

What started as a simple idea became a global literacy movement. The first Little Free Library book-sharing box was built in 2009 in Wisconsin. There are now more than 150,000 registered, volunteer-led Little Free Libraries around the world. The Little Free Library nonprofit organization is at the heart of this phenomenon. Our growing network shares our mission to be a catalyst for building community, inspiring readers, and expanding book access for all.

Little Free Library Highlights

- More than 250 million books have been shared through registered Little Free Libraries, profoundly increasing book access for readers of all ages and backgrounds.
- Thousands of neighbors have connected for the first time, building stronger and friendlier communities.
- Our Impact Library Program has granted more than 1,500 Little Free Libraries at no cost to communities where they are needed most.
- Launched in 2020, our Read in Color initiative
 has reached 11 cities and distributed more than
 30,000 diverse books celebrating BIPOC,
 LGBTQ+, and other marginalized voices.



Little Free Library By the Numbers



- Our Native American initiative has provided little libraries full of books to Native communities in partnership with tribal leaders.
- Launched in 2017, Our Action Book Club has inspired thousands of participants to **read books**, **spread kindness**, and work together to improve their communities.
- LFL has attracted high-profile collaborators including Amerigroup, Disney, Foresters Financial, Good Morning America, Goodreads, Marvel, Scotiabank, and Sony.
- LFL has been awarded the World Literacy Award and Guidestar's respected Platinum Seal of Transparency, as well as recognition from the Library of Congress, the National Book Foundation, the Women's National Book Association, and more.

Milestones





2009 - Todd H. Bol creates the first Little Free Library book-sharing box at his home in Hudson, Wisconsin

- 2012 Little Free Library is officially established as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
- In August, the 2,510th Little Free Library is built, and the goal of surpassing the number of Andrew Carnegie's free public libraries is reached
- **2013** The National Book Foundation awards LFL an Innovations in Reading Prize
- Library Journal presents LFL with a Movers and Shakers Award, highlighting the thought leaders in the library industry
- **2015** The Little Free Library Book is released, chronicling the journey of LFL and stewards worldwide
- In October, LFL is awarded the Library of Congress Literacy Award for its effective implementation of best practices in literacy and reading promotion







2016 - 50,000 Little Free Libraries are now found in all 50 states and 70 countries

- LFL's Impact Library Program launches, granting no-cost Libraries full of books to high-need communities



2017 - LFL launches the Action Book Club, combining reading and community service

- LFL receives Women's National Book Association's Second Century Prize 2018 - LFL receives the Force for Positive Change Award

- LFL partners with Disney and Marvel Studios to produce Avengers-themed Little Free Libraries
- The Today Show unveils their Little Free Library at 30 Rockefeller Plaza in NYC
- The 75,000th Little Free Library is given to an elementary school in Oklahoma via LFL's Impact Library Program



2019 - LFL celebrates ten years of Little Free Libraries with the first annual Todd H. Bol Awards for Outstanding Achievement - A Little Free Library is unveiled at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

100,000



2020 - The 100,000th Little Free Library booksharing box is donated to the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans in Houston, TX

- LFL receives the World Literacy Award
- A Little Free Library is established at the South Pole, expanding Little Free Libraries to all 7 continents LFL launches Read in Color in the Twin Cities, a new initiative bringing diverse books to Little Free Library book-sharing boxes

around the world

- 2021 The 125,000th Little Free Library is installed at the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming
 - LFL launches Unbound, a digital event series connecting stewards and supporters
 - The Impact Library Program grants its 1,500th no-cost Little Free Library
 - LFL rolls out Read in Color to nine additional cities
 - LFL network reaches milestone of sharing 250 million books



2022 - The 150,000th Little Free Library is unveiled at a Head Start site in Lebanon, Tennessee

- LFL debuts its mobile app for iOS and Android, making it easy to find Little Free Library locations near you—wherever you are in the world
- The LFL office relocates from Hudson, Wisconsin, to St. Paul, Minnesota

