

SELECTION POLICY FOR LIBRARY MATERIALS

The Babylon Public Library selects library materials in accordance with its mission statement, which reads in part:

The Babylon Public Library provides materials and services to meet the recreational and information needs of community residents of all ages.

It is the responsibility of the Library Board of Trustees to set policy for the selection of library materials. The Library Director is responsible to the Library Board for policy implementation and for selection and development of the collection. This responsibility may be delegated in part by the Director to qualified professional librarians on the staff. Confidence is placed in their knowledge of accepted criteria supplemented by the use of the many recognized selection aids available.

A. SELECTION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

The Babylon Public Library is in full support of the American Library Association Library Bill of Rights and the American Library Association Freedom to View Statement. Within the scope of the Library Bill of Rights, the guidelines for selection of library materials are as follows:

1. The Library will always be guided by a sense of responsibility to both the present and the future in adding materials, which will enrich the collection and maintain an overall balance in the treatment of subject material.
2. The Library recognizes an obligation to make available current materials for enlightenment and recreation, even though such materials may not have enduring interest or value.
3. The Library does not aim to acquire textbooks or other curriculum related materials except as such materials also serve the general public.
4. Legal and medical works will be acquired only to the extent that they are useful to the layman.
5. Because the Library serves a public embracing a wide range of ages, educational backgrounds and reading skills, it will always seek to select materials of varying complexity.

The Library recognizes that some materials are controversial and that any given item may offend some patrons. Selections will not be made on the basis of any anticipated approval or disapproval, but solely on the merits of the work in relation to the building of a balanced, representative collection and one that serves the interests of the Library's public.

Patrons' requests for purchase of library materials shall be considered in accordance with the selection policy.

Responsibility for children's reading and viewing materials rests with the child's parents/legal guardians. Selection of materials to be acquired by the Library will not be inhibited by the possibility that these materials may come into the possession of minors.

The Library accepts gifts of books and other materials but reserves the right to evaluate and to dispose of them in accordance with the criteria applied to purchase materials. No condition may be imposed, relating to any gifted material, after its acceptance by the Library.

The collection shall systematically and continuously be weeded. Weeding (withdrawing) is an important aspect of collection development. When library materials lose the value for which they were originally intended, they should be weeded so that the collection remains vital and useful. The weeding of materials is based on the following guidelines:

1) To remove physically worn or damaged volumes from the library 2) To eliminate materials containing obsolete information 3) To remove duplicate copies of titles which have waned in popularity, eliminating those most physically worn or damaged. 4) To consider for withdrawal materials which have not been checked out for several years. The library will ensure that care be taken to maintain a proper selection of the great works of literature and other library and historical titles of permanent value.

The Director/professional staff will make the final decisions regarding the disposition of materials withdrawn from the collection. The Babylon Public Library considers that most withdrawn materials are beyond use and should be discarded. Withdrawn materials which are, in the estimation of the professional staff, appropriate for future use, will be given to organizations or other libraries, or sold to the public and the money used by the library.

Residents in the Babylon Public Library District may request the reconsideration of individual titles. This must be done in writing by requesting, completing and returning, to the Library Director, the form entitled "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials".

Adopted 11/15/93
Amended 2/28/00
Reconfirmed 7/09/19

9/8/15

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

Please complete this form and return it to the Director's Office

Are you aware the library has a material selection policy? _____ Have you read it? _____

Author: _____ **Type of Material:** _____

Title: _____

Publisher/Producer: _____ **Copyright date:** - - - - -

Complainant

Name: _____

Organization/Group (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____

1. To what in the material do you object? (Please be specific)

2. What do you feel might be the result of reading or viewing this material?

3. For what age group would you recommend this material?

