

CELEBRATE!

BANNED BOOKS WEEK

CBLDF Banned Books Week Handbook



CELEBRATE BANNED BOOKS WEEK!

Banned Books Week is the national celebration of the freedom to read! Launched in 1982 to draw attention to the problem of book censorship in the United States, Banned Books Week is held during the last week of September. This year, Banned Books Week will be held September 21 – 27, and it will celebrate the freedom to read comics and graphic novels!

Believe it or not, books are still banned in the United States, and comics and graphic novels are especially vulnerable. In this handbook, we'll talk about how comics are banned, show you some specific cases in which comics were challenged in schools and libraries, and provide you with some tips to celebrate Banned Books Week in your community.

You can make a difference in protecting the freedom to read! Join us this Banned Books Week by using this handbook as your starting point to speak up about the freedom to read comics in your community!

— Charles Brownstein, Executive Director

COMIC BOOK LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

Comic Book Legal Defense Fund is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection of the First Amendment rights of the comics art form and its community of retailers, creators, publishers, librarians, and readers. CBLDF provides legal referrals, representation, advice, assistance, and education in furtherance of these goals. www.cblddf.org

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COMICS AND CENSORSHIP 101

Are books really still banned in the United States?

Yes! Every year, the American Library Association reports hundreds of challenges to books in schools and libraries all over the United States, and ALA estimates that the number of unreported challenges is significantly higher. People continually try to take away readers' power to decide what books are right for themselves or their children by bringing challenges to remove books from libraries. Sometimes those challenges result in books being removed from circulation — the dreaded ban. Comic books, graphic novels, and manga are frequently challenged and banned.

Why are comics banned?

Comics face challenges for the same reasons as any other books. Reasons books are frequently challenged include “adult content,” “language,” “sex / nudity,” or “inappropriate for age group.” Comics are uniquely vulnerable to challenges because of the medium's visual nature and because comics still carry the stigma of low-value speech. Some challenges are brought against comics because a single page or panel can be taken out of context, while others come under attack because of the mistaken notion that all comics are for children.

Which comics are banned?

Comics are one of the most commonly attacked types of books, with challenges and bans happening every year. In 2013, the tenth most challenged book in the United States was *Bone* by Jeff Smith. The last year also saw high-profile attempts to ban Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis* and Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home*. CBLDF has a full listing of books that have been banned or challenged at <http://cblddf.org/banned-comic/banned-challenged-comics/>.

Why are comics in libraries?

In addition to being a popular form of storytelling that appeals to readers of all ages, comics are a unique and powerful way to encourage literacy. Because of the synergy between art and text, comics are particularly good for reluctant readers, English learners, and people who have learning disorders, such as dyslexia. The skills readers develop from reading comics provide a practical foundation for other kinds of learning. From verbal and visual literacy to critical thinking and memory, comics are a great medium to get communities reading!

What does CBLDF do to help?

CBLDF assists librarians and educators by providing access to resources and writing letters of support in cases where comics and books are challenged. In the past year, CBLDF has opposed several challenges, and we stand ready to address new ones when they occur. CBLDF is also an active sponsor of Banned Books Week and the Kids' Right To Read Project, initiatives that create tools and perform activities that defend the freedom to read.

Visit www.cblddf.org to learn more!

BANNED AND CHALLENGED COMICS

I learned this weekend that *Bone* has been challenged on the basis of 'political viewpoint, racism and violence.' I have no idea what book these people read. After fielding these and other charges for a while now, I'm starting to think such outrageous accusations (really, racism?) say more about the people who make them than about the books themselves."

— Jeff Smith

Comics are uniquely vulnerable to challenges because of their visual nature, and lasting stigmas about the medium's value to readers. Dozens of comics, graphic novels, and manga have been challenged recently in schools and libraries around the country. Let's take a look at just a few key cases.

***Bone*, by Jeff Smith**

- **Location of key challenge:** *Various*
- **Reason challenged:** *Drugs / alcohol / smoking, political viewpoint, racism, violence*

Although considered a modern comics classic that's delighted millions of readers all over the world, *Bone* is also one of the most commonly challenged books in American libraries. In April 2010, a Minnesota parent petitioned for the series' removal from her son's school library over images she believed to be promoting drinking and smoking. The challenge was ultimately rejected by a 10 - 1 vote. In 2011, the entire series was removed from classrooms and libraries in a New Mexico district with no oversight or review process. In early 2014, the ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom posted their annual list of the ten most-challenged books. The list had many of the usual suspects and one not-so-usual suspect: *Bone* secured the rank of tenth most challenged book of the year for "political viewpoint, racism, violence." Two of the challenges that put *Bone* on ALA's list took place in Texas, but both school districts reviewed the books and opted to keep the series.



© Jeff Smith, used with permission of Cartoon Books.

***Stuck in the Middle*, edited by Ariel Schrag**

- **Location of key challenge:** *Dixfield, Maine*
- **Reason challenged:** *Language, sexual content, drug references*

In late 2011, CBLDF joined the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom in writing a letter to the superintendent of the Dixfield, Maine, school system to prevent the removal of the anthology *Stuck in the Middle: Seventeen Comics from an Unpleasant Age* from library shelves. Edited by Ariel Schrag, it includes contributions from acclaimed graphic novelists Daniel Clowes, Dash Shaw, Gabrielle Bell, Lauren Weinstein, and more.

Ultimately, the school board voted to leave the book on library shelves with the caveat the students must have parental permission to check out the book. "While we're pleased to see the book retained in the library's collection, we're very disappointed that it is retained with restrictions," said Executive Director Charles Brownstein.

The Color of Earth, by Kim Dong Hwa

- **Location of key challenge:** *Various*
- **Reason challenged:** *Nudity, sexual content, unsuited to age group*

When the American Library Association's Office of Intellectual Freedom released their list of the Top Ten Most Frequently Challenged Books of 2011, the second-most challenged book on that list was *The Color of Earth*, a critically-acclaimed Korean manwha, or comic book, series. In spite of numerous positive reviews from *Booklist*, *Publishers Weekly*, *The School Library Journal*, and other outlets that praise the book as "richly literate and imaginative" (*Booklist*) and "a work of great humanity" (*Publishers Weekly*), the coming-of-age tale is challenged due to nudity, sexual content, and suitability for age group.



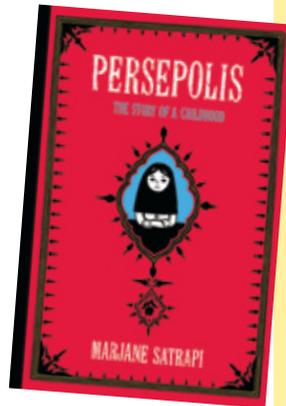
© Kim Dong Hwa, used with permission of First Second Books.

Persepolis, by Marjane Satrapi

- **Location of key challenge:** *Chicago, Illinois*
- **Reason challenged:** *Profanity, violent content*

A furor erupted in March 2013 when Chicago Public Schools sent an email to local principals, directing them to remove all copies of Marjane Satrapi's award-winning autobiographical graphic novel *Persepolis*. The removal was due to "graphic illustrations and language," as well as concerns about "student readiness" and "developmental preparedness."

Students immediately mobilized to protest the removal, taking to their social media accounts, writing blog posts and student newspaper articles, sending emails, making media appearances, and staging protests. CPS backpedaled on the initial email, sending a second email clarifying that *Persepolis* was to be retained in district libraries. It was approved for use in grade 11 classrooms, removed from grade 7 classrooms, and reviewed for use in grade 8 - 10 classrooms. The book is listed in CPS's 2013-14 Literacy Content Framework only for grade 11 students, which likely means it was not approved for use in grade 8 - 10 classrooms.



It's shameful. I cannot believe something like this can happen in the United States of America...These are not photos of torture. It's a drawing and it's one frame. I don't think American kids of seventh grade have not seen any signs of violence. Seventh graders have brains and they see all kinds of things on cinema and the Internet. It's a black and white drawing and I'm not showing something extremely horrible.

— Marjane Satrapi

BANNED AND CHALLENGED COMICS

I'm very grateful to the people who taught my book at the College of Charleston. It was brave of them to do that given the conservative pressures they're apparently under. I made a visit to the school last fall for which they also took some flak, but to their great credit they didn't back down. It's sad and absurd that the College of Charleston is facing a funding cut for teaching my book -- a book which is after all about the toll that this sort of small-mindedness takes on people's lives.

— Alison Bechdel

Fun Home, by Alison Bechdel

- **Location of key challenge:** *South Carolina; Marshall, Missouri*
- **Reason challenged:** *sex / nudity, LGBTQ themes*

Alison Bechdel's coming of age memoir *Fun Home* was challenged alongside Craig Thompson's *Blankets* in the Marshall, Missouri public library and was subsequently retained. However, the book faced a greater challenge in South Carolina, where the state legislature earlier this year debated punitive budget cuts against the College of Charleston because it incorporated *Fun Home* into a voluntary summer reading program for incoming freshman. The proposed state budget would have cut CofC's funding by \$52,000, the exact amount needed for the annual The College Reads program. Ultimately the legislature restored the funding but earmarked it for instruction on the Constitution and other founding documents rather than for the reading program — a measure that clearly represents unwarranted political interference with academic freedom and undermines the integrity of the higher education system in South Carolina.

Blankets, by Craig Thompson

- **Location of key challenge:** *Marshall, Missouri*
- **Reason challenged:** *sex / nudity*

A resident of Marshall, Missouri, filed a request with the Marshall Public Library Board of Trustees to have Craig Thompson's acclaimed graphic novel *Blankets* and Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home* removed from shelves because of allegedly obscene illustrations. She likened the illustrations to pornography and feared that the same people who go to porn shops would frequent the library. CBLDF, in conjunction with the National Coalition Against Censorship, wrote a letter defending *Blankets* and *Fun Home*. The highly publicized letter was instrumental in rallying community support against removing the books from the library, and the board of trustees decided to retain them.

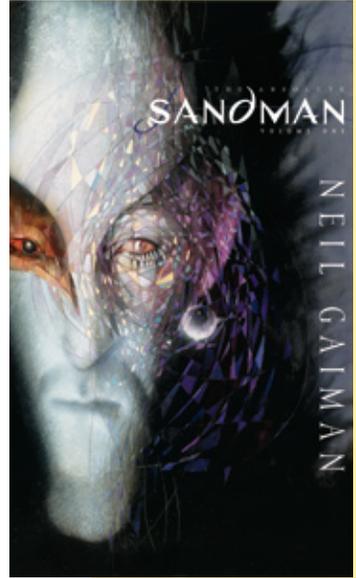


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The Sandman, by Neil Gaiman

- **Location of key challenge:** *Various*
- **Reason challenged:** *Anti-family themes, offensive language, unsuited for age group*

Launched in 1989, *The Sandman* was a 75-issue comic book series that chronicled the misadventures, struggles, and complex relationships among seven mystical siblings. The series was released by DC Comics and became the flagship title for DC's Vertigo line. The series earned nine Eisner awards and three Harvey awards, and it was the first graphic novel to win a World Fantasy Award, when it was named Best Short Story in 1991. Despite its many accolades, Neil Gaiman's *The Sandman* was listed as one of the top banned and challenged graphic novels in 2010 by the American Library Association. The comic series and graphic novels have been challenged and banned in libraries since its publication. Most often, opposition to the series has arisen when it has been shelved in the young adult section of the library.



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Watchmen, by Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons

- **Location of key challenge:** *Various*
- **Reason challenged:** *Unsuited to age group*

Watchmen received a Hugo Award in 1988 and was instrumental in garnering more respect and shelf space for comics and graphic novels in libraries and mainstream bookstores. The inclusion of *Watchmen* in school library collections has been challenged by parents at least

twice, according to the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom. There is no media coverage of these challenges to be found online, but OIF helpfully provided a few more details from their database. The first *Watchmen* complaint, at a high school in Harrisonburg, Virginia, was reported in October 2001. OIF removes specific identifying details from the information it releases to the public, but the high school library in Harrisonburg holds a copy of the book, so it appears the challenge was unsuccessful. The second challenge, from May 2004, took place at a school serving grades 6 - 12 in Florida, but the city and outcome are unknown.



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These are just a few of the many comics that have been attacked by censors. For a comprehensive list of banned and challenged comics, visit www.cblidf.org.

BANNED BOOKS WEEK MYTHS

“Books aren’t banned in this country anymore!”

People ask for books to be removed from libraries and classrooms all the time, and local officials often give in because they want to avoid controversy, or because they personally don’t like or “approve of” the book.

We should all be able to decide for ourselves what to read, not have our choices limited by what someone else thinks. If someone doesn’t want to read a book, they don’t have to, but they shouldn’t be able to keep someone else from reading it.

“If my community bans a book, it only impacts my district or school; it doesn’t effect anybody else.”

Censorship is about more than a single book. It is about the intellectual, cultural and political life of the community and the people in it.

Each time a book is removed, it reinforces the idea that books and ideas are off-limits if someone doesn’t like them. It contributes to a culture where it’s better to hide from controversial or difficult topics, than to acknowledge or discuss them. Restricting or banning a book hurts kids and education, because teachers and librarians may decide not to teach or buy another similar book, even if they feel it would be educational or enjoyable.

Schools, libraries and museums must rely on the professional judgment of individuals with training and expertise, not on the squeaky wheel, or majority opinion.



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Against Censorship / Kids
Right To Read Project.

[http://ncac.org/project/
the-kids-right-to-read-project/](http://ncac.org/project/the-kids-right-to-read-project/)

@KidsRight2Read

“Monkey see, monkey do! If kids read about it, they’ll think it’s acceptable behavior in real life.”

Kids are often much smarter and savvier than adults give them credit for. Just because they know about something or read about it, doesn’t mean they will run out and do it. Kids intuitively understand that novels, like life, are not always what they first may seem. Sometimes the bad guys aren’t really bad, and sometimes the good guys aren’t really good.

We may wish that good would always triumph, love win out, virtue be rewarded. But life doesn’t always work out so neatly. Books help young people understand and appreciate difficult life lessons — before they have to confront them.

“If you can buy a book, it isn’t really censored.”

A book doesn’t have to be censored everywhere, to be censored somewhere. It’s censorship whenever anyone in the government — including public schools and library — restricts access to a book because they dislike it or disagree with what it says.

It’s also no answer to say “just buy it.” Maybe you don’t have the money, or can’t get to a store that sells the book, or can’t buy it online because you don’t have a credit card. Not everyone can afford to buy every book they may want to read. That’s what libraries are for.

But even if you could afford to buy the book, government officials still aren’t supposed to tell us what books are “good” or “good for you.”

“They’re just kids, they don’t have rights.”

Even minors have rights under US law, including First Amendment rights, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognizes a fundamental right to education, which is essential to human dignity and to citizen participation in society.

Giving young people an education that prepares them for the challenging world beyond school serves everyone’s interests.

Soon they will be old enough to vote, get jobs, join the military, and start families. Kids need to explore and try to understand the world before they experience it firsthand. Reading widely is the safest way for them to do it.

“As a parent, I have the final say about what my kid reads.”

Parents who object to a book are often able to obtain an alternative. Most school districts are willing to accommodate parental concerns in a way that doesn’t affect students who parents do not share those concerns.

It’s not easy to be a parent. It’s impossible to anticipate or control what children hear about from their friends, much less what they see on television and online. Books can help — especially books that raise difficult issues. Talking about a book offers opportunities to learn about what kids think and what worries them.

If parents are making the decisions that their children can or cannot read this sort of book in the home, that's fair enough. The parents can take the consequences of that. It won't necessarily stop the children reading it, but at least it's a transaction between the child and the parent and it's the parent taking responsibility for their children, which is fair enough. They shouldn't hand over that responsibility to an outside body, and along with it, hand over the responsibility of all those other parents who have been finding it quite easy to take an actual personal interest in what their children are reading and to monitor their reading habits themselves.

— Alan Moore

FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO READ

I wouldn't be who I am without libraries. I was the sort of kid who devoured books, and my happiest times as a boy were when I persuaded my parents to drop me off in the local library on their way to work, and I spent the day there. I discovered that librarians actually want to help you: they taught me about interlibrary loans.

— Neil Gaiman

The First Amendment doesn't just guarantee free speech — it also assures your right to access the ideas that are found in books. On any given day, someone, somewhere could be infringing on your First Amendment rights by bringing a challenge to a book in your local library or school. People have every right to express their opinion about a book, but they don't have the right to limit access to books. This kind of censorship is most effective when people don't act to stop it.

So, what can you do about censorship? It turns out there's a lot you can do to fight for the right to read!

Know what's happening in your community.

Keep in touch with your local librarians and educators to find out about book challenges in your community.

To stay current on censorship issues around the country, subscribe to news publications dedicated to the First Amendment and free expression. CBLDF reports on censorship issues around the world and provides exclusive educational resources related to comics. You can follow our reporting and sign up for our convenient and informative weekly newsletter at www.cbldf.org. The First Amendment Center (www.firstamendmentcenter.org) and the National Coalition Against Censorship (<http://ncac.org>) provide breaking First Amendment news and opinion. The former maintains an online database of research articles related to censorship and the First Amendment. The American Library Association publishes the Newsletter on Intellectual Freedom and maintains a news blog at www.ala.org/oif.

Report censorship.

An essential step in protecting access to comics is to report challenges when they occur. By reporting challenges, you help free expression advocates gather necessary information about what materials are at risk. Even if a challenged book isn't a comic, tell CBLDF about attempts to censor books in your community. You can reach us at info@cbldf.org or call 1-800-99-CBLDF.

To protect the right to read, CBLDF takes an active stand against all instances of censorship, and the Fund often coordinates efforts with organizations like the Kids' Right to Read Project and ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom. You should also report challenges to KRRP (<http://ncac.org/project/the-kids-right-to-read-project/>) and ALA (<http://www.ala.org/bbooks/challengedmaterials/reporting>).

Support your local librarians and teachers.

Censorship manifests in many ways, and the unique visual nature of comics makes them more prone to censorship than other types of books. Most challenges to comics in libraries and schools come from well-meaning individuals, frequently parents, who find something they believe is objectionable in comics. These challenges are often difficult and stressful for the library and school staff who must manage them. Even if you don't work at the library or school, you can help.

If you learn of a challenge, let your local librarian or teacher know you can assist. Write letters to your library or school board, attend open meetings to voice your support for the right to read, and help organize peaceful demonstrations in support of challenged materials. If your library or school doesn't have a policy regarding book challenges, work with your library or administration to establish a process for handling challenges. Once a policy is established, make sure it is followed any time there is a challenge.

Sometimes, comics are challenged because library patrons and occasionally even librarians don't understand them. If you have some expertise with comics, volunteer at your local library or school to help staff cultivate and properly shelve a graphic novel collection. To help dispel misconceptions about comics, offer to organize public discussions, read-outs, creator visits, and other events that focus on comics and their value as literature.

Speak up.

Attempts to ban books rarely succeed when people speak out against them. Whether it's a school board, PTA, or library meeting or a public hearing, be there to speak up for the First Amendment and the right to read. Write letters to your local administrators, politicians, and newspapers supporting the right to read. Remind your fellow citizens and officials that no one has the right to restrict access to books and be prepared to stand up for all books, even those you may not like. Any successful book ban opens the door to more censorship.

Join groups committed to fighting censorship.

Comic Book Legal Defense Fund is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection of the First Amendment rights of the comics art form and its community of retailers, creators, publishers, librarians, and readers. CBLDF provides legal referrals, representation, advice, assistance, and education in furtherance of these goals. We're able to do our important work on behalf of the right to read because of the support of our members. You can become a member of CBLDF by completing the membership form in this handbook or by visiting <http://cbldf.org/contribute/membership/>.

CBLDF isn't the only group that advocates for the right to read. The following groups also help defend books against censorship:

- The American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression (www.abffe.org)
- The American Civil Liberties Union (www.aclu.org)
- The Freedom to Read Foundation (www.ftrf.org)
- The National Coalition Against Censorship (ncac.org)



Call 800-99-CBLDF or email info@cbldf.org at the first sign of a First Amendment emergency!

PROGRAMMING IDEAS FOR BANNED

Community engagement is one of the best tools for fighting censorship! Celebrate comics, promote understanding, and raise the spirits of your community by developing some of these programming ideas!

Make A Banned Books Week Display

Start the conversation about Banned Books Week by making a display in your library, classroom, or store! Here are just a few ideas to get you started:

- Use CBLDF's Banned Books Week kit, and wrap a selection of banned and challenged titles with caution tape.
- Hang banned books and graphic novels from a mobile, just out of reach of your audience.
- Wrap banned or challenged books in brown paper, and write only the reason why the book was challenged — not the title or creator — across the front of the package. Imagine the customer's surprise when the book labeled "Political Viewpoint, Racism, and Violence" turns out to be *Bone*, by Jeff Smith!
- Design a bulletin board to look like a page from a comic book. In each panel feature a challenged or banned graphic novel with a word balloon explaining the charge against the material. The more ridiculous the claim, the better!

Banned Books Cosplay

Engage the creativity of your community with a Banned Books Week cosplay event! Encourage patrons to dress up as their favorite character from a banned comic or book, and ask them to talk about why that character matters to them. This is a great event to hold in your library, classroom, or store and to document on your website, blog, and social media pages.

Banned Books Film Fest

Many of the greatest banned books have been adapted into movies, so seize the opportunity to raise awareness by hosting a Banned Books Film Festival! From *To Kill A Mockingbird* to *Persepolis*, a wide range of challenged stories have made the jump from page to screen, and the movies can spark a great conversation with your community!

Banned Books Read Out

Hold a readers theater in your library's lobby and have performers read aloud from banned and challenged books and graphic novels. Or organize a 12- or 24-hour read-a-thon, during which patrons, students, and even creators take turns reading banned books.

Join the Virtual Read-Out

Each year BannedBooksWeek.org celebrates with a virtual read-out in which anyone can submit a video of themselves reading from a banned book and discussing what it means to them. To learn more, visit www.bannedbooksweek.org.

BOOKS WEEK AND BEYOND!

Banned Books Debate

For a lively and illuminating conversation about intellectual freedom, bring together members of your community or students in your classroom to debate the pros and cons of book censorship!

Art Exhibit

Passive programs are good, too! Is there a professional comics artist in your area? A high school manga / anime art club? Participants at a comics drawing workshop? Offer to display their artwork!

Comic Book Swap

Looking for an intergenerational program? Try a comics swap. Reach out to local comics shops for donations of older titles, Free Comic Book Day leftovers, or anything else for which you think your patrons or students would be willing to trade. Or work with your Friends of the Library or a local used bookstore to find graphic novels or comics-adjacent materials. Then invite people to bring books of their own to swap!

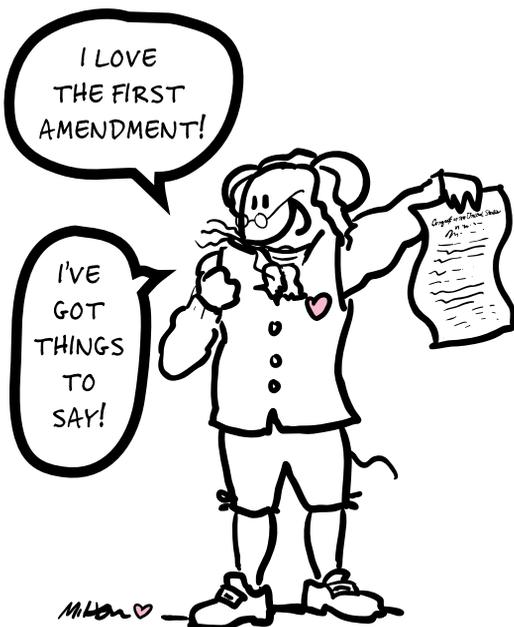
Comic Workshops

Kids, teens, and adults all love to draw. Invite a local comics creator, book illustrator, or even a high school art teacher to spend an hour working with your patrons and students on their drawing and storytelling skills. Invite a local comics writer or editor to talk about how writing for visual stories is different than writing prose. At the end, encourage participants to photocopy the results to make their own mini-comic or to post online as a webcomic!

Creator Visit

Many writers and illustrators are willing to visit schools, libraries, and stores, so don't be afraid to ask them to be part of your Banned Books Week events. Check creator websites to see if they have preferred ways of handling such requests. Plan ahead, especially if travel is involved. Six to eight months ahead of the desired date is not too early!

Why invite just one author or artist when you can invite a



**DEFEND FREE SPEECH
LIKE BABYMOUSE!**

PROGRAMMING, CONT.

bunch? A fun alternative to the usual creator visit is the talent panel, where creators have a chance to answer interact, tell stories, and discuss alongside their peers questions posed by a moderator or the audience.

For creators who can't travel, give Skype or Google+ Hangouts a try! Many authors and illustrators are happy to "meet" your group via the Internet.

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) has a list of tips for planning a successful author or artist visit. Check it out: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/profawards/hayesaward/tipsforvisitplanning>

The Comics Reporter has a list of creators by metropolitan area: http://www.comicsreporter.com/index.php/lists/lists_and_links/30269/

Mini Comics Convention

This is the perfect opportunity to put all your programming ideas together into one big event! Scale down what is usually found at a comics convention until it's the perfect size for your library, classroom, or store. Artist alley, cosplay, demos and workshops, speaker panels, and even an art auction are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to programs that happen at a convention.

To keep things fresh, change your theme from year to year, from superheroes to steampunk, manga / anime to science fiction. Aim for an all-ages event when possible. It's not only teens who read and love comics!

Book Clubs

There's no need to limit your book club selections to only prose. Many — if not most — graphic novels are as appealing and discussable as traditional book club selections. Adventure beyond the literary comics and include superhero, action / adventure, manga, or fantasy comics to spice up your list.

Adding graphic novels to an existing book club's reading list gives members an opportunity to look at books and reading in different ways. Why did the author feel images were necessary to tell this particular story? How did viewing pictures as well as words change the reader's experience with the book?

Be patient with those members who are not familiar with the graphic novel format. It takes practice to be a good comics reader!

Host a Fundraiser

Choose a worthy free speech advocate — like CBLDF! — and host a fundraiser at your library, school, or store! Whether a party, creator event, or charity auction, CBLDF is happy to provide materials and support for your event! Send us an email at info@cblfd.org when you're planning your event.

JOIN THE FIGHT!

SUPPORT COMIC BOOK LEGAL DEFENSE FUND TODAY!

CBLDF's important work defending the freedom to read is only possible because of the support of individuals like you. Show your support for our work protecting the freedom to read by making a tax-deductible membership contribution today!



Membership

- \$30 Junior Member** *(includes member card)*
- \$50 Supporter** *(includes member card, sticker set, and button set)*
- \$100 Member** *(all of the above, plus an exclusive member-only t-shirt)*
- \$250 Defender** *(all of the above, plus a CBLDF canvas tote bag and travel mug)*
- \$500 Protector** *(all of the above plus a CBLDF messenger bag and set of the 2014 CBLDF Liberty Annual)*
- \$1,000 Champion** *(all of the above, plus recognition in the CBLDF Liberty Annual and the CBLDF publication package)*
- \$2,500 Guardian** *(all of the above, plus recognition in select CBLDF publications throughout the year)*

Contact Information

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City / State / Zip

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