



Pride Month Resolution

Rochester Public Library's (RPL) Board of Trustees supports the library's mission: "welcoming all to connect and learn." The Board upholds the library's values, including the "respect for intellectual freedom" and "access for all" especially as public libraries nationwide face coordinated censorship tactics focused on LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, intersex, asexual/aromantic, plus) materials which limit access to critical affirming representation; and providing a "welcoming environment" especially as the LGBTQIA+ community faces ongoing attacks on their basic human rights.

WHEREAS,

- RPL has books and materials representing a variety of viewpoints, beliefs, backgrounds, and experiences; and
- RPL creates thematic book displays to highlight and support diverse communities; and
- RPL is a long-standing supporter of the LGBTQIA+ community; and
- RPL honors Pride Month with programming, displays of materials, and information to ensure access to critical affirming and representative materials during a time when human rights are under attack across the nation; and
- RPL Board members uphold the intellectual freedom of community members; and
- removing materials, hiding materials, and other censorship activities prevents community members from having important access to information; and
- the freedom to read is essential to our democracy; and
- reading is among one of our greatest freedoms; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED,

- the library's collection development policy supports intellectual freedom for RPL users; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

- the Board condemns censorship and book banning in all forms.

Adopted by the Rochester Public Library Board

June 8, 2023

Rochester, Minnesota