

January 26, 2023

Dear GRPL Board of Trustees:

The Glen Ridge Diversity & Inclusion Association stands against censorship and book banning.

We thank Ms. Tina Marie Doody and the Glen Ridge Public Library Board of Trustees for upholding our library's mission as stated on the library website: "To be a part of every resident's life by providing dynamic and responsive services; interesting and relevant collections; and engaging and enjoyable programs in order to fulfill a need no matter how basic or complex."

By refusing to ban books with LGBTQ+ themes and content from our library, the GRPL is fulfilling its mission to be a part of **every** resident's life. The GRDIA fully supports the GRPL in this worthy mission.

Banning or limiting access to books because of partisan or doctrinal beliefs serves only to further marginalize targeted members of our community. Attempts to deny this or claim other motivations are disingenuous at best.

Every member of our community deserves to see themselves reflected in our library, in our schools, and in our town.

Every member of our community deserves to feel safe and included.

Sincerely,

Felice Bettenbender (GRDIA co-leader) 12 Mitchell Pl. Glen Ridge, NJ 07028

Nicole Quallis (GRDIA co-leader) 18 Edgewood Rd. Glen Ridge, NJ 07028