

# FIGHT BOOK BANNING WITH THESE MONTHLY ACTIONS!

## January

Contact students who are standing up to censorship and let them know you support them. To find student groups across the country who are fighting book bans, simply search terms like “students against book banning” and plenty of articles will come up.

## February

Gift a banned book (or two!) to a friend. Or, get a bunch of banned books and place them in Little Free Libraries around your community.

## March

Thank your local librarians for the work they’re doing. Voice your support for them stocking banned and challenged books, and ask how you as a community member can help them.

## April

Make purchasing suggestions through your library’s website. Then, check out a bunch of frequently banned books so the library has record of interest in these titles. Encourage your friends to do the same.

## May

Commit to reading a banned graphic novel. Then, share the book with a friend. **Some of the most banned graphic novels are listed here.**

## June

Be louder than the censors: find out if any books are currently being challenged in your local school district. If so, **this page** has resources on how to speak up.



## July

Add these accounts to your social media feeds, for realtime news and resources:

1. FReadom: @FReadomFighters
2. Florida Freedom to Read Project: @FLFreedomRead
3. ALA's Unite Against Book Bans: @UABookBans
4. National Coalition Against Censorship: @ncacensorship
5. Banned Books Week: @BannedBooksWeek

## August

Host an Amazon Hack-A-Thon! Get some friends together to clean up online reviews of banned and challenged books by doing these three things:

1. Identify whether negative reviews about a banned title are sincere, or if they're spam.
  - a. A spam review may use censorship buzzwords words like "harmful to minors", "porn", "inappropriate", "dirty", etc.
  - b. Filter to see only the 1-star reviews. If it seems that a review has been written by a censor, click "report abuse."
2. Elevate 5-star reviews.
  - a. To balance spam from censors, elevate the 5-star reviews by marking them as "helpful".
3. Create positive content.
  - a. If you've read the book and sincerely want to review it, write your own positive review.

## September

### **BANNED BOOKS MONTH!**

In honor of banned books month, write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper supporting the freedom to read. **The NCAC's Kids' Right To Read Project Action Kit offers info and talking points.**

## October

Contact your local reporter who writes about education, arts/culture, or libraries and suggest they do a story on the current wave of book bans. You'll need to prove it's a relevant issue for their readers. Reiterate some facts like how the current wave of bans is the largest in decades, though more than 80% of Americans OPPOSE book bans (**the ALA tweeted this article from CBS**).

You can find contact info for reporters on your local newspaper's website.

## November

Host a gratitude party! Gather some friends and write thank you notes to people in your community standing up to censorship: students, librarians, teachers, school board members, legislators, etc. Say you're behind them and that you support their continued efforts to protect the freedom to read.

## December

Get in the holiday spirit by (1) donating banned books to a local book drive or used bookstore, and/or (2) hosting a banned books exchange party.

