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Banned Books Event celebrates freedom to read

Summary: Briggs Library and Sigma Tau Delta sponsor the annual event.

(September 21, 2010)-The Rodney A. Briggs Library and Sigma Tau Delta student organization at the University of Minnesota, Morris will sponsor a Banned Books Event on Thursday, September 30, 2010, at 7 p.m. in the McGinnis Room. The event, scheduled during the American Library Association's Banned Books Week, will include readings of excerpts from banned or challenged books.

“What is more basic than the freedom to read and learn about things we’re interested in?” asks Peter Bremer, reference librarian at Briggs Library. “This freedom is under assault across the United States in the form of book challenges. From 2001–09 there were 4,312 challenges in American libraries. Books like *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Color Purple*, *The Kite Runner*, *Catcher in the Rye*, *Harry Potter* and the *Twilight* series are challenged every day. Some of them are banned and pulled from library shelves. The Banned Books Event draws attention to this continuing crisis by spotlighting challenged books and celebrating the freedom to read. It’s very powerful to hear an excerpt from a banned book and think somewhere out there an individual can’t read it.”

Banned Books Week is observed during the last week of September each year. Observed since 1982, the annual event reminds Americans not to take this democratic freedom for granted. A discussion on censorship will follow the readings. The public is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

For more information visit the [Banned Books Blog](#) or contact Peter Bremer at pbremer@morris.umn.edu.

[Banned & Challenged Books 2008-2009](#)

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