

**DERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**Programs Policy**  
**Approved 12/14/20**

The Derry Public Library (“DPL”) is committed to the principles of the American Library Association Library [Bill of Rights](#) and [Freedom to Read Statement](#). These principles are essential to the preservation of our democracy and the development of an informed perspective.

Consistent with our Mission Statement, the library seeks to provide programming that serves the diverse interests and concerns of its citizens of all ages. DPL’s Director is responsible for assigning specific staff and responsibilities regarding the selection and promotion of programs.

Programs are selected based on a variety of factors, including, but not limited to expressed interest, perceived interest based on circulation statistics, needs of the community, and encouragement of lifelong learning. Staff may select programs to promote other library services, such as databases, materials, and future program offerings. DPL strives to present programs which exhibit a balance of viewpoints, voices, and ideas.

Any program that is primarily commercial, religious, or politically partisan in nature will generally not be presented by DPL. Any such program shall require prior approval from the Director, which approval will typically be withheld. Additionally, any program that exceeds \$300 in cost shall require prior approval from the Director.

DPL does not endorse particular beliefs or viewpoints, and scheduling a program does not indicate agreement of the viewpoint expressed by the presenter or presentation. This pertains to all programs, including those run by DPL staff members, such as book or film discussion groups.

Derry citizens, community organizations, or DPL patrons seeking to sponsor a program using the Meeting Room may refer to the DPL Meeting Room Policy for requirements, rules and restrictions.

Responsibility of what any individual reads, listens to, or views must lie with the individual. DPL may suggest certain age guidelines depending on the nature of a program, however, DPL does not act *in loco parentis* in selecting programs and restricting access. Responsibility for minors attending programs rests with parents and guardians.

DPL’s Director and Board of Trustees welcome the comments of any patron regarding the services, materials, or program content offered by DPL. Any challenge to library programs is addressed in accordance with DPL’s policy re “Request for Reconsideration of Materials or Programs.”