**MEDIA ADVISORY:** September TK, 2024

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

**[ORG] to Host [EVENT/or Day of Action] to Support**

**Freedom to Read**

–

*American Library Association (ALA), the Association for Rural and Small Libraries, New York City’s library systems, and [ORG] to rally against censorship and book bans*

*–*

*Movement leaders, librarians, and patrons share powerful and coordinated call to action*

[LOCATION]—On Saturday, October 19, [ORG] will host a [TK] in conjunction with the American Library Association (ALA) and their Unite Against Book Bans campaign, the Association for Rural and Small Libraries, and the Brooklyn, Queens and New York Public Libraries in a nationwide day of action in support of the freedom to read.

This historic day of action will elevate the voices of readers nationwide who believe in public and school libraries as safe havens of knowledge and community, and that the freedom to access books and information from diverse viewpoints is an essential American value which must be protected. It also includes a social media campaign in which supporters will use the hashtag #FreedomToRead to decry censorship and stand with public and school libraries. More information can be found online: [uniteagainstbookbans.org/dayofaction](https://uniteagainstbookbans.org/dayofaction)

The number of book bans in the U.S. reached an all-time high in 2023 and these bans continue to happen at an alarming rate, threatening work in libraries and all Americans’ First Amendment rights. In 2023, 4,240 unique titles were challenged across the country, with attempts to restrict access in 49 states.

[Additional details from ORG can be added here.]

**FREEDOM TO READ DAY OF ACTION DETAILS**

**WHO**: Libraries, bookstores, patrons and readers across the country

[Local allies who plan to join]

**WHAT**: National day of action for the #FreedomToRead

**WHEN**: Saturday, October 19 at **[Time + Time Zone]**

**WHERE**: [Location, with specific address]

\*\* For additional information, please email [local media contact] \*\*

###