

Rights, Responsibilities, and Reactions: Intellectual Freedom News, August 2015

Compiled by the Multnomah County Library Intellectual Freedom Committee in cooperation with the OLA Intellectual Freedom Committee

UPCOMING EVENTS



This year Multnomah County Library is holding a Banned Books Week event called [Censorship by Omission](#). This event is inspired by [Malinda Lo's study](#), which found that books by and about people of color, LGBT people, and/or disabled people, are challenged more than books that follow status quo.

We have a panel starring Stacey Lee (author of [Under a Painted Sky](#) and a [We Need Diverse Books](#) team member), Isabel Quintero (author of [Gabi, A Girl in Pieces](#)), and Tess Sharpe (author of [Far From You](#)). The authors will talk about diversity in literature, challenges they have faced as authors, and their amazing books.

Please read their books and get on over to Midland Library (805 SE 122nd Ave, Portland, OR 97233) on Saturday, October 3rd, at 2-3:30 PM!

BANNED BOOKS AND CENSORSHIP



- The [Oregon Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse 2015 Annual Report](#) is now available. This past year 14 challenges were received (including the aforementioned *Adventure Time*) and one item (the film [Repentance](#) directed by Philippe Caland) was removed

- [Duke University freshmen chose not to read the summer reading book *Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel because the title conflicted with students' personal and religious beliefs. *Fun Home* was also challenged this past summer by a CA college student.](#)
- [The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon was banned from a FL high school's reading program due to concerns about profanity.](#)
- The Comic Book Legal Defense Fund's free quarterly news magazine [CBLDF Defender #3 features a podcast with banned author Raina Telgemeier.](#)
- Check out Bustle's [11 Frequently Banned Books by Female Writers That You Absolutely Cannot Miss](#). The list includes [What My Mother Doesn't Know](#) by Sonya Sones, [The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things](#) by Carolyn Mackler, and more.
- LGBT-themed children's books [My Princess Boy by Cheryl Kilodavis](#) and [This Day in June by Gayl Pitman](#) [were challenged and retained at Hood County Library](#). *This Day in June* was relocated to the adult nonfiction section.
- After concerned Christian parents in FL objected to the [The Librarian of Basraa](#) and [Nasreen's Secret School](#) both authored by Jeanette Winter, [Lubbock Public Library retained the titles](#). The director said: "It's important that we try to represent other cultures."

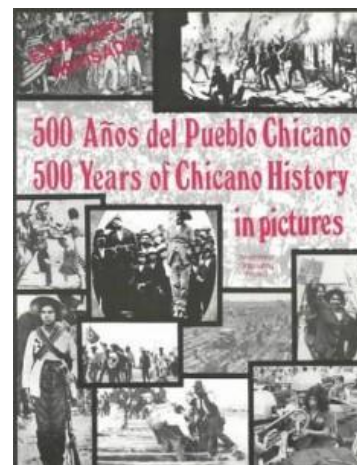


- [A Charleston, NC, high school principal removed *Some Girls Are* by Courtney Summers from a summer reading list, due to the book's depiction of underage alcohol and drug use, sexual assault, and a perverted male teacher.](#)
- [The Tweeks are twin geek girls that will be covering challenged comics all summer long](#). Check out their coverage on [Bone, Vol. 1: Out from Boneville, Drama, This One Summer](#), and [Persepolis](#).

- Check out the [MA-based ACLU executive director's favorite controversial beach reads!](#)

• Downers Grove Public Library Board (IL) [recently appointed a board member who aggressively attempted to ban a book](#) in the past.

- After AZ legislators banned ethnic studies from schools, [ethnic studies programs are projected to spread in Texas and California schools](#).
- According to a [recent poll](#), more than 7 out of 10 adults believe that a rating system should be applied to books.
- Recent court decisions are increasing citizen's right to know and disseminate government information. [Nice try, government officials, but this time the law is on the citizen's side](#)



PRIVACY

- Collier County Public School media centers (FL) [permit parents to see what students borrow, but centers do not plan to remove any titles](#).
- Have you heard of the [#OptOutKids](#) of school data sharing campaign?

- [Even when told not to, Windows 10 just can't stop talking to Microsoft](#)
- The IFLA recently published their [Statement on Privacy in the Library Environment](#). The statement recognizes the limits that libraries have in protecting user privacy and makes recommendations.
- A philosopher's thoughts: [Opinion: How digital voyeurism is destroying privacy](#).

Have any questions? Feel free to email us at lib.ifc@multco.us.