

Policy on Informational Resources Bayport Public Library

The Library provides access to a variety of resources to meet the information and recreation needs of individuals and the community. Materials are selected and made available for use in libraries, by loan or by distribution or via the WCL/BA Website. Access to electronic resources is offered in libraries, by dial-up modem and through the internet. Electronic resources such as library catalogs, databases, indexes and internet sites on the WCL/BA Website, are selected by staff and guidance in use is provided by the library.

Users may choose to bypass the guidance provided by the WCL/BA Website and use resources available through the internet which have not been selected by library staff. We recognize that some resources available through the internet are not accurate or reliable and may not be suitable for some users. We will not attempt to monitor or control use of internet resources. Parents and guardians are responsible for their minor children's or wards' use of library and internet resources.

1. We will ensure the availability of current information on needed subjects by continually selecting new resources for addition to collections and by reviewing existing resources for retention. Because of budget and space limitations, the library cannot acquire and retain every useful title but will consider the merits of the title considered as a whole in relation to the library's mission and policies. A wide variety of resources are provided to meet the diverse interests and needs of county residents. Some of these resources may be controversial and any given title may offend some library users. The library will not censor in its selection practices and selection will not be made on the basis of any anticipated approval or disapproval by individuals.

2. Our priority is to acquire and retain resources which have broad current and potential user demand. Specialized resources and curriculum materials are considered for acquisition if they also are of general interest. Staff selectors use their professional training and experience to make decisions about adding and retaining resources and consider many factors including:

- a. User requests and other indications of need and potential user demand
- b. Subject coverage in Bayport Public Library collections
- c. Availability of resources from other libraries and other sources
- d. Quality of the work indicated through reviews
- e. Reputation of author
- f. Depth and comprehensiveness of treatment of subject matter

g. Timeliness and reliability of information

3. As a source of information about the community, we acquire and make available various publications and information produced by local agencies. Depending on space available, these materials may be posted or kept on file for public use.

4. Collections include a variety of print and non-print materials formats, such as audio and video tapes, CDs, etc. We decide to acquire or retain formats after considering potential and/or demonstrated use, effectiveness in communicating content and projected durability.

5. Resources are reviewed regularly by selectors for retention and may be reviewed on request to determine how well an item continues to meet library objectives, potential for continued use, physical condition and space available to house the item. Some or all copies of items with reduced potential for use may be disposed of through sales or donations to other agencies.

7. The "Library Bill of Rights: and its interpretations, adopted by the Council of the American Library Association, are incorporated into this policy on library resources as appendix "A".

Adopted April 29, 1999
Revised August 22, 2002
Reviewed August 2003
Reviewed August 2004
Reviewed August 2006

Adopted April 29, 1999
Appendix A

LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

- I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
- II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
- IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.
- V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

Adopted June 18, 1948.
Amended February 2, 1961, and January 23, 1980,
inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996,
by the ALA Council.

