable funding for operations, collections, and building projects. All of our work is pro-bono for libraries and local ballot committees. For every dollar of pro-bono work, we return $1,600 to local libraries in funding. Our donors ensure that even the smallest library can benefit from our experience and expertise.

Millstadt, IL.  

Boulder, CO.  

Kaiser, OR.  

2022 Libraries

- Boulder Public Library
- Millstadt Library District
- Kaiser Community Library
- Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library
- Patmos Public Library
- John C. Fremont Library
- Scarborough Public Library
- Swansea Library
- New Mexico Statewide GoBond
PATMOS AND JONESBORO CAMPAIGNS

EveryLibrary answered the call when the Patmos Library in Jamestown Township, MI., and the Craighead County – Jonesboro (AR) Public Library were confronted with defunding campaigns pushed by anti-LGBTQ crusaders. Prior to the campaign, the demands to ban books had been rejected by the library. In both places, these anti-access groups pivoted to ballot campaigns to defund the library.

Both defunding campaigns employed ugly, hateful, and inaccurate images of the library and attacked the reputation of the librarians. These campaigns used incendiary labels like groomer and pedophile on yard signs, posted on social media, and spread lies around town. Both of these campaigns received national attention when author and library champion Nora Roberts provided critically important support to the pro-library sides. Unfortunately, these defunding efforts succeeded. The Patmos Library levy expired on January 1, 2023 and the CCJPL budget was cut by 50%.
**FIGHT FOR THE FIRST**

In 2022, EveryLibrary was at the forefront of national organizations fighting politicized and performative book bans and censorship efforts in local libraries and schools. Through the generous support of the Long Ridge Action Fund, we have hosted dozens of local library Alliances, helping grassroots activists get organized and active for the First Amendment and libraries. We have spent tens of thousands of dollars on digital media and advertising to raise awareness and put petitions in front of Americans who care.

With the launch of Fight For the First, we are able to quickly scale up local pro-library campaigns and provide the training, networking, and organizing infrastructure to turn the tide.

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**Flathead County Library Alliance**

Fighting back against a library board takeover and politicized book bans.

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**Livingston Parish Library Alliance**

Organizing to safeguard the First Amendment while supporting the board and staff.

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**Forsyth County Education Alliance**

Campaigning to reverse book bans to ensure every student's rights are represented.

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**Utah Families First**

Ensuring the right to read in public libraries and schools across the state.
FIRST AMENDMENT PARTNERS

Our First Amendment work has been focused on partnerships and coalitions from the start. Our national allies and co-sponsors include the Long Ridge Action Fund, PEN America, Red Wine and Blue, PFLAG, and We Need Diverse Books.

We are proud to be an early member of the National Student Rights Coalition and have shown up with campaign tools, funding, and organizational support to several statewide First Amendment efforts like the Florida Freedom to Read campaign, Let Utah Read (with ULA, PEN an ACLU Utah), and the New Jersey Association of School Librarians Rapid Response team.
WE ARE IN IT FOR THE LONG HAUL

This year was a challenging one for our libraries with unprecedented opposition from censorship and anti-access crusaders. We are proud that we could show up to assist each and every library that called on us for support.

For politicians looking to score points with their radicalized base or anti-access groups hoping to advance their agendas, it is easier to challenge books and threaten library funding than it is to attack people. And yet, when books about the LGBTQ+ or BIPOC experience are challenged or removed, it is an attack on people. These attacks would erase their stories and silence their voices.
SAVE SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

For nearly five years, Follett Learning Solutions has been our lead donor on Save School Librarians, the only national advocacy platform dedicated solely to school library campaigns. Their commitment to the future of the school library workforce is second to none.

In 2022, our digital and fieldwork focused on fighting anti-access legislation that would limit school libraries, improving budgets to hire more school librarians, and countering book bans and censorship in school districts from coast to coast.

Exemplar 2022 School Library Campaigns

- DC Public Schools – Funding for a librarian in every school
- Delaware SB195 – Passed - Media literacy curriculum
- New Jersey S588 – Passed - Information literacy curriculum
- Montana CE55 – Retained ratios of librarians to students
- Continued campaigns for ratio bills in Michigan, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania
- Backed federal Educators for America Act to expand professional development funds for school librarians.
- #TheMastersDegreeMatters campaign with the Iowa Association of School Librarians.
SCHOOL LIBRARIES AND THE RIGHT TO READ

School librarians from in dozens of states faced unprecedented numbers of book ban attempts and censorship campaigns. From problems with local school boards to statewide attacks on the integrity of the profession, EveryLibrary showed up when asked. We were proud to fight alongside champions like Martha Hickson, Gavin Downing, and Amanda Jones this year. They represent hundreds of other school librarians whose voices could be silenced if censorship and book bans prevail.

Intellectual Freedom Campaigns

- North Voorhees School District, NJ.
- Kent School District, WA.
- Orange County School District, FL
- Collierville School District, TN.

- 'No on LB1213' in Nebraska - Helped kill legislation that limits state library contracts for school library databases.
- Veto HB 2666/ SB 2247 in Tennesee - Legislation created materials review policies in school libraries.
- Opposed SB1277 in Pennsylvania - A bill that inhibits students' First Amendment rights.
- Opposed HB374 in Utah - Prohibits the use of instructional materials including library books and databases and censors what teachers and librarians can say in the classroom.
A SCHOOL LIBRARIAN IN EVERY SCHOOL

The City Council of Washington, D.C. continues to consider permanent funding for a librarian in every school. EveryLibrary has campaigned alongside the Washington Teachers' Union Local 6 and the DC Library Association school library section for three years to make the voice of school librarians, parents, and students heard in this important campaign.

We were especially proud of our EveryLibrary Institute Board colleague K.C. Boyd for being recognized as SLJ Librarian of the Year for her tireless campaign efforts.
Over One Million Impressions on Social Media Each Week

We move Americans from interest into action for libraries.

EveryLibrary is the only national library organization that spends money every day on social media ads. Our donors know that the best way to break through the noise and clutter on social media is to spend a small amount of smart money reaching and activating Americans who care.

We start 2023 with over 400k people following us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.
Our success in reaching and activating the public on social media means that we can support national, statewide, and local advocacy campaigns down to a single school district or Zip Code.

**SOCIAL MEDIA STATS**

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<th>Platform</th>
<th>Statistic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>26 million PEAK POST IMPRESSIONS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>+33% GROWTH IN 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td>400K OVERALL REACH</td>
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ENGAGING THE PUBLIC ON MEDIUM

EveryLibrary’s magazine on Medium is designed to help inform, engage, and activate people about libraries and librarians. Our stories talk about how librarians help people solve problems, discover new ideas, and find joy. We celebrate the culture of reading and the important role librarians have in encouraging reading from Pre-K through school years and beyond.

Over 150 Articles a Year

Every article we write is syndicated on social media to reach new audiences.

Good Stories About Great Librarians

Librarians and library workers are at the heart of our stories.

All of our articles are published under a Creative Commons license that allows any library to use and adapt them on social media and in their newsletters.

medium.com/everylibrary
SPEAKING AND TRAINING

The EveryLibrary team was in high demand in 2022 with numerous invitations to keynote and present at state and national library conferences. We were happy to teach, learn, and network at NJASL 2022, the Library of Michigan Millage Series, the SirsiDynix Connections Summit 2022, TLC University 2022, Massachusetts Library Association 2022, DLA/MLA 2022, Ohio Link, the International Public Library Fundraising Conference, and Future Ready Libraries.

Library Policy Training
Practical tools for library board and leadership to ensure freedom of access.

Advocacy and Activism
Helping library leaders build long-term support using techniques of activism, as well as advocacy.

Confronting Censorship
Understanding classic community organizing techniques for the unique challenges facing libraries today.
LIBRARY ADVOCACY AND FUNDING CONFERENCE

The library sector is facing significant losses in voter support for libraries and a fall-off in appreciation for librarians. With COVID-related disruptions to patron behavior coupled with pre- and post-COVID uncertainties about significant issues like municipal and state funding, local taxes, and the education funding formula, library leaders need better skills, knowledge, and networks to help them understand and successfully address these challenges.

EveryLibrary, and our partner organization the EveryLibrary Institute, hosted the second biennial Library Advocacy and Funding Conference (LAFCON) online in September. LAFCON 2022 was a high-impact event because it brought experts from outside of libraries who are successful fundraisers, activists, and policy wonks to libraries. Over 500 library leaders from across public, academic, and school settings attended.
IN THE NEWS

Our Favorite 2022 Headlines

As the frequency and intensity of book bans and legislative attacks grew during 2022, national news outlets and library sector publications increasingly turned to EveryLibrary for real-world insights that go deeper than reports and talking points.

We were proud to be featured in the Washington Post, the New York Times, Book Riot, Readers Digest, Publishers Weekly, and Library Journal / School Library Journal among many others.

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<tr>
<th>Library Campaigns</th>
<th>Legislation and Policy</th>
<th>Book Bans and Censorship</th>
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<tr>
<td>This Town Voted To Defund its Public Library After it Included LGBTQ+ Books</td>
<td>EveryLibrary, PEN</td>
<td>Hundreds Mobilize Against Censorship in St. Tammany Parish</td>
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<tr>
<td>VICE 8/2/22</td>
<td>America Sound Alarm</td>
<td>NOLA.COM 12/13/22</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Over New Kentucky Library Law</td>
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<td>PW 4/22/22</td>
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Read more 2022 stories on EveryLibrary.org
EveryLibrary is only able to do our work supporting libraries on the ballot, defending First Amendment rights, campaigning for school librarian jobs, and standing up with state association partners because of our donors. We are grateful to our corporate and foundation partners who help empower our work every day for each and every library.

- EBSCO provided capacity-building support for our campaigns to oppose bad legislation in dozens of states.
- Follett Learning Solutions provided core support for our SaveSchoolLibrarians.org site and on-the-ground actions.
- Long Ridge Action Fund provided key resources to support local library alliances.
- Bibliotheca provided key support to our training programs.
- Beanstack / Zoobean's Raise-to-Read challenge campaign helped us find new donors and readers around the country.
- Tech Logic, SirsiDynix, and TLC each provided sustaining support to our overall mission.

We want to make a special thanks to our partners at Koios for their ongoing technical expertise powering our search and discovery.
Board of Directors

EveryLibrary’s Board is focused on growing the organization’s effectiveness and impact across the library ecosystem.

- Jeannie Allen, Kitsap Regional Library
- Lori Bowen Ayre, Galecia Group
- Roberto Delgadillo, UC Davis
- Harmony Faust, Ithaka
- Brian D. Hart, Forsyth County Library
- Gary Kirk, Tech Logic
- Kathleen McEvoy, EBSCO
- Peter Bromberg, Bromberg Consulting LLC
- John Chrastka, President
- Erica Findley, Treasurer
- Patrick "PC" Sweeney, Secretary

The EveryLibrary community mourns the passing of Roberto Delgadillo in November. His contribution to our organization and the library community will be missed. We extend our deepest sympathies to his wife Robin Gustafson, his family, and his colleagues at UC Davis libraries.

Staff and Interns

Our staff team supports our mission in a virtual office setting. We are always happy to host both academic and early-career interns.

John Chrastka, Executive Director
Patrick "PC" Sweeney, Political Director
Peter Bromberg, Associate Director
Martha McGehee, Editorial Manager
Megan Blair, Policy Analyst
Joyce Johnson, QC and Data Specialist
Kosi Harris, Media Relations

Interns: Melats Assefa, Sanobar Chagani, Aimee Geurts, Odin Halverson, Miranda Irizarry, Katje Lattik, Muriel Odrick, Kyong Eun Oh Casandra Ponce, Gabrielle Vasquez, Reid Yaworski
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