



Emily Orischak  
Community Relations Coordinator  
Berks County Public Libraries  
(610) 378-5260 ext. 2504

May 30, 2018

## Berks County Public Libraries to Dedicate New Books to Reading LGBT Center

*For immediate release*— In celebration of June as GLBT Month as recognized by the American Library Association, the Berks County Public Libraries and Reading Public Library will dedicate 39 newly purchased books to the resource library at the LGBT Center of Greater Reading. The dedication will coincide with the Center’s author event and book reading on Wednesday, June 6 at 7:00 PM.

Established in 2016, the LGBT Center of Greater Reading has made it a priority to create, administer, and provide services for the Greater Reading Community, including a free resource library located at the Center. The 39 new titles, comprised of children’s picture books, biographies, teen titles, and nonfiction, and parenting resources, are provided through the Berks County Public Libraries’ Outreach Collection and the Reading Public Library’s Director’s Fund to support special and new collections for the community. While high quality books on LGBT related topics can be found throughout libraries in Berks County, it is imperative a specially curated collection also be available at the LGBT Center.

“When the idea of The LGBT Center of Greater Reading was first conceived, Bethany Bower and I had both contemplated a library being in The Center’s future,” said Jocelyn Young, executive director of the LGBT Center of Greater Reading. “The library can be used by parents who are trying to develop a better understanding of their LGBT child; community members; and other interested parties who want to find out more about and better understand the LGBT community.”

Additionally, Berks County Public Libraries will provide resource booklists to its libraries and the LGBT Center with LGBT titles from the county-wide catalog. A library staff training on best practices for LGBT inclusion is also planned for June. Librarians from multiple counties plan to participate. Future collaborations include support of the Center’s second author event held on June 25 and participation in the Reading Pride Celebration on July 15.

###

*If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Corinne Brumbach, outreach services coordinator for the Berks County Public Libraries at 610-378-5260 ext. 2502.*