Application:

Library programs are defined as programs initiated, planned, conducted, or co-sponsored by Library staff, taking place in the Library, off-site, or virtually. Events held by third-party groups or individuals reserving Library meeting room space (in accordance with the Library's Meeting Room Policy), are not considered Library programs and Library staff and marketing resources are not used in their support.

Statement of Purpose:

The Community Library welcomes patron input regarding programming. Patrons requesting a review of a specific Library program may submit a Request for Programming Reconsideration form. Requests for review of programs will be considered in the same manner as requests for reconsideration of library materials as outlined in the Library's Collection Development Policy.

Policy Statement:

The Community Library supports its mission of building strong communities by developing and presenting programs that provide additional opportunities for education, enrichment, inspiration and entertainment. Programming is an integral component of library service that:

- expands the Library's role as a community resource
- introduces patrons and non-users to Library resources
- offers opportunities for lifelong learning
- provides entertainment
- promote the Library

Library programs, such as book discussions and programs relating to the Library's holdings and collection, will be led by professional staff whenever possible. If appropriate, and with the requisite level of expertise, staff may lead other programs, as well. These staff members present programs as part of their job and are not hired as outside contractors. At times, outside performers and presenters, who reflect specialized or unique expertise, may also be hired or enlisted as volunteers for Library programs.

In addition, the Library draws upon other community resources in developing programs and actively partners with other community agencies, organizations, educational and cultural institutions or individuals to develop and present co-sponsored public programs. All Library programs must be open to the public. Registration may be required for planning purposes or when space is limited. All Library programs will be free. Programs must not be for commercial or for the solicitation of business.

The Library's philosophy of open access to information and ideas extends to Library programming, and the Library does not knowingly discriminate through its programming. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program or the views expressed by participants.

Responsibility:

Responsibility for programming at the Library rests with the Library Director, under the authority of the Board of Trustees. The Library Director delegates program management to staff members whose job responsibilities involve program development and delivery. Proposed programs are evaluated for approval based on several criteria, including but not limited to:

- relevance to community interest and issues
- connection to other community programs, exhibitions, or events
- relation to Library collections, resources, exhibits and programs
- availability of program space
- staff time involved in program planning and/or presentation
- duplication of programs at other locations in the region
- budget and/or availability of supplies and other resources
- treatment of content for intended audience
- presenter background/qualifications in content area
- historical or educational significance
- public performance, exhibition or copyright issues

Patrons are encouraged to submit recommendations for program ideas or presenters.

Adopted: 11/9/2023

Reviewed:

Amended: