Store Logo

**For immediate release: September Date, 2022**

For more information, contact:

Store Contact Name, Title

Email, Phone

**Bookstore’s Name to Celebrate Banned Books Week 2022**

Store Name is proud to be participating in this year’s [Banned Books Week](https://bannedbooksweek.org/) (September 18 – September 24, 2022). Launched in 1982, Banned Books Week is the annual celebration of the freedom to read and brings together the entire book community.

Talk about any special events/programming your store will be doing for Banned Books Week.

The efforts to ban books and inhibit the freedom to read has intensified more in the last year than in other times in recent memory. Store Name considers the freedom to read to be a cornerstone of our mission. As booksellers, we believe in protecting the rights of readers and the importance of representation in books. We condemn the current wave of book banning in schools and libraries as threats to both the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

Every year, Banned Books Week highlights the American Library Association’s (ALA) [Top 10 Most Challenged Books](https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/top10) from the previous year. This year’s list, like years prior, includes titles that are by Black or LGBTQIA2S+ persons and address racism, racial justice, and LGBTQIA2S+ stories. ALA tracked 729 challenges to library, school, and university materials and services in 2021, resulting in more than 1,597 individual book challenges or removals. These are the highest figures ALA has seen since it started compiling challenges more than 20 years ago.

Join us during Banned Books Week (September 18 – September 24, 2022) to condemn book banning, protect the freedom to read, and celebrate the ways books unite us!