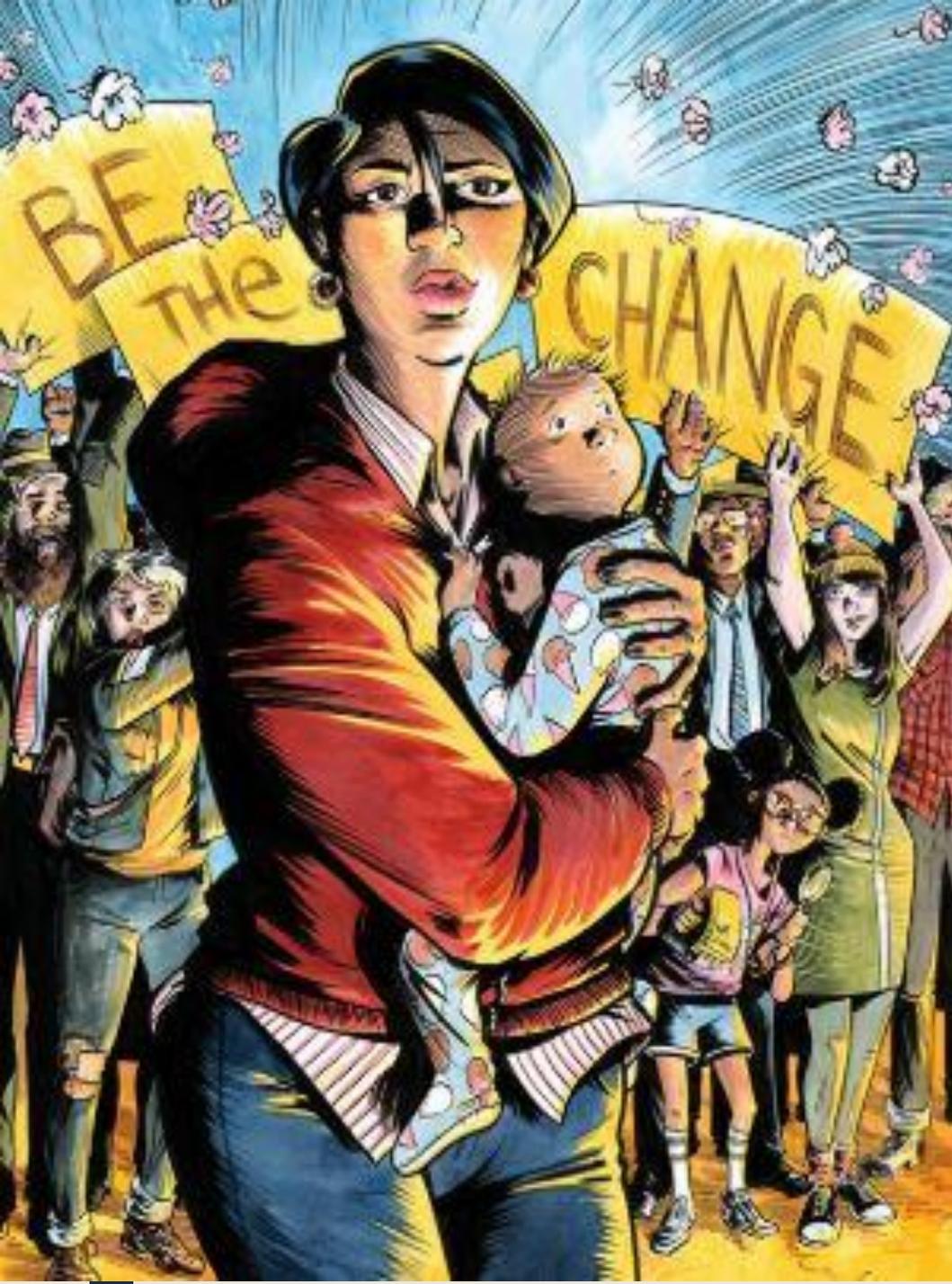


COMMUNITY
IS OUR
SUPER POWER



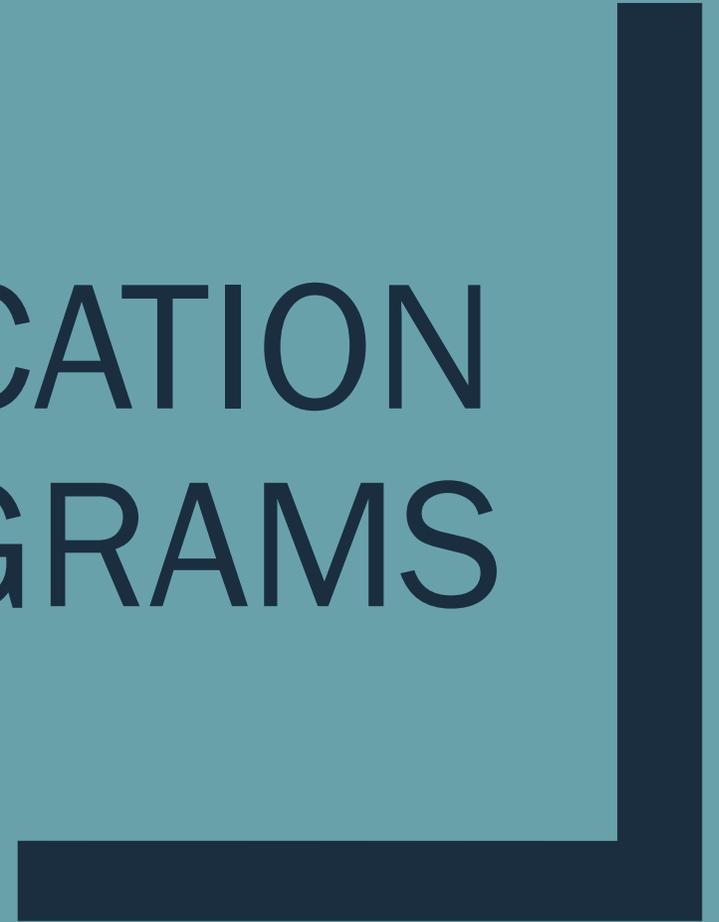


About Comic Book Legal Defense Fund

- CBLDF is a non-profit organization that protects the freedom to read, create, and distribute comics by providing legal aid, education, and advocacy.
- Our efforts to promote free expression and fight censorship are essential to protecting the future of comics.
- During the Coronavirus crisis, we're providing essential information for comics retailers and creators and valuable education resources to support our community!
- We're a small team with a big mission that's made possible by your support!



EDUCATION PROGRAMS





JOIN NOW!

www.cbldf.org/league

The *League of Graphic Novel Educators* provides rich resources and a deep community to grow readership and build confidence in teaching with graphic novels.

Recruiting:

teachers, librarians, parents, community leaders and CBLDF members who want to raise readers through graphic novel literacy.



JOIN NOW!

www.cbldf.org/league

Members of *The League of Graphic Novel Educators* receive:

- **Graphic novel teaching guides** for classroom-appropriate graphic novels.
- **Invites to League Book Club meetings:** live, hosted talks about how to use the book with students.
- **Educator webinars** exploring literacy, social justice, book selection, diverse readers, and more.
- **Exclusive access** to classroom shareables from graphic novel artists and authors.
- **Private, online community** forum for sharing ideas and resources.
- **Articles, resources, and recommendations** throughout the year for common themes, topics, and trends.
- **All standards-based and ready to go!**

Additional Graphic Novel Resources

[Using Graphic Novels in Education](#)

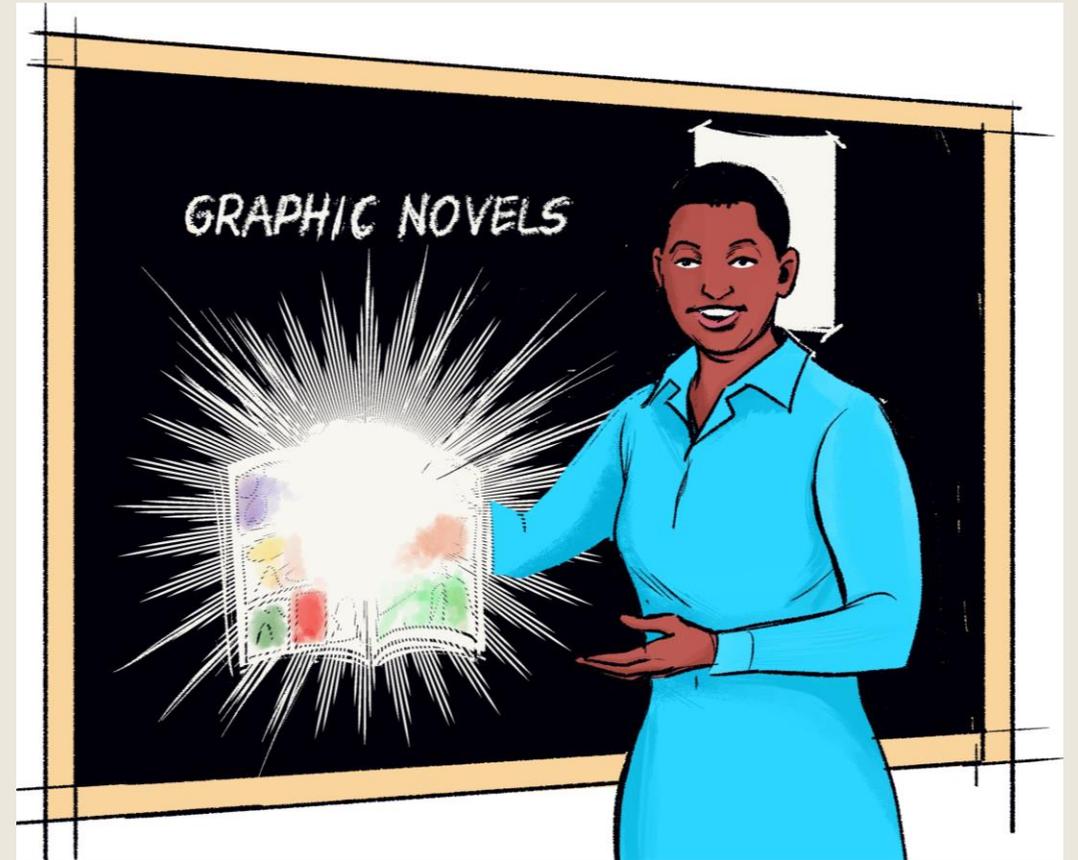
In depth lesson plans for nearly 40 graphic novels! Titles include *Amulet*, *Drama*, *This One Summer*, *Nimona*, *Ms. Marvel*, *Astronaut Academy*, *Lumberjanes*, *March* and many, many more.

[CBLDF Discussion Guides](#)

Conversation starters to lead graphic novel discussions around books that have been banned and challenged. In each guide, you will find the book's synopsis, themes, suggested age range, reason challenged, discussion questions, and best of all, activities! Titles include *Persepolis*, *Sandman*, *Watchmen*, *Maus*, *Fun Home*, and more!

Get these resources and more at:

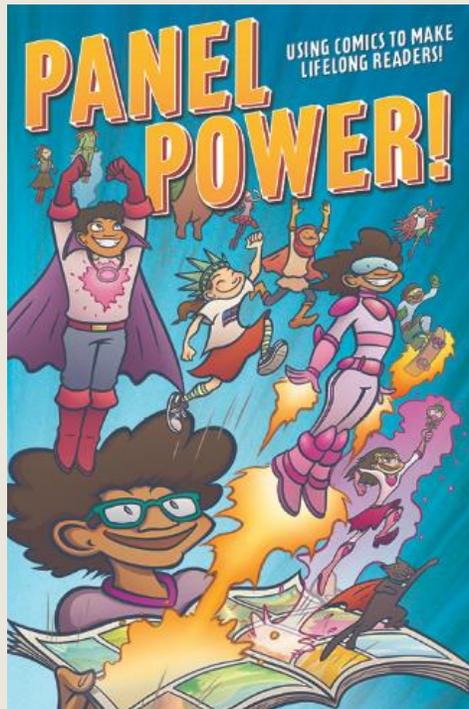
<http://cbldf.org/2020/03/get-free-resources-for-remote-learning-with-cbldf/>



Let's READ!



See all our Educator and Library Resources at <http://cbldef.org/librarian-tools/>



[Panel Power](#)

Using Comics to Make Lifelong Readers

A tool for battling misconceptions about comics, filled with information about the benefits of comics, activities, and reading recommendations for engaging kids with comics.



[Raising a Reader!](#)

How Comics & Graphic Novels Can Help Your Kids Love to Read

A resource for parents & educators about the learning benefits of comics.

Comic & Manga Book Club Handbooks

**New
Remote
Resources**

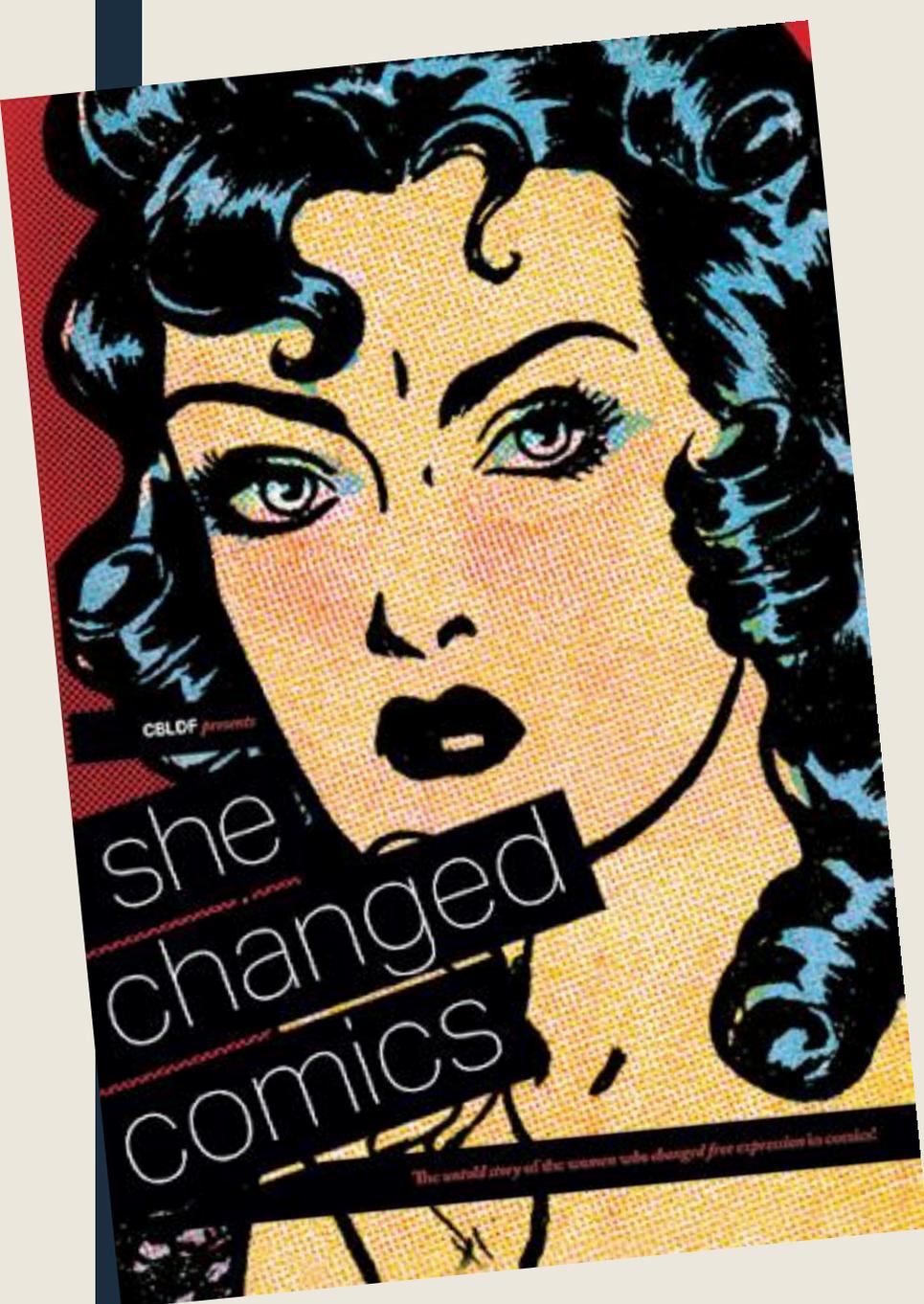


Book clubs are a great tool to create community, stay connected, and share the love of comics!

If you have an existing book club, closures of libraries, schools, comic stores and other meeting venues creates challenges. So we assembled **new resources** and updated our comic book club handbooks to provide tips and tools to help you take your book clubs remote.

And if you don't yet belong to a comics book club, now's the time to start one! You can use these resources to launch your book club community.

<http://cblidf.org/book-clubs/>



CBLDF Presents: She Changed Comics is the definitive history of the women who changed free expression in comics, with profiles of more than 60 groundbreaking female professionals and interviews with the women who are changing today's medium, including **Raina Telgemeier, Noelle Stevenson, G. Willow Wilson**, and more!

To help provide for our community during the COVID-19 crisis, CBLDF is making the digital edition of *She Changed Comics*

PAY WHAT YOU WANT

We offer free teaching resources and student worksheets to utilize these histories for remote learning. If you can't afford to donate during this uncertain time, name a price of \$0 – the important thing is to get and share these histories of women who not only changed comics but changed the world.

Get your copy & resources here:

<http://cblfd.org/2020/03/she-changed-comics-name-your-price-ebook-free-lessons-for-remote-learning/>



Visit us at

CBLDF.org

for other great creativity tools, including templates for making your own comics, coloring sheets, and more!



INDUSTRY SUPPORT PROGRAMS



CRISIS



RESOURCES

- A comprehensive state-by-state clearinghouse resource for financial aid, training tools, and other information to support industry businesses.
- A concise overview of government financial aid, unemployment benefits, private grants, and other resources to support creators and employees affected by the crisis.
- How-to training resources, including a webinar, about how to apply for SBA government loans for comics businesses
- How to comply with shutdown orders, and more.
- Visit: www.cbldf.org/coronavirus



CBLDF Retail Member Directory & Retailer Spotlights

Comic book retailers are the foundation of the comic book industry as we know it. They serve as beacons of light in increasingly troubled times, hubs in their communities where people can find the stories that they need. CBLDF is working to do whatever we can to support retailers throughout this crisis.

Check out our Retailer Spotlights, showing how different stores are serving their communities in the crisis: <http://cbl df.org/tag/retailer-spotlight/>

Please support our CBLDF Retail Members who continue to serve their communities throughout this current crisis. This directory includes protocols they are following to safely get comics into readers' hands and contact information. If you are able, please consider supporting your local comic shop during this time.

<http://cbl df.org/retailer-tools/retailer-spotlight-on-covid-19/>

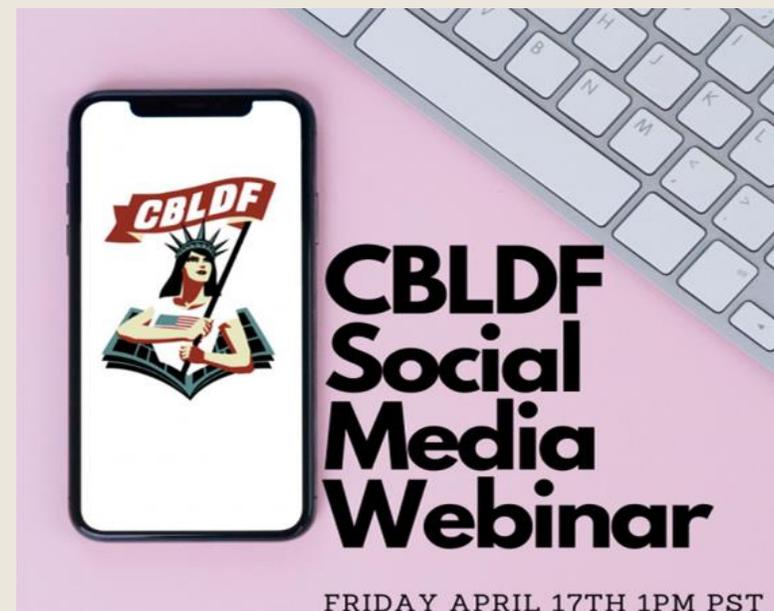
Retailer Training Webinars



[Remote Retailing: Connecting With Your Customer](#) examines how comic shops can maintain connections with their customers remotely



[Government Relief Loans for Comic Businesses](#) is an instructional video on how to apply for government relief loans



[Social Media: Best Practices for the Comic Book Retailer](#) covers how social media can be used to keep in contact with customers, maintain community, and sell comics

Check out all our webinars at <https://www.youtube.com/user/cbldf>

Retailer Resources for Remote Retailing

CBLDF is helping retailers adapt to remote retailing with valuable training resources from the best minds in the business!

[Intro to Selling Online and Ebay Stores](#) is a guide to selling comics on online platforms like eBay.

[Put Your Comic Shop Online](#) provides tips on how to build an online webstore for your comic shop.

[Selling Comics](#) is a practical guide to the nuts and bolts of modern comics retailing, with essays and "best practices" guidelines from some of the sharpest minds in the industry.

Check back at cbldf.org for resources on hosting remote events, building community online and more!





FIGHTING CENSORSHIP





**CBLDF FIGHTS FOR EVERY
VOICE TO BE HEARD**

Fighting Identity Censorship

Comic Book Legal Defense Fund stands up to bans of LGBTQ+ creators, books, and events all over the country. When prejudice, bigotry, and injustice are used to target diverse stories, we're at the front lines fighting back.

The right to free expression is frequently attacked in the form of challenges and bans of books, public events, and coursework featuring diverse voices. Right now, new laws are being proposed seeking to recast LGBTQ+ content as obscene or harmful to minors, and to punish libraries for hosting events like Drag Queen Story Time. CBLDF is fighting these wrong-minded efforts.

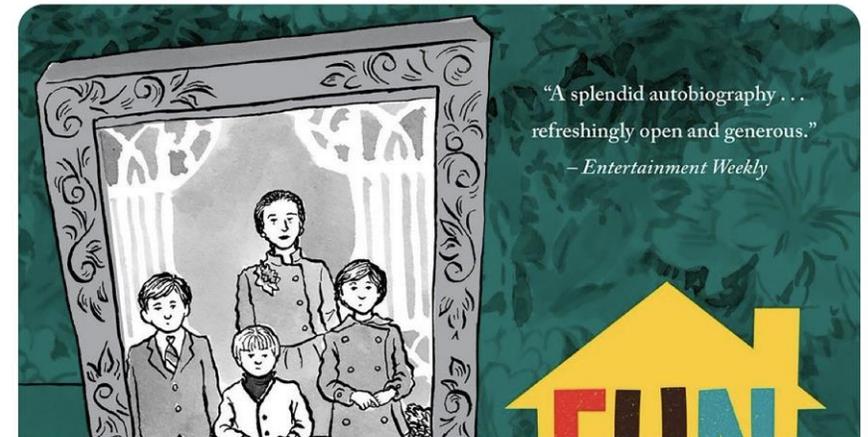
Current Censorship Battles

- **Library Censorship Bills:** This year Missouri and Tennessee proposed legislation to create “parental library review boards” who would decide to move or remove books they deem to contain “age-inappropriate sexual material.” The bills would punish libraries with loss of funding for non-compliance, and librarians would be criminally charged for offering minors materials the board found to be age inappropriate. CBLDF is speaking out against these bills which are explicitly targeting events like Drag Queen Story Time and attempting to recast LGBTQ+ content as sexual in nature.
- **Book Bans & Challenges:** CBLDF recently fought challenges to *Fun Home*, *Drama*, *Pride: Harvey Milk & The Rainbow Flag*, *Lily & Duncan*, *I Am Jazz*, *George*, and *My Brother’s Husband* by providing resources, letters of support, and substantive aid. Thanks to our efforts, many of these books remain available.



Alison Bechdel
@AlisonBechdel

Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home* Restored to New Jersey High Schools Thanks to the CBLDF



Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home* Restored to New Jersey High Schools Thanks to the CBLDF
bleedingcool.com

Author & Event Bans

These censorship actions happen as part of a disturbing trend of biased overreactions to LGBTQ+ events held at public libraries.

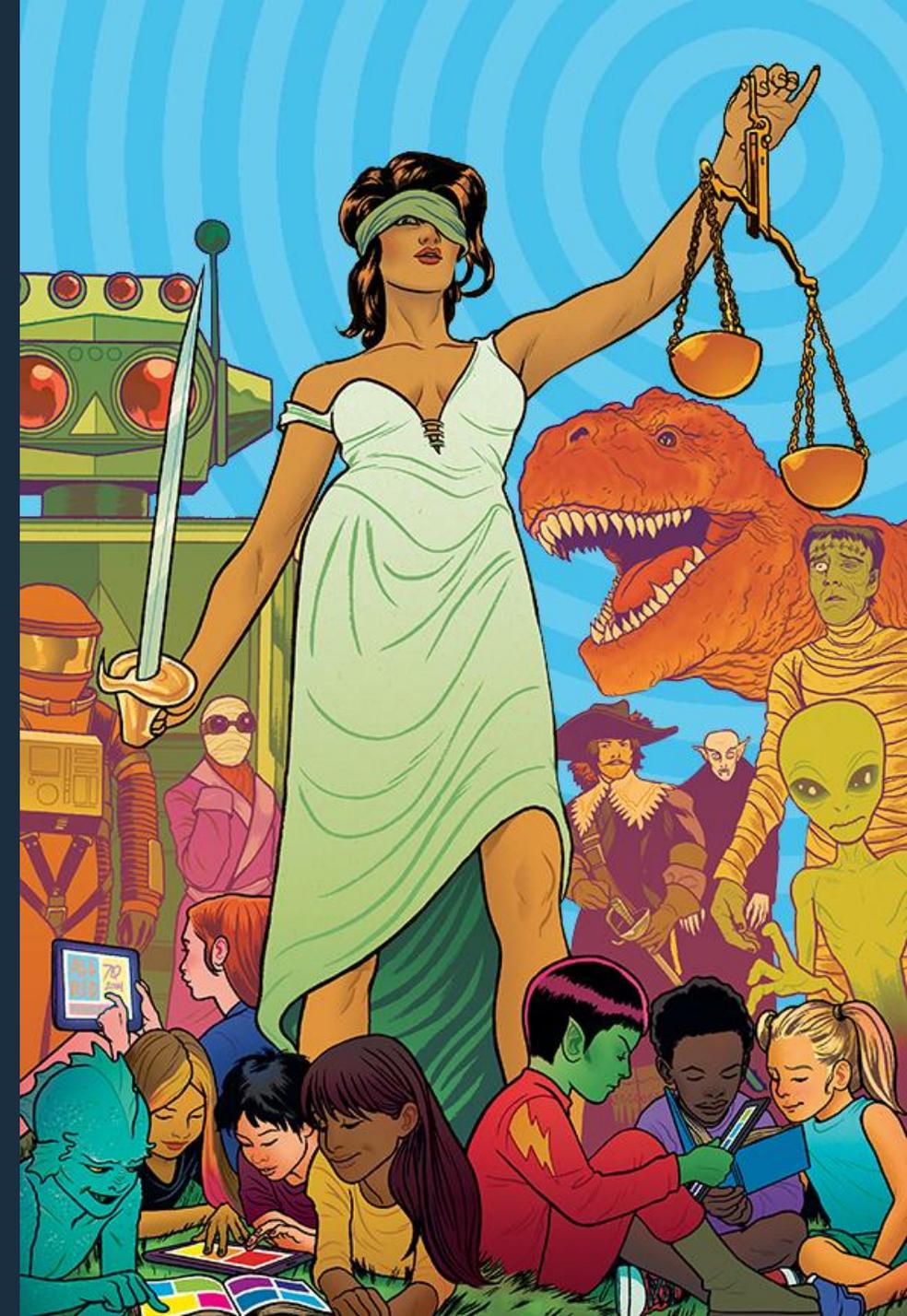
- Last summer Leander, Texas banned community use of the public library meeting rooms in order to cancel a library-sponsored event by best-selling trans comic book author Lilah Sturges, in addition to other LGBTQ+ events, in a blatant act of discrimination. CBLDF led a national protest demanding the restoration of the event and created resources to help other communities overcome similar challenges.
- Drag Queen Story Hour, LGBTQI displays for Pride and Banned Books Week, and similar events are frequently protested, challenged, and even banned. CBLDF is actively engaged in fighting these styles of censorship. Recent incidents include a House speaker's attempt to shut down Pride events in Ohio, and LGBTQI displays in Vermont, such as the image in this slide.



Legal Aid & Advocacy

In addition to our work fighting identity censorship, CBLDF's legal team is at the forefront of protecting our community's rights. Our 2020 legal work to date includes:

- Providing legal and financial support for a group of cartoonists at risk of having their work altered, confiscated or suppressed in a copyright battle.
- Providing support to defend against attempts to ban *Drama* by Raina Telgemeier in Wyoming and *Seven Deadly Sins* in Texas, with positive results in both cases.
- Monitoring, opposing and advising about unconstitutional legislation. This term, we have been actively monitoring dangerous censorship laws introduced in Utah and Iowa.
- Last year CBLDF provided legal support in 14 cases, supporting retailers, readers, and creators whose rights were at risk. Thanks in part to CBLDF's intervention, none of these cases went to court.
- Always make CBLDF your first call in a First Amendment Emergency at 888.88.CBLDF! Our lawyers are available at a moment's notice! We provide substantive support including legal referrals, behind the scenes counseling, letters of support, resources, and other tools to protect your rights!





JOIN TODAY!

Your membership helps us continue our essential work supporting the comics community and free expression!



WWW.CBLDF.ORG/WONDERCON

Membership, Signed Books, Merch, & More!

The Power to Inspire

We live in dark times, but there is light ahead.

Freedom of Expression is that light – it illuminates truth, it uncovers injustice, it lifts up marginalized voices, and it creates connection, empathy, and understanding among communities.

Freedom of Expression isn't an abstract value, it's the spark that inspires. It's the soul of democracy.

Freedom of Expression is the freedom to imagine, with specificity, what a better world looks like.

Freedom of Expression is the freedom to be yourself. Who do you want to be?

The comics community has a superpower. Together, we can be the inspirational beacon of Free Expression that will positively define the decade ahead.

We're going to get through this, together.





JOIN TODAY!

Your membership helps us continue our essential work supporting the comics community and free expression!



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Membership, Signed Books, Merch, & More!