

Davenport Public Library Programming Policy

Davenport Public Library offers programs intended to further its mission to connect a diverse community to resources that inform, enrich, educate, and entertain. A program is defined as an event sponsored or co-sponsored by the Library. A program can be a single event or a series of events, scheduled or pop-up, and take place inside or outside of a library facility or online. The Library Board of Trustees delegates development and presentation of programs to the Library Director and their designee(s).

Standards for Programming

Programs are provided as a means through which the public of all ages, cultures, backgrounds, and interest groups can share experiences, appreciate special interests and exchange information. Library programs should align with the [Library Bill of Rights](#) and the [Library-Initiated Programs and Displays as a Resource: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#). All library programs will meet the following program standards:

- Programs will be in alignment with, and work toward meeting, the Library's mission, vision, strategic plan, and/or organizational goals.
- Programs will have clearly defined goals and outcomes.
- Programs will be open to the public. Registration may be required for planning purposes or when space is limited.
- Restrictions on participation based solely on age or gender should be enforced only when not doing so would adversely impact the safety of the participants or interfere with the intended purpose of the program. In no case will attendance at a program be limited because the content of the program may be controversial. Note that parents and guardians may restrict their own children's access to programs, but no person or organization can interfere in others' access and participation. The Library encourages parents and guardians to discuss their child's access to and participation in programs with their child, but may not impose those decisions on others, including other people's children.
- Programs will be offered free of charge. Fundraising to benefit the Library may be approved at the discretion of the Library Director.
- The sale of products and services is not allowed; however, authors and artists are encouraged to obtain approval to sell their work following a program in which the author participated with 10% of sales donated to the FRIENDS of the Davenport Public Library and to donate a copy of their work to the Library for possible inclusion in the library collection.
- Programs will not support, endorse or oppose any political candidate, ballot measure, or specific religious conviction. Programs may address religious themes to educate or inform, but not to promote a particular religion. Programs are planned to be inclusive of all cultures. Holiday programs or candidates' forums that include invitations to all recognized candidates may be offered.
- All presenters for youth programming must undergo a police background check.
- In order to prepare a program schedule that reflects the diversity of the City of Davenport, Quad Cities community and the world, a presenter's demonstrated qualifications, expertise and reputation are all considered. Requests from individuals to present programs including author readings and signings are also considered.
- Programs will be weighed against the Library's budget, other allocated resources, and the public's interest in the topic.

- Programs of a purely commercial nature, including but not limited to, presentations offered for free but with the intention of soliciting future business, are not permitted.
- Materials asking for library visitors to sign a petition or letter are not permitted.

The Library may deliver programs in collaboration with external entities or individuals.

Community members are encouraged to request or make suggestions for library programs by submitting a [Propose a Program](#) form.

The Library welcomes expressions of opinion from patrons concerning programs. If a patron questions a program, they should first address the concern with library staff. Patrons who wish to continue their request for review of a program may request a Request for Reconsideration form at any library location. Requests for review of programs will be considered in the same manner as Requests for Reconsideration of Library Materials as outlined in the [Collection Development Policy](#).

Photographs/video taken at programs may be used in accordance with the [Filming and Photography Policy](#).

Approved: 06/18/2013

Revised: 10/18/2016 | 10/15/2019 | 01/17/2023