

*Freedom to Read, Freedom to Write:
Celebrating Access, Expression, and Belonging*

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LA County Library



Celebrating the Freedom to Read & Uplifting Voices



*Books Unbanned:
Supporting the Freedom to Read*



The Solution: Books Unbanned

"I don't like that books keep getting banned, it makes it hard for me to read what I want to read. When I am looking for books about kids like me, they don't seem to be accessible."

"I don't have access to queer and LGBTQ books and stories."



The Impact of Books Unbanned

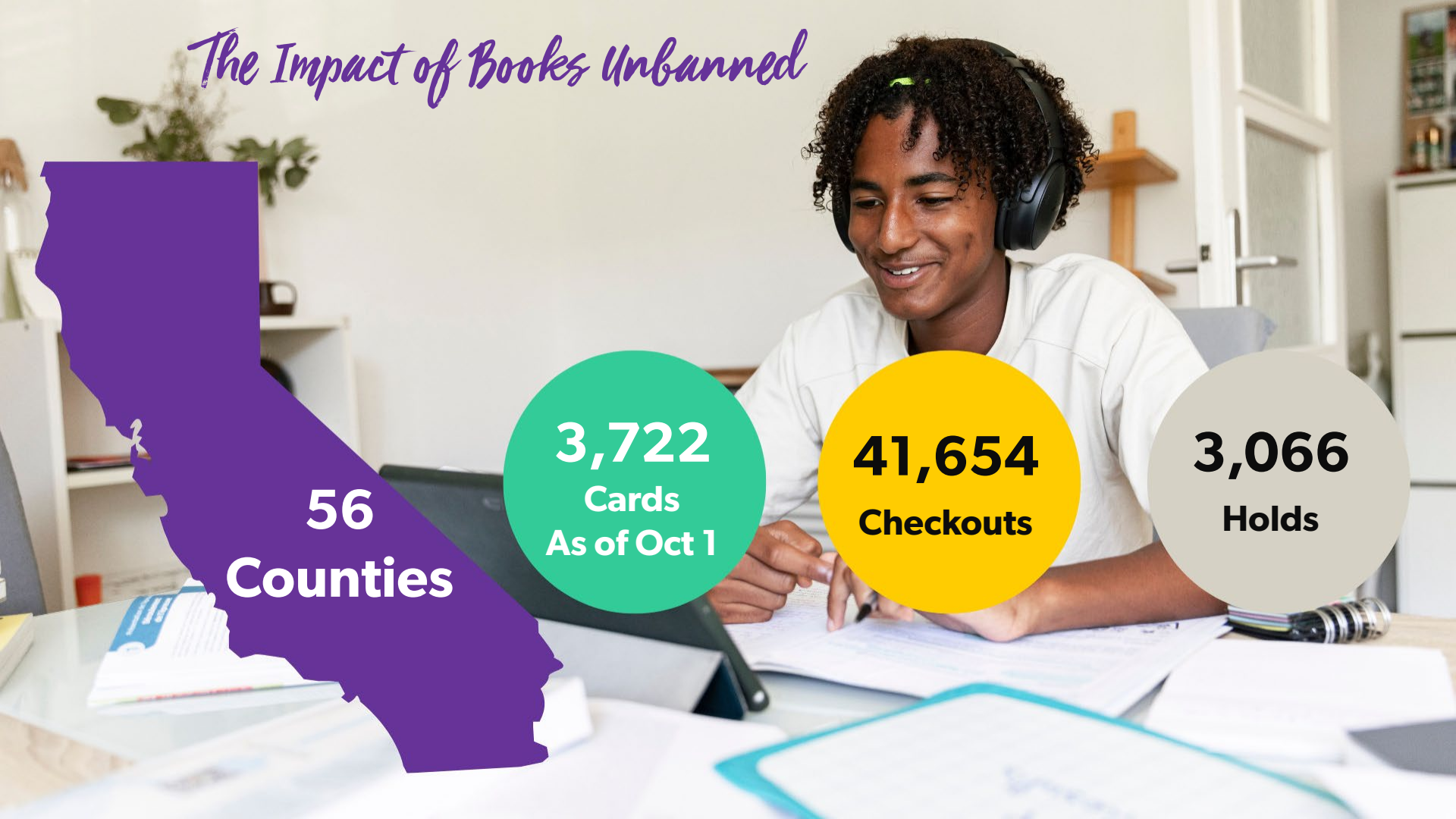


**56
Counties**

3,722
Cards
As of Oct 1

41,654
Checkouts

3,066
Holds



Programming & Community Engagement



Freedom to Read
Community Day of Action
Watch Party for Teens



AMINAH MAE SAFI
Award-winning YA Author

ABDI NAZEMIAN
Award-winning Author & Producer

SKYE PATRICK
County Librarian & CEO

Conversation · Giveaways · Free lunch!

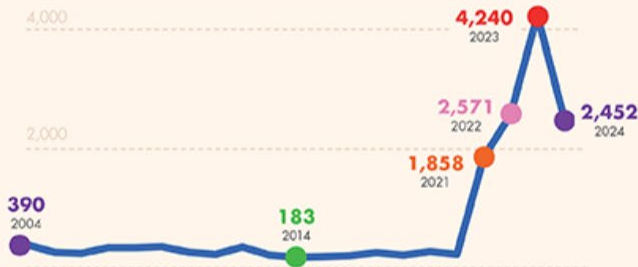


Censorship Today

CENSORSHIP BY THE NUMBERS

NUMBER OF UNIQUE TITLES CHALLENGED BY YEAR

Various factors contributed to the decline in reported censorship attempts in 2024, including legislative pressure, intimidation of library workers, fatigue, and attrition.

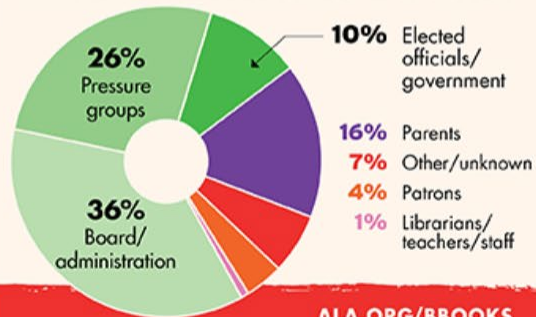


ALA.ORG/BBOOKS

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CENSORSHIP BY THE NUMBERS

WHO CHALLENGES BOOKS?



Nearly **72%** of censorship attempts in 2024 were initiated by pressure groups and decision makers who have been swayed by them.

Statistics based on 5,813 book challenges.

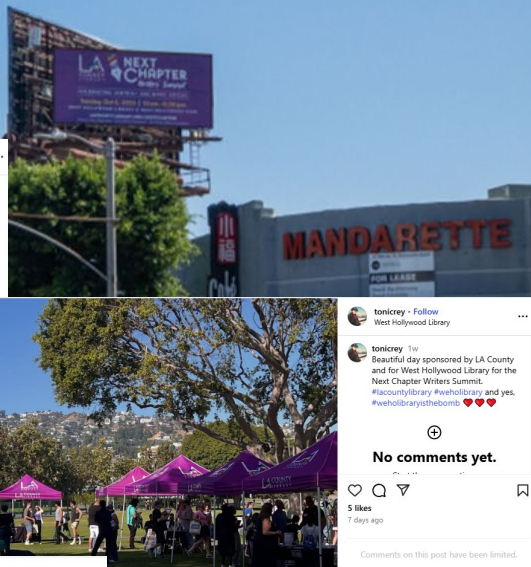
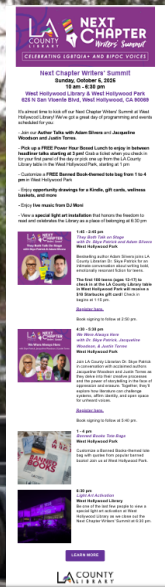
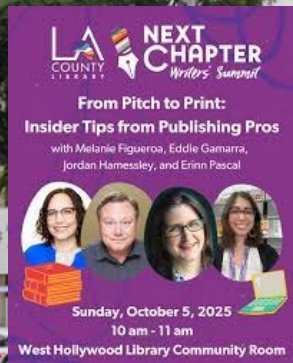
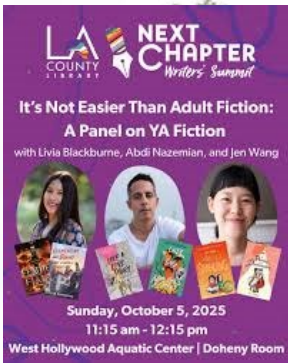
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2025 Next Chapter Writers' Summit



Promoting the Summit



Thank You

ALL TITLES



WELCOME



