

Mattapoisett Free Public Library

Library Programming and Display Policy

It is the mission of the Mattapoisett Library to make available to the entire community those materials and services necessary to assist and support all its citizens in the pursuit of their educational, informational and recreational interests and needs.

Programs and displays enhance the library's role as a community resource, brings awareness to library materials and resources, provides educational opportunities, and brings visibility to library services.

The ultimate responsibility for programming and displays at the Library rests with the Library Director, under the designated authority of the Board of Trustees.

The following criteria are considered when planning programs and choosing display topics, speakers, and accompanying resources:

- Support of the Library's mission
- Community needs and interests
- Availability of program space
- Presentation quality
- Presenter background/qualifications in content area
- Budget
- Relevance to community interests and issues
- Historical, educational or artistic significance
- Connection to other community programs, exhibitions or events
- Relation to Library collections, resources, exhibits and programs
- Diversity and inclusivity in our community

The Library is a safe space for all members of our community and all library-initiated programs and displays will reflect that. Library promotion of a program or display does not necessarily constitute an endorsement of the content of the program or display or the views expressed by participants or material. All Library programs are free and open to the public.

Registration may be required for planning purposes or when space is limited. Programs are mainly held at the library though may meet occasionally off site or virtually. Some programs may only be offered for specific ages or at

specific times or places. However, the library staff strives to make programs accessible to all and welcome requests for reasonable accommodations.

In addition, the Library draws upon other 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. Professional performers and presenters that reflect specialized or unique expertise may be hired for Library programs; performers and presenters will not be excluded from consideration because of their national or ethnic origin, background, or views.

Any sales of products at Library programs must be approved by the Library Director. Library programs and displays are not used for commercial, religious, or partisan purposes.

The Library reserves the right to cancel a program for any reason at any time. Programs may be cancelled for a number of reasons beyond the Library's control such as severe weather, building emergencies, absence of the presenter, or low registration. Every effort will be made to contact individuals who have pre-registered. Cancelled programs are not automatically rescheduled.

The Mattapoisett Free Public Library provides space to outside groups for programs and meetings. These outside room bookings reflect no implicit or explicit collaboration between the group and the Library. See the Meeting Room policy for more details.

If a patron has a question about a particular library program, they should first address the concern with a library staff member or the Library Director. Patrons may request a review of a library program or display and should submit a Request for Reconsideration form. Requests for review of programs and displays fall under the Request for Reconsideration policy.

**This policy uses information and language from Cranston Public Library's Library-Initiated Programs and Display Policy.*

Adopted by the Board of Trustees on January 19, 2023