

Lambda Literary – Policy and Procedures on Public Statements

At Lambda Literary, we are dedicated to maintaining a focused and impactful approach in our communications. This commitment ensures that our efforts align with our mission and the needs of the communities we serve.

This policy guides our advocacy-based communications effectively, ensuring that our public statements are impactful, mission-aligned, and contribute positively to the discourse on important societal issues.

Since we are not an advocacy organization, we will typically not make public statements about current events but will on occasion consider statements when the following criteria are met:

1. **Alignment with Mission:** We will only issue public statements that are directly related to our core mission of (a) nurturing and advocating for LGBTQ writers; (b) elevating the impact of their words to create community, preserve our legacies, and affirm the value of our stories and our lives. We will ensure that all our communications remain relevant and mission-focused.
2. **National Domestic Issues:** Our public statements will address national domestic issues. This scope allows us to concentrate our efforts where we can make the most meaningful impact.
3. **Focus on LGBTQ Literature and Writers:** In recognition of the significant role that literature and writers play in shaping societal values and narratives, our public statements will focus on domestic matters pertaining to LGBTQ literature and writers
4. **Meaningful Contribution:** Our public statements will meaningfully contribute to public discourse and dialogue.

Consideration Process:

While we are open to considering issuing public statements, we anticipate our public position statements will be infrequent and non-recurring. For this reason, we will rarely issue multiple statements in a single year.

A Staff member who believes Lambda should make a public statement on an issue should discuss this with the Executive Director. At a regularly scheduled Board meeting, the Executive Director can ask the Board to consider forming a work group for the purpose of drafting a statement. The Board will use many factors to consider such requests, including but not limited to (a) alignment with the criteria above; (b) board members' ability to participate in the work group; (c) organizational priorities; and (d) the frequency with which statements are recommended.

Approved by the board 8/12/2024

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A Board member who believes Lambda should make a public statement on an issue should discuss this with Board Leadership. At a regularly scheduled Board meeting, Board Leadership can ask the Board to consider forming a work group for the purpose of drafting a statement. The Board will use many factors to consider such requests, including but not limited to (a) alignment with the criteria above; (b) board members' ability to participate in the work group; (c) organizational priorities; and (d) the frequency with which statements are recommended.

If the Board authorizes a work group to write a statement, it will be composed of:

- (a) Two Board members
- (b) Two Staff members appointed by the Executive Director
- (c) Executive Director

The Board will provide the work group with the following charge:

- (a) Draft a statement outlining a position within set parameters
- (b) Complete at least two weeks before the next regularly scheduled meeting

At the Executive Director's discretion, the Work Group may get input from staff before submitting the draft statement to the Board.

Once the statement has been drafted and submitted to the Board, the Board may:

- (a) Vote yes/no on approving the statement
- (b) Vote to approve the statement with minor revisions
- (c) Request the workgroup make significant revisions and resubmit it the Board for approval