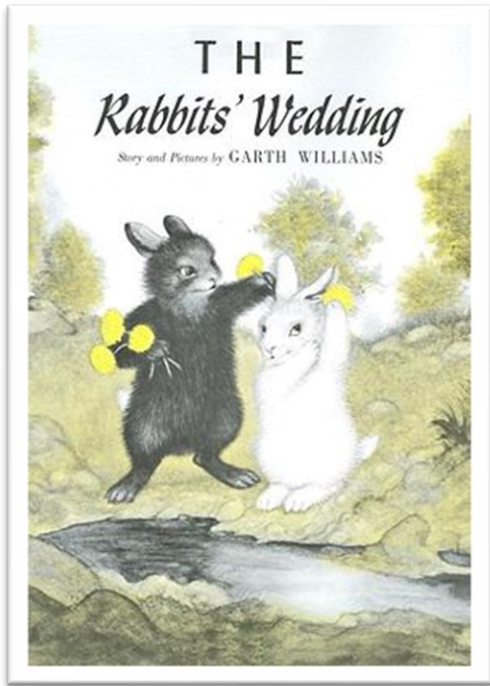

Creating a Culture of fREADom: Banned Books Week Door Decorating Event

CHRISTINA JONES
Head, Education Library
Indiana University Bloomington

The IUB Education Library [hosted an event](#) at the School of Education in collaboration with the [Office of Undergraduate and Teacher Education \(UTE\)](#) to raise awareness about book challenges and to build a community that values the freedom to read. The event began with a lecture given by the Head of the Education Library, Christina Jones, on the topic of challenges to children's literature past and present. Students were stunned upon learning of the attempts in the 1950s by an Alabama State Senator to ban the [Rabbit's Wedding](#) in which a black rabbit and a white rabbit get married in a forest. ([See this blog post for further reading.](#)) After the lecture, participants were invited to use the resources in the [WORKshop](#) to create classroom door displays celebrating books and the freedom to read that were displayed along a major hallway in the Wright Education Building. The decorated doors ranged from the whimsical to social justice themes. Notably, members of the Black sorority Sigma Gamma Rho featured Derrick Barnes' picture book ode to young Black boys, [I am Every Good Thing](#). An [INSPIRE Living-Learning Center](#) resident created a tribute to [The Rabbit's Wedding](#). The event is fast becoming a highly anticipated annual tradition at the School of Education.

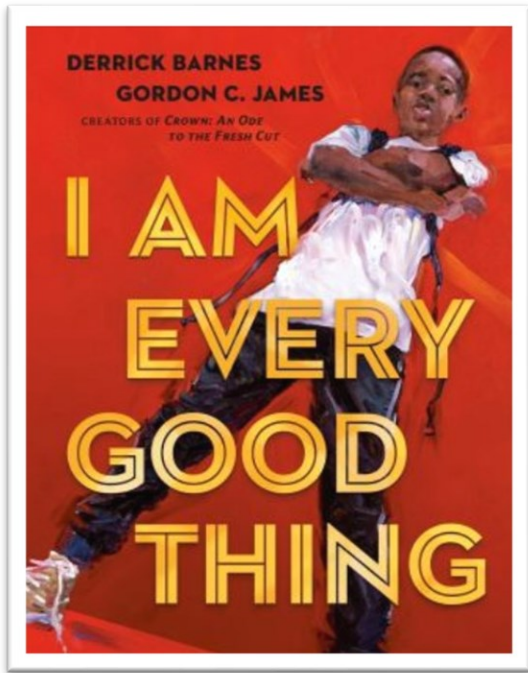


Door decoration for "Ken's Book Club."



Book cover image of The Rabbits' Wedding taken from IUCAT.





Book cover image of I Am Every Good Thing taken from IUCAT.

