

WHEREAS; as the hearts of cities, towns, schools, campuses, and communities across Wisconsin, libraries are inclusive and accessible places that have long served as trusted and treasured institutions, promoting access to literature—from kids’ books and recipes to novels and films—and fostering a sense of belonging to serving as a safe space for kids and adults alike to learn and grow; and

WHEREAS; libraries aim to develop and maintain programs and collections that are as unique and diverse as the populations they serve and are committed to ensuring equity of access for all by offering opportunities for everyone to expand their horizons, engage with their community, and enrich themselves through access to books, technology, multimedia content, and various other educational resources; and

WHEREAS; in the 21st Century, access to high-speed internet is not a luxury but a necessity, and for people without internet access at home, libraries provide critical access to computers and Wi-Fi and may even offer internet hotspots and laptops that can be checked out, all of which are essential to working to eliminate the digital divide and lower barriers to employment, education, and other vital resources that so often can hold individuals and communities back; and

WHEREAS; demonstrating an unwavering commitment to the evolving needs of patrons and consistently advocating for the free exchange of information that is essential to the strength of democracy, libraries, librarians, and library staff are invaluable partners to communities across the state and protecting and investing in public libraries has never been more important; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins libraries, librarians, library staff, supporters, and advocates in encouraging all Wisconsinites to sign up for a library card, visit their local library, and support local libraries across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim April 6 through 12 2025 as

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state’s residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 8th day of April 2025.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State