
Board Policy



Library Programs and Displays

Policy Statement

The Pierce County Library System ("Library") supports its mission and strategic goals by developing programs and displays that provide opportunities for connection and learning.

Purpose

Pierce County Library System's Board of Trustees recognizes that the Library's responsibility to provide fair and equitable access to information and ideas extends to Library programs and displays. Library programs and displays present a diversity of viewpoints that help people make informed choices.

Policy

The Library provides fair and equitable service to all people of every age, education, background, personal philosophy, religious belief, occupation, economic level, ethnic origin, and human condition.

Library staff expertise, collections, services, and facilities are used in developing and delivering programs and displays. Library staff create displays to highlight the Library's books and materials, and to inform and engage the public on a range of topics.

Library programs include, but are not limited to, lectures, community forums, performing and visual arts, participatory workshops, technology programming, story times, book clubs, class visits, discussion groups, installations, and presentations for social, cultural, educational, or entertainment purposes. Library programs and displays may take place on-site in Library facilities, offsite in other locations, or online and may be delivered by Library staff or Library partners and vendors.

Library staff use the following criteria in making decisions about program and display topics, speakers and accompanying resources:

- Community needs and interests
- Availability of program space
- Treatment of content for intended audience
- Presentation quality
- Presenter background/qualifications in content area
- Budget and staff resources
- Historical or educational significance
- Connection to other community programs, exhibitions or events
- Relation to Library books and materials, resources, programs, and services

The Library includes a broad spectrum of opinion and a variety of viewpoints in its programs and displays. The Library may collaborate with other community organizations or businesses on programs and displays that support the Library's mission and strategic goals. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute or imply the Library's endorsement of the content of the program or the opinions expressed by individuals and groups presenting the program.

Programs are free and open to all, including non-cardholders; and some programs are designed for age-specific audiences. No person or organization may use disruptive behavior to interfere, per the Library Rules of Conduct, with another person's access to or participation in Library programs. Responsibility for participation in programs by children and teens rests with their parents or legal guardians.

Library staff who present programs may do so only if the duties are a part of their classification and job description. Library staff will not be hired or volunteered as independent contractors or presenters for programming while employed by the Library.

Marketing

Marketing of all Library programs is coordinated by the Library's Communications Department. External organizations or individuals partnering with the Library on programs must coordinate marketing efforts with the Communications Department.

Accessibility

The Library values accessibility and makes every effort to comply with all applicable laws, including the standards and requirements of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and state or local disability accessibility guidelines. Reasonable accommodation will be made to have interpretation or real-time captioning for the deaf or hard of hearing at Library-initiated programs when needed or requested by visitors.

Related Policies

[Library Rules of Conduct](#)

[Selection of Library Materials](#)

Adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Pierce County Library System, July 17, 1974. Revised May 8, 2002, August 31, 2009, September 11, 2013, July 10, 2024.

By the enactment of this policy the Board of Trustees of Pierce County Library System is concurrently rescinding any prior policy or procedure within PCLS that is either in conflict with or expansive of the matters addressed in this policy.