

Kurt Ostrow

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If you've ever met a teenager, you know they're particular. What they like defines who they are. With support from the Book Love Foundation, I was able to hugely expand my classroom library in order to satisfy the diverse tastes of my diverse public school students. I laminated, labeled, and shelved hundreds of new titles, a mix of both identity-affirming mirrors and empathy-building windows. As a result, I've seen the power of the just-right book to transform students into readers—an identity they've often shed by middle school, if they'd ever claimed it at all.

[Listen to Kurt's testimony.](#)

