

Materials Selection and Gifts Policy

Materials Selection Policy

The Board of Trustees of the Leicester Public Library ("Board"), recognizing the diverse nature of this community and the varied backgrounds and needs of its citizens, regardless of race, creed, or political persuasion, declares as a matter of selection policy that:

1. Books and/or library material selection shall be at the discretion of the director and, under his/her direction, such members of the professional staff who are qualified by reason of education or training. Any book and/or library material so selected shall be held to be selected by the Board. The Library Director and the Board welcome recommendations, with the understanding that such items will be subject to the same scrutiny as all other materials and subject to the availability of funds.
2. Selection of books and/or other library material; shall be made on the basis of their value of interest, information, and enlightenment to the people of the community. Staff members may consult professional book review sources when deciding to add an item to the collection. The availability of funds may limit the range and number of materials considered for purchase. No book and/or library material shall be excluded because of the race, nationality, or the political or social views of the author.
3. This Board believes that censorship is a purely individual matter and declares that while anyone is free to reject for him/herself materials of which she/he does not approve, he/she cannot exercise such censorship to restrict the freedom to read of others.
4. This Board defends the principles of the American Library Association's statements of the Freedom to Read and Freedom to View. Any objections to an item in the collection should be brought to the Board's attention through the Request for Reconsideration Form, which may be obtained from Library staff.

Gift Policy

The Leicester Public Library welcomes gifts of print and non-print materials with the understanding that the gift will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria and objectives by which purchased materials are judged. While gifts are welcomed, they are received with the understanding that they become the property of the library. The library cannot accept gifts under restricted conditions. The library may retain the gift and add it to its collection, dispose of it at its discretion, or donate it to another organization including but not limited to, the Friends of the Leicester Public Library. The library may refuse any gift that does not contribute to its mission and purpose.

The library will not be responsible for providing a statement of value to the donor for tax or other purposes, but will acknowledge receipt of the gift.

The library will acknowledge memorial gifts by means of a special bookplate that identifies both the donor and the person in whose memory the item is given.

Adopted at the December 18, 2018 Trustee's Meeting

