

Librarian's Shelf by Karen Connell

The Bill of Rights and You

Columbus Public Library is hosting a new pop-up exhibition from the National Archives, *The Bill of Rights and You*, commemorating the 225th anniversary of the ratification of this landmark document.

The Bill of Rights and You spotlights one of the most remarkable periods in American history, explores the origins of the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution (collectively known as the Bill of Rights), illustrates how each amendment protects U.S. citizens, and looks at how Americans exercise the rights outlined in the amendments. *The Bill of Rights and You* invites visitors to connect directly with the people, places, and events that mark this historic document's evolution. This exhibit runs through February 28th.

The Bill of Rights and You co-curator Jennifer Johnson states:

"The Bill of Rights represents the Founder's vision that it would be the people, through votes, that could change the Constitution with enough consensus. And when the people desired a Bill of Rights, our first ten amendments were added to our governing charter."

This exhibit is displayed in the east wing of the Columbus Public Library's first floor. It consists of four panels: Our Bill of Rights, Creating the Bill of Rights, Know Your Rights, and Make a Change. The exhibit introduces the Bill of Rights and the amending process, details how our First Congress decided to include rights-related amendments to the Constitution, explains how the Bill of Rights protects individuals today, and shows examples of how Americans have used, and continue to use, their First Amendment rights. Stop by during our normal operating hours to read the text and view the photos on the exhibit and visit the National Archives *Bill of Rights and You* exhibit webpage at <https://www.archives.gov/amending-america> to learn more using our public access computers or iPads. High resolution versions of the four panels are also available online on the National Archives *Bill of Rights and You* exhibit webpage.

The Bill of Rights and You is organized by the National Archives and Records Administration, and traveled by the National Archives Traveling Exhibits Service (NATES). This exhibition was developed in collaboration with the National Archives' National Outreach Initiative to commemorate the 225th Anniversary of the Bill of Rights. The exhibition is presented in part by AT&T, Seedlings Foundation, and the National Archives Foundation.

This exhibit is brought to you in collaboration with Humanities Nebraska and the Federation of State Humanities Councils. Humanities Nebraska includes the Nebraska Humanities Council and the Nebraska Foundation for the Humanities. These organizations provide grants for humanities programs, a speaker's bureau with almost 300 humanities programs available, historic figure reenactments, reading discussion programs, and more.

Stop by or call the Columbus Public Library at 402-564-7116 if you have any questions about this exhibit, or any other resources we offer.