

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

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

This issue features an update about Multnomah County Library's recent Banned Books Week event, information about our upcoming events, and news about censorship, privacy, and internet access.

BANNED BOOKS WEEK RECAP

This past month Multnomah County Library hosted a Banned Books Week event called Censorship by Omission, 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.

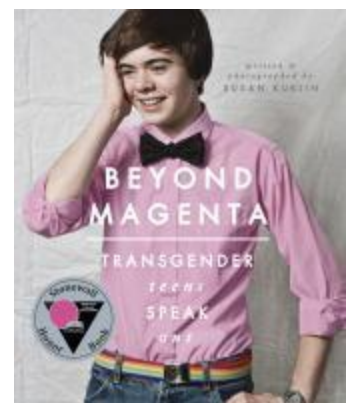
During the panel discussion, authors Stacey Lee, Isabel Quintero, Tess Sharpe, and Swati Avasthi, talked about their experiences in being censored for writing diverse content and the importance of diverse stories. **You can now listen to the [Censorship by Omission podcast on our catalog](#).**



Above: Swati Avasthi, Tessa Sharpe, Stacey Lee, and Isabel Quintero (left to right)

UPCOMING EVENTS

At [Beyond Magenta: an author visit featuring Susan Kuklin](#), Kuklin will discuss photography and her latest book. This program will occur at Hollywood Library (4040 NE Tillamook Street Portland, OR 97212) on Thursday, November 5th at 6:00 PM.



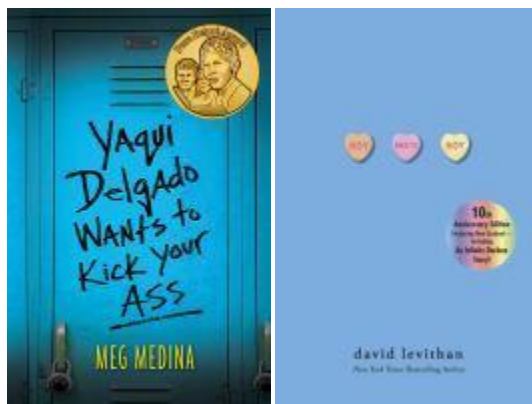
**LATINO
AMERICANS**
500 YEARS OF HISTORY

[Searching for Aztlán](#) is a theatrical event about the Mexican American Studies ban in Arizona performed by the [Milagro Theatre](#). This program will occur at Gresham Library (385 NW Miller Avenue, Gresham, OR 97030) Saturday, November 7th at 1:00 PM.

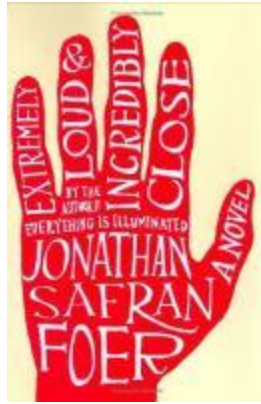
BANNED BOOKS AND CENSORSHIP



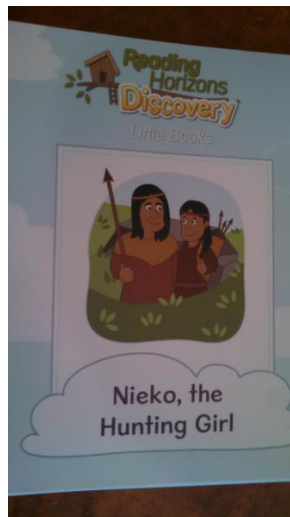
- New Hampshire high school parents panicked after a [death list modeled after the popular manga title, *Death Note*](#) by [Tsugumi Oba](#), was found by administrators.



- [During Banned Books Week, C-Span hosted a discussion about the First Amendment](#) and the experiences of David Levithan, author of [Boy Meets Boy](#), and Meg Medina, author of [Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass](#).
- [Why does censorship fail?](#)
- Check out this cool [infographic](#) on banned/challenged books from Simply Novel Teachers blog.
- During Banned Books Week, [Oakland Public Library librarian Darcel Jones explained to a parent why she doesn't censor materials](#).
- As a social experiment, [an academic librarian banned a novel in 2012](#).



- [Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close](#) by Jonathan Safran Foer [was removed from Illinois high school curriculum for its alleged use of lewd and offensive materials.](#)
- In Minneapolis, teachers and others [protested against reading curriculum supplemental materials called Little Books, which contain racist and cultural stereotypes.](#) One material was entitled, “Lazy Lucy,” which featured a child from an unidentified country in Africa.



Above: A sample of the curriculum.

- A librarian explains [a banned book social experience.](#)

INTERNET ACCESS

- [What does it mean](#) if masses of first-time adopters come online not via the open web, but the closed, proprietary network where they must play by Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg’s rules??

PRIVACY

- Did you know that October was [National Cyber Security Awareness month](#)? It’s not too late to [get involved!](#)

Have any questions? Feel free to email the editors azalea@multco.us, berenic@multco.us, and/or amyh@multco.us.