

Trustee Report
Manske Library Board
November 13, 2025
Submitted by Lee Alvoid

Use of AI to screen library books proves to be troublesome

Texas Schools are using AI to screen books in their collection to see if they need to be removed under the new law. Some of the problems encountered are misidentification of the trigger words that are not intended to be offensive like, “gay”, “queer” or just the word “sex”. The AI program also misses some portions of text that could be offensive under the law in the context of the book. Trying to screen all of the materials in large secondary libraries has brought challenges, but solutions to speed up the process have proven to be inadequate.

[Texas School Districts are Overwhelmed by New Library Laws: AI is Not the Answer - Texas Freedom to Read Project](#)

A Library on the border of Quebec and Vermont closed due to new US immigration policies

A small library intentionally designed to be on the shared border between Canada and the US has been closed due to fears of violations of immigration policies. Access to the library has existed for over a century, and the building is considered a historical landmark. Access to Canadians was terminated on October 1, 2025. The Haskell Public Library and Opera House issued library cards to anyone living within a 30-mile radius of the library. A black line marked the border through the middle of the building.

[Feds Curb Canadian Access to Library on the Border | American Libraries Magazine](#)

Libraries are using games to help readers access materials and connect with the community

The DC public library is using a game called Playful City Lab, which allows patrons to engage in fun activities like scavenger hunts for city landmarks and storytelling through text messages. The project, called Engaging Beyond our Walls, was developed by American University. Over 50 community libraries in the community use the software platform which is evidently “budget friendly” to engage with community events and make library programs accessible through cell phones.

[Press 1 for Engagement | American Libraries Magazine](#)

Reading Lists from the Texas Library Association

The Manske Library sends helpful reading lists for patrons who subscribe to lists of interest like History and Biography. The Texas Library Association provides lists in categories like age groups, genre, and award winners. Categories have Texas names like Lariat, Lone Star, Little Mavericks, and Texas Bluebonnet winners. Libraries can publish these lists to patrons to generate interest in Texas-related fiction and non-fiction books.

[Reading Lists - Texas Library Association](#)