
Dear Women's National Book Association Community,

Our country has been shaken over the past few weeks and months. Racial injustice, a global pandemic, and widespread economic concerns have all reached a tipping point. People are angry, frightened, and hurting.

The Women's National Book Association (WNBA) stands with those mourning the senseless killing of George Floyd and the countless other Black lives lost needlessly. We join the voices calling for change, and we call on the members of the WNBA to support one another in a shared fight to end racism, injustice, and inequity.

We support those who speak out against racial injustice and those who tell their stories.

Silence is not an option. Inactivity is not an option. Ignorance is not an option.

While reading a book will not magically solve the problems of the world, it is a place to start. When we read, we learn, we grow, and we think. We become more empathetic. As booklovers, we believe in the power of the written word to spark change. And change needs to happen.

Reading about racism, prejudice, bigotry, and hate gives us a foundation. The more we know, the better we can recognize and fight injustice. Reading books by people of color — especially women of color — allows us to not only support them but also amplify their voices.

Our association was founded on the principle of inclusivity. It is in the WNBA's DNA to support people dismissed by those in power. Our tagline states our purpose clearly: Connecting, educating, advocating, and leading since 1917.

The Women's National Book Association will continue to connect, educate, advocate, and lead as we strive to provide a safe and inclusive community for booklovers. We recognize that the work is ongoing. As long as people are still angry, afraid, and hurting, we will keep fighting.

We urge our WNBA community to listen. Learn. Think. Empathize. Act.

By joining together in the fight for justice, by actively promoting diversity and inclusivity, and by using our voices to call for change, we can make a positive difference.

Sincerely,

The Women's National Book Association Board

Visit our [Readers Against Racism list](#) on Bookshop.