Banned Books Print Exchange

Overview:
In 2022, the American Library Association tracked the highest number of attempted book bans since ALA began compiling data about censorship in libraries more than 20 years ago; 2,571 unique titles were challenged last year, up from 1,858 in 2021. (ala.org)

Book challenges and bans are on the rise in the U.S, even though the majority of Americans don't support them. Books are tools for understanding complex issues and limiting young people's access to books does not protect them from life's complex and challenging issues. Our youth deserve to see themselves reflected in a library's books. Many of the books being challenged and banned represent marginalized voices.

Consider joining this print exchange to share your voice in the fight to support libraries, access and rally against censorship. Share your talents and presses for print activism, celebrate the freedom of the book and speak out against book challenges and bans!

Guidelines:
- Prints must relate to the theme
- Paper size: 9" x 12" (vertical or horizontal). Hopefully this size will be more inclusive to Provisional Press users and many types of print techniques!
- Technique: Open to all printmaking media (e.g. letterpress, serigraphy/screenprint, etching, lithography, mezzotint, dry point, linocut, woodcut, collagraphy, risograph, etc.)
- Artist must provide archival interleaving for their prints
- Artist is responsible for shipping prints to Naomi Velasquez at Idaho State University
- Artist will provide a 1-3 paragraph description of the technical process(es) used in the print and how they responded to the theme (used as an exhibition and teaching reference)
- Naomi Velasquez is responsible for shipping collated portfolios to each participating artist in a timely manner
- Naomi Velasquez is responsible for the creation of the portfolio case and colophon

Edition Size:
22-27 (final size determined by September 6, 2023).

1) One portfolio will be retained for the Idaho State University Special Collections archive in the Oboler Library in Pocatello, Idaho.
2) One portfolio will be used as an exhibition copy that will be exhibited and then donated as needed to spread the word about protecting the freedom to read!
3) Five portfolios will be available for sale to provide proceeds to the non-profits working to fight book censorship including the ALA "Unite Against Book Bans Campaign".
4) Each participant will receive a complete set of prints, housed in a custom portfolio.

Selection process:
If you are interested in participating please email the following to Naomi Velasquez:
velanaom@isu.edu by September 1, 2023

1) A brief statement of interest (paragraph) related to the theme
2) Short CV (or web link)
3) 2 representative images (web link is acceptable)

Participating artists will be selected by curator Naomi S. Velasquez based on images of artists' previous work and a short description of their proposed print. Applicants will be notified of their participation status on or before September 6, 2023. Once accepted, participants must pay the shipping/participation fee by September 15, 2023 and submit finished prints by November 6, 2023.

Shipping/Participation Fee
$30 non-refundable shipping fee, payable by Venmo, Paypal or check. This fee funds the return shipping of the portfolios to artists. *This fee will be waived if you are going to pick up your portfolio locally.*

Timeline
Application due: September 1, 2023
Notification of acceptance: September 6, 2023
Shipping/Participation fee due: September 15, 2023
Completed prints due: November 6, 2023
Portfolios shipped to participants: November 2023
Exhibition: TBD 2024 (Artists will be notified regarding details)

Questions?
Contact Naomi S. Velasquez at velanaom@isu.edu
Killer Bee Designs Press
http://killerbeedesigns.com
Chair of the Advisory Board, Pinyon Jay Press, Idaho State University
https://www.isu.edu/pinyon/

Mailing Address:
Idaho State University
Naomi Velasquez
Dept. of Art STOP 8004
921 S. 8th Ave
Pocatello, ID 83209-8004
208-282-2361