

## **LIBRARY MATERIALS SELECTION POLICY**

Libraries are educational institutions, which not only supplement and enrich the program of formal education, but also for many persons provide the only educational program available. Libraries are conducted for the common good and not to further the interest of the individual librarian, the governing body, or the library as a whole. It is in the interest of the common good that all citizens must have the freedom to seek and to learn the truth on all subjects. Intellectual freedom is essential to these purposes, implying a freedom in the selection of library materials, in the presentation of material on all sides of controversial subjects, and in the dissemination of information in all fields.

The Board of Library Trustees supports the following American Library Association's Bill of Rights and recognizes that the primary responsibility for selection of library materials rests on the library director:

"The Council of the American Library Association reaffirms its belief in the following basic policies which should govern the services of all libraries:

As a responsibility of library service, books and other library materials selected should be chosen for values of interest, information and enlightenment of all the people of the community. In no case should library materials be excluded because of the race, nationality, or the social, political or religious views of the author.

Libraries should provide books and other materials presenting all points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times; no library materials should be proscribed or removed from libraries because of partisan or doctrinal approval or disapproval.

Censorship should be challenged by libraries in the maintenance of the responsibility to provide public information and enlightenment.

Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

The rights of an individual to use the library should not be denied or abridged because of his age, race, religion, national origins or social or political views.

As an institution of education for democratic living, the library should welcome the use of its meeting rooms for socially useful and cultural activities and discussion of current public questions. Such meeting places should be available on equal terms to all groups in the community regardless of the beliefs and affiliations of their members, provided that the meetings be open to the public."

Adopted June 18, 1948;

Amended February 2, 1961 and June 27, 1967, by the ALA Council.

Adopted by the Library Board of Trustees, May 1, 1975

Reviewed by Library Board of Trustees: January 9, 1997; January 8, 1998; January 7, 1999; January 6, 2000; January 7, 2001; February 7, 2002, January 2, 2003; February 5, 2004; January 17, 2008; January 8, 2009; March 4, 2010, January 6, 2011; April 12, 2012; January 3, 2013; January 16, 2014; March 12, 2015; March 10, 2016; March 8, 2017; September 21, 2022