Antiracism Statement

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Libraries are civic anchors, committed to access for all and strengthening bonds within and across communities. We stand firmly with all who are dismantling the inequality, brutality, and failures of justice that have been laid upon Black Americans for centuries. We stand for equity, justice, and opportunity. That said, libraries cannot stand solely on ideals. Libraries must commit to nurturing and supporting more diversity in our profession and recognize privilege in our everyday lives. We must listen to the communities that we serve and create opportunities for learning and action.

The United States of America can be the land of opportunity only when there is opportunity and justice for every member of society. We must speak out when there is injustice, but our words will mean little if they are not followed by action. The Berkshire Athenaeum pledges to make racial and social justice integral and ongoing in our services and programs.

Adopted November 2020