

## Rothman Announces Federal Book Awards For Libraries in Elmwood Park and Englewood

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For Libraries in Elmwood Park and Englewood  
15 Classic Books on "Courage" Will Be Sent  
from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Washington, DC - Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) today announced an award of 15 classic books on the theme of "courage" to the library in the Sixteenth Avenue School in Elmwood Park and the Englewood Public Library. The grant is made possible through the National Endowment for the Humanities' (NEH) We the People Bookshelf program.

"I am delighted that two libraries in our area will receive these 15 classic books for local children, as well as adults, to read and gain a better appreciation for reading and for how courage can inspire people and make a difference in the world," Rothman said. "Getting our children interested and excited about reading books at a young age will help ensure that their minds grow and that they gain an appreciation for reading that will last a lifetime. These books on courage will help motivate our young people to dream big dreams and to strive to reach them."

The We the People Bookshelf program will distribute one thousand sets of books to neighborhood and public school libraries, as well as private schools, charter schools, tribal schools, and military schools in all 50 states. Each library will receive a set of 15 books, posters, bookmarks, and other promotional materials from NEH through the American Library Association, which is working in partnership with the Endowment. As part of the award, libraries are organizing programs or events to raise awareness of these classic books and to engage young readers.

"Libraries serve as beacons of learning in schools and communities," said NEH Chairman Bruce Cole. "The We the People Bookshelf enables younger readers to examine the meaning of courage from many perspectives. These books inspire readers with stories of characters, real and fictional, who demonstrated personal courage when faced with difficult situations in uncertain times."

The bookshelf program is part of the NEH's We the People initiative, which supports projects that strengthen the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture.

The We the People Bookshelf on "courage" contains the following books:

- Grades K-3: The Cabin Faced West by Jean Fritz, Anansi the Spider by Gerald McDermott, and Sylvester and the Magic Pebble by William Steig.

- Grades 4-6: The Matchlock Gun by Walter D. Edmonds, The Dream Keeper and Other Poems by Langston Hughes, My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George, and Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder.

- Grades 7-8: Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass by Frederick Douglass, and

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkein.

- Grades 9-12: The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane, Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison, Profiles in Courage by John F. Kennedy, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain, and To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee.

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