



YOUR VOICE COUNTS

Anyone can speak up for your libraries—your voice counts! People who are passionate about providing access to information, literature, and lifelong learning have always been at the heart of the American library movement. This is true now more than ever, and citizens must use their voices to ensure our library legacy remains viable and fully funded. Library advocacy doesn't have to be complex; it can be as simple as telling others—at the grocery store, student union, bank, post office, or parties—why you value your library.

Get Press

Speak publicly about the specific value in your library. Are you good at public speaking? Call your local or campus radio talk show or TV news show. Like to write? Write a letter to the editor or an op-ed piece for your local paper, or ask students and faculty to write editorials for the campus paper.

However you get in touch with the local or campus press, make sure you've developed your key messages and anticipated tough questions ahead of time; be ready with statistics and information you can rattle off on the spot. To build your skills visit www.ala.org/advocacy and click on Advocacy University.