

## Proclamation National Library Week 2023 April 23-29, 2023

WHEREAS, today's libraries are more about what they can do with and for their communities, and not just about what they have on the shelves; and

WHEREAS, libraries have long served as trusted institutions, often the heart of their cities, towns, schools, and academic campuses; and

WHEREAS, libraries serve people of all ages, interests, and backgrounds to provide the resources and space to engage in life-long learning; and

WHEREAS, libraries offer equipment and professional staff support to utilize technology, programs, and services; often free or with nominal charges to users; and

WHEREAS, libraries are a resource for all – regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socio–economic status; and

WHEREAS, we recognize librarians as information professionals who provide expertise, services and guidance for patrons to access credible sources and materials; and

WHEREAS, libraries provide access to and display a wide range of information not just a majority opinion or single perspective; and

WHEREAS, librarians hold the professional values of diversity, equity and inclusion to meet the needs of all users; and

WHEREAS, the PA Forward initiative, Literacy is POWER, highlights how libraries and staffs encourage literacy in areas such as Basic Information, Civic & Social, Health, and Financial, which contributes to greater personal and community success; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania and the nation recognizes the immeasurable contributions made by library workers; show library services are not limited to their physical location; and encouraging community support for libraries.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim April 23–29, 2023, as National Library Week. During this week, I encourage all residents to visit and support libraries, and to acknowledge the contributions made by libraries and library workers.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this twenty-third day of March two thousand twenty-three, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-seventh.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor