Expand Your Comics Conversation With The Comic Book Club Handbook!

Learn how to start and make the most of book clubs for comics and graphic novels with the Comic Book Club Handbook, a new resource produced by Comic Book Legal Defense Fund in collaboration with Comic-Con International! Designed for librarians, retailers, and individuals alike, the Comic Book Club Handbook goes inside the how's and why's of creating a graphic novel book club.

The handbook provides proven strategies for getting started, selecting books, engaging your community, managing discussions, and much more, including a helpful table of books to get you started! This resource is available now as a free download at www.cbldf.org.

Printed copies are available at CBLDF booth 211 in the Gaming & Graphic Novel Pavilion at the <u>ALA Annual Conference</u> (June 26 – 29), CBLDF booth #1918 at <u>Comic-Con</u> <u>International</u> (July 9 – 12), and from <u>www.cbldf.org</u>.

This publication is the latest in the ongoing education collaboration between Comic Book Legal Defense Fund and Comic-Con International, who co-produced the handbook with the assistance of Erwin Magbanua of the San Diego Public Library. The Comic Book Club Handbook is illustrated throughout by legendary cartoonist **Rick Geary!**

"CBLDF's core mission of fighting censorship starts with expanding understanding about the comics medium," says CBLDF Executive Director Charles Brownstein. "This handbook aids that mission by providing a springboard for discussions about comics to pop up everywhere."

Brownstein adds, "Comic-Con International have shown exceptional leadership in establishing a culture of comics book clubs in their San Diego home base. It's an honor to team up to create a resource that expands on the framework they developed so it can be used by communities everywhere!"

"The Comic Book Club Handbook is not only a valuable resource, it is in keeping with Comic-Con International's mission of creating awareness of and appreciation for comics and related popular art forms," commented David Glanzer, Director of Marketing and Public Relations for Comic-Con International. "We can't think of a better collaborator on this important endeavor than the CBLDF whose leadership in protecting rights of the comics medium is unparalleled."

Download your copy of Comic Book Club Handbook for free at www.cbldf.org, Physical copies are at ALA Annual this weekend from CBLDF booth 211 and online in the CBLDF Rewards Zone. Copies will also be available from CBLDF at San Diego Comic-Con Booth 1918.

About Comic Book Legal Defense Fund

Comic Book Legal Defense Fund is a non-profit organization protecting the freedom to read comics! Our work protects readers, creators, librarians, retailers, publishers, and educators who face the threat of censorship. We monitor legislation and challenge laws that would limit the First Amendment. We create resources that promote understanding of comics and the rights our community is guaranteed. Every day we publish news and information about censorship events

as they happen. We are partners in the Kids' Right to Read Project and Banned Books Week. Our expert legal team is available at a moment's notice to respond to First Amendment emergencies. CBLDF is a lean organization that works hard to protect the rights that our community depends on. For more information, visit www.cbldf.org

About Comic-Con International

Comic-Con International (CCI) is a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to creating awareness of, and appreciation for, comics and related popular artforms, primarily through the presentation of conventions and events that celebrate the historic and ongoing contribution of comics to art and culture. In addition to its San Diego convention each summer (the world's largest comics convention of its kind), CCI organizes WonderCon each spring. On the web: Comic-Con.org, Facebook.com/comiccon, Twitter.com/comic con

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