

# TEENS IN ACTION

MAKE A DIFFERENCE: DISCOVER

Learn about how the [First Amendment](#) affects you, how young people have made an impact locally and nationally, and get inspired to make your voice heard. Please track your time as you read, watch, and listen.

We ask that you provide a short reflection about each resource in the timesheet.

**Note:** Skokie Public Library's Teen Services Team offers this nonpartisan volunteer opportunity to help inform you so that you can stand up for causes that you are passionate about. For information about our library's vision, mission, values, and priorities, please check out our [2023-2026 Strategic Plan and Vision](#).

## WEBSITES & ARTICLES

Learn about your rights through the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU):

- [Know Your Rights as a Student](#)
- [Know Your Rights When Stopped By Police](#)
- [Know Your Rights as a Protestor](#)
- [Know Your Rights as an Immigrant](#)

**Up for Debate:** Read these two editorials about free speech in the USA addressing the question, “Should there be limits to free speech?”

- **No:** [Offensive Speech Is Still Legally Protected Free Speech. That’s a Good Thing – Daily Beast](#)
- **Yes:** [Free Speech Is Killing Us – New York Times](#)

[AP sues Trump officials over Oval Office ban, citing First Amendment – Axios](#) **NEW**

[Three Practical Ways to Detect and Debunk Misinformation – News Literacy Project](#)

[‘Fraught’ Frontiers for Student Press Freedom Day 2025 – PEN America](#) **NEW**

[What Students Are Saying About Banning Books From School Libraries – New York Times/Learning Network](#)

**Voter Information – Skokie Public Library:** It’s never too early to learn about candidates who are running for office. Local officials can have a more direct impact on your lives than national ones. Scroll down to “Preparing to Vote” and take steps to either learn about candidates, or learn about the sites you can visit to learn more (especially the [Cook County Clerk’s Office](#)). **NEW**

**Activist Highlight:** [Engaging Young People in Politics – Public Broadcasting Service \(PBS\)](#)

**Activist Highlight:** [Running for Office As a Young Person Means Dealing With Ageism. I Did It Anyway – Teen Vogue](#)

**Activist Highlight:** [As Chicago Students Work to Improve Their Schools, They’re Finding Their Voice Along the Way – WBEZ](#)

# YOUTUBE VIDEOS

Choose one or more online videos on the [Teens in Action YouTube playlist](#) (total run time: 7 hours)

[First Amendment: Student Freedom of Speech – Annenberg Classroom](#) (28 min)

[Detect and debunk misinformation – News Literacy Project](#) (56 min)

[What You Can Learn from People Who Disagree With You \(Shreya Joshi\) – TED](#) (10 min)

[Why you can’t afford to wait \(Bushra Amiwala\) – TEDx DePaul University](#) (12 min)

**Activist highlight:** [“The World We Want, Time for Change: A #YAS20 web-documentary” – Young Activists Summit](#) (22 min)

[The ACLU, Nazis, and Freedom of Speech in Skokie with David Goldberger – Skokie Public Library](#) (63 min)

[LWV Candidate Forum: Skokie Trustee, Districts 1 and 3](#) (49 min)

[LWV Candidate Forum: Skokie Trustee, Districts 2 and 4](#) (55 min)

[LWV Candidate Forum: Skokie Trustees, At-Large](#) (63 min)

[LWV Candidate Forum: Skokie Clerk](#) (61 min)

# DOCUMENTARIES

**Activist highlight:** [Freedom Summer, 120 min – Check out from library](#)

An exploration of the summer of 1964 where more than 700 student volunteers joined with organizers and local African Americans in a historic effort to register voters.

**Activist highlight:** [If You Build It, 85 min – Stream on Hoopla](#)

In this documentary from 2012, two designers/activists lead local high school students on a build project that show the power of design thinking to re-invent not just their community but their own sense of what's possible.

**Activist highlight:** [The Most Dangerous Man in America, 94 min – Stream on Kanopy](#)

The Academy-Award nominated film follows Daniel Ellsberg, a high-level Pentagon official and Vietnam War strategist, who leaks 7,000 pages of top secret documents to the press. His actions led directly to one of America's most important free speech cases and the end of the Vietnam War.

**Activist highlight:** [The Revolution Generation, 79 min – Check out from library](#)

A film which shows examples of young leaders working to revolutionize systems that have “failed their generation,” and how today’s youth can stand up for issues they believe in.

**Activist highlight:** [Us Kids, 96 min – Check out from the library](#)

A documentary film that centers on the March For Our Lives movement, following gun violence survivors like Emma Gonzalez, Samantha Fuentes, David Hogg, and other teenage activists.

## PODCASTS

Follow the Apple Podcast links below or access the [TIA Spotify playlist](#), where each episode is listed (total run time: 5 hours, 15 min).

[Answering Your Student Speech Questions – At Liberty from ACLU](#) (33 min)

[Rap is Art Not Evidence – At Liberty from ACLU](#) (38 min)

[The After School Satan Club – Civics 101](#) (23 min)

[How YOU Can Help Preserve Our Democracy \(Really\) – Civics 101](#) (51 min) **NEW**

[The Next Generation – Democracy! The Podcast!](#) (32 min)

[David Goldberger, lead attorney in “the Skokie case” – So to Speak](#) (55 min)

[We Are the Future and the Right Now with Anjali Verma – Teen Connect](#) (30 min)

[We the People: Free Speech – Throughline](#) (53 min)

## BOOKS

[The United States Constitution: A Graphic Adaptation \(graphic novel\) by Jonathan Hennessey](#)

[Fault Lines in the Constitution: the Framers, Their Fights, and the Flaws That Affect Us Today \(graphic novel\) by Cythnia Levinson and Sanford Levinson](#)

[Unrig: How to Fix Our Broken Democracy \(graphic novel\) by Daniel G. Newman](#)

[Art of Protest: Creating, Discovering, and Activating Art for your Revolution by De Nichols](#)

[What the Fact? Finding the Truth in All The Noise by Dr. Seema Yasmin \*\*NEW\*\*](#)

Activist highlight: [Into the Streets: A Young Person's Visual History of Protest in the United States by Marke Bieschke](#)

Activist highlight: [That Librarian: The Fight Against Book Banning in America by Amanda Jones](#)

Activist highlight: [Take the Mic: Fictional Stories of Everyday Resistance by Various](#)



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