What is my role as a book?

In a human library, books are people. Every book has a story to tell. As a book, readers will come to you during the human library event on March 27th in WCC’s Bailey Library to listen and learn from you.

Can I tell any story, or is there a theme?

There is no theme for the stories, but we encourage books to tell stories that share a unique perspective. We want books to share stories that they feel would benefit other people. If you’ve ever felt misunderstood or discriminated against, and you would like to have a chance to clarify the perception of some characteristic of your identity, we would love for you to be a book and help others understand your life. If you have a story of a life changing journey, we would love to hear that too. We do ask that people not use the Human Library to proselytize, debate or for their personal gain by selling to or charging fees to participants.

How does a human library work?

As a book, you may choose an important story from your life and give it a title. A bulletin board in the library will feature the titles for all available books. Readers will look at the board, pick out a title, and get escorted to the corresponding book. Books will have an audience of 1-4 people listening at a time, and they have 15 minutes to tell their story and talk with the readers. Then the readers will have the opportunity to walk to another book and listen to their story.

How do I sign up to be a book?

Books can sign up at https://wccnet.libwizard.com/HumanLibrary. We encourage books to spend an hour at the human library, which means telling your story 4 times.

Is someone going to record it?

No one will be recording your story. We want books and readers to feel as safe and comfortable as possible.

Do I need to bring something written if I plan to be a book?

Nothing is required from the books besides a story and the courage to tell it. But you are welcome to bring notes or an outline if it makes you feel more comfortable.

What role will the readers play?

The readers have the opportunity to "read" as many books as they please. The purpose of the event is to bring people together who may have never talked otherwise. The readers will simply listen to a book’s story, ask questions, chat, and then go to the next book.

Will there be training to be a book? Can I get help with my story?

Yes! All people that wish to share their story are required to attend an hour long training session where they will work on their story, finalize their schedule and learn more about being a book in the Human Library.
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What is my role as a volunteer?

As a volunteer you would support and promote the Human Library event at WCC. Volunteers are needed to do outreach before the event, work on special projects, assist on the day of the event, and help with set up and breakdown of the event.

How do I sign up to be a volunteer?

Volunteers can sign up at https://wccnet.libwizard.com/HLvolunteer.

How much time is required to be a volunteer?

The time commitment varies based on your role. Some roles might be a few hours for a week or two before the event, day of event volunteers will be required to attend a training and work 2-5 hours on Wednesday, March 27th.