

Loutit District Library

407 Columbus Ave, Grand Haven, MI 49417

(616)850-6900

www.loutitlibrary.org

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Link to high quality photos of exhibit: [Right to Read Exhibit 2026](#)

Public website link: <https://www.loutitlibrary.org/righttoread/>

Right to Read

Educational Exhibit

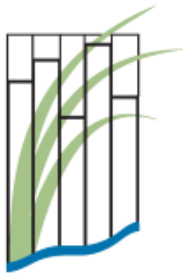
October 1 — 31, 2026

The Loutit District Library celebrates the right to read every year, coinciding with the American Library Association's Banned Books Week (October 4—10, 2026). The theme for Banned Books Week 2026 is "Let Books Be. Protect the Freedom to Read."

Discover new perspectives and celebrate the freedom to read by exploring books that have been challenged or banned throughout the years.

During the month of October, Loutit District Library's upper level features an educational exhibit on the right to read, including a timeline of censorship and books that have been frequently challenged or banned around the world. Browse the collection to discover if one of your favorites has made the list! Take part in the interactive banned book guessing game for a chance to win gift cards to local bookstore, The Bookman!

This exhibit is carefully curated for the community by our staff and updated yearly. We encourage everyone to take part and learn something new!



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Right to Read Programming:

[MI Right to Read, Your Right to Read](#)

Monday, October 5 at 6:00 PM in Program Room A

A conversation with Amber Sheerin from the Michigan Library Association about book challenges and censorship.

[Banned Together Film Screening](#)

Thursday, October 8 at 6:00 PM in Program Room A

Film Summary: "Banned Together follows three students and their adult allies as they fight to reinstate 97 books suddenly pulled from their school libraries. As they evolve from local to national activists - meeting with bestselling authors, politicians, Constitutional experts, and more [...]"

[The Librarians Documentary Screening](#)

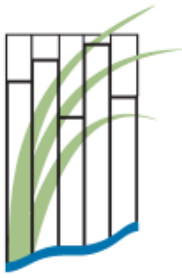
Monday, October 19 at 6:00 PM in Program Room A

Film Summary: "Across the U.S., librarians face the impact of uniting against library collection standards that include restrictions on race-related and LGBTQIA+ content. Drawing on historical context, The Librarians explores the broader implications for education and public life."

Public Feedback on the Exhibit

"This is the best banned books display that I have ever seen and I'm a librarian...Awesome!"

In response to: Were you surprised by some of the books that have been challenged? *"Yes, it brought tears to my eyes just to think that book bans are exploding across our country"*



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In response to: Were you surprised by some of the books that have been challenged? *"Personally, I'm anti-LGBTQ+, but I'm not going to try to ban those titles. I just won't read them. I feel like people want to ban what they don't like. They should just look the other way."*

In response to: What shocked you about the Right to Read exhibit? *"The sheer number of books that have been attempted to be banned for some reason."*

"Thank you so much for doing wonderful displays for Banned Books each year. So very important for our community to know about. We (heart) our library! Also, the shredded book guessing is so fun!"