



A very happy and grateful library patron and taxpayer

1 message

From: **PATRON REDACTED FOR PRIVACY**

Date: Mon, Aug 26, 2024 at 8:03 PM

Subject: A very happy and grateful library patron and taxpayer

To: Karen England, Chrystal Summarell

Ms. England and Ms. Summarell,

The library and your amazing staff have again done beautiful and amazing things.

I brought my son to the library tonight after receiving a text message from him that read: "Librarian Emergency!!! I need new books to read!!!!" My response was what many reasonable caregivers would say, "I will be right home and I will take you to the library!" A day without a book to read is, truly, an emergency.

He was delighted to put on his "librarian cardigan" with a Porg in the pocket. When we arrived at the library and he began returning his books, I looked up to see this sign (please see attached photo). I wish to express my STRONG approval of and gratitude for this beautiful and educational sign.

As a parent, educator, and mental health professional, I see many examples of what lives look like when people feel welcome to read what they want and be their authentic selves. I also see examples of how detrimental exclusion can be to a person's wellbeing. I am grateful for the sanctuary libraries provide to individuals and our community as a whole. Uintah County Library is a beautiful place, not only because of the physical architecture and thoughtful layout, but especially because it is a place of learning and love. You and your staff foster this love in so many ways.

It takes a big and courageous heart (or, rather, a team of big, courageous hearts) to stand up for people's right to read and their right to thrive. Thank you—every one of you—for taking this stand. I am confident that lives will be saved because of your willingness to hang signs like this and purchase and catalog items that encourage EVERY reader and aspiring reader to see themselves in a book. When a person feels seen, their life is changed for the better.

I stand with you. I support you. I thank you.

Sincerely,

PATRON REDACTED FOR PRIVACY

P.S. We—my son and I—are also grateful for the programs you offer. Just tonight we were excited to see an activity being offered. He enjoyed building a birdhouse as we have enjoyed so many activities since he was a toddler.