

The Case Memorial Library

Library Display Policy

PURPOSE

The Case Memorial Library maintains library-initiated display areas that showcase the Library collections, highlight cultural, educational, and local interests and aims to further the Case Memorial Library's Mission.

The Library recognizes the importance of displays as resources for voluntary inquiry and the dissemination of information and ideas and to promote free expression and free access to ideas by residents. A key aspect of our approach is the creation of thoughtfully curated displays, which play an essential role in informing and inspiring individuals of all ages and diverse backgrounds.

This policy for library-initiated displays furnishes a basis to assist the Case Memorial Library staff with planning and implementation of exhibiting topics, resources, and related materials. It also seeks to inform the public about the principles and criteria that go into the planning process.

All library materials are evaluated and made accessible in accordance with the protections against discrimination set forth in section 46a-64 of the general statutes,

DEFINITION OF A DISPLAY

A library display is a curated presentation of materials, like books, flyers, and exhibits, intended to inform, enlighten, and serve the community's interest. Displays are provided for the interest, information and enlightenment of all residents. They represent a wide range of varied and diverging viewpoints, and provide access to content that is relevant to the research, independent interests and educational needs of the residents and are developed by professionally trained library staff.

PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

The final responsibility for the display of Library materials is held by the Library Director, but day-to-day responsibility is shared by professional and paraprofessional employees throughout the Library who are professionally trained to curate and develop displays.

The Library staff uses the following criteria in making decisions about display topics, materials, and accompanying resources:

- Community needs and interest
- Availability of display space
- Historical, cultural, or educational significance
- Connection to other community or national programs, exhibitions, or events
- Relation to library collections, resources, exhibits, and programs
- The library may partner with other community agencies, organizations, educational institutions or individuals to develop and present co-sponsored displays and exhibits.

In addition, the Library draws upon other community resources in developing displays and exhibits, and may partner with other community agencies, organizations, educational institutions, or individuals to develop and present co-sponsored displays and exhibits.

We strive to include a wide spectrum of opinions and viewpoints in library-initiated displays and exhibits, as well as offer displays and exhibits that appeal to a range of ages, interests, and information needs. Library-initiated displays and exhibits should not exclude topics, books, media, and other resources solely because they may be considered to be controversial. Acceptance of a display or exhibit topic by the Library does not constitute an endorsement by the Case Memorial Library or the Town of Orange. Library displays provide access to content that is relevant to the research, independent interest and educational needs of residents.

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AND CENSORSHIP

The Library preserves the right of citizens to obtain information on all sides of potentially controversial issues so that each individual can decide for themselves the value of opposing ideas. In representing various sides of a question, the Library thus provides citizens with reliable sources of information on which to base intelligent decisions in their daily lives.

The Library has a responsibility to protect the rights of all patrons; displays which may be considered frank or offensive to some are permitted if they adhere to the Library's Display Policy and contribute to the furtherance of its mission.

Only parents and legal guardians have the right and responsibility to restrict the access of their children to library resources. The display of materials is not inhibited by the possibility that particular works may inadvertently be seen by or come into the possession of children and young adults.

Labels will be provided only as viewpoint-neutral directional aids to facilitate access by making it easier for users to locate materials. The materials are displayed on open shelves and are equally accessible to all users, who may choose to consult or ignore the directional aids at their own discretion.

The American Library Association's [Library Bill of Rights](#), [Freedom to Read](#), and [Freedom to View](#) statements are basic to the above policy.

REVIEW AND RECONSIDERATION

The Library limits consideration of requests to reconsider displays to individual residents of the Town of Orange. Please see our Statement of Reconsideration Policy and reconsideration form for further information on this process. All library materials are evaluated and made accessible in accordance with the protections against discrimination set forth in section 46a-64 of the Connecticut General Statutes