



VPL COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

OVERVIEW STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Vestal Public Library to select materials that serve its diverse patrons and the Vestal community, providing access to materials that meet their interests and needs. Library materials should be equitable in content and available in a variety of formats. VPL aims to do this while staying within its budget.

OBJECTIVES IN MATERIAL SELECTION

- To select materials that meet the needs and interests of VPL patrons and the Vestal community.
- To provide materials that cover a span of topics including recreational, educational and cultural information.
- To provide up to date and timely materials including patron suggestions when appropriate.

The final responsibility for the material selection lies with the Library Director, following the guidelines of the collection development policy. Adult and Youth Services Librarians will make suggestions for purchasing within the individual departments.

SELECTION CRITERIA (in no particular order)

1. Timeliness / Timelessness
2. Multiple Points of View (VPL does not censor)
3. Value added
4. Relevancy
5. Accuracy
6. Author's Credibility
7. Enhancement of the Collection
8. Publisher's Credibility
9. Accessible to a broad audience
10. Diversity
11. Reviews from various sources will be used
12. Various Formats including: books, ebooks, DVD's, CD's, periodicals, databases, and other electronic resources

Not every selection needs to satisfy all criteria. When making selections, VPL will consider patron suggestions, local authors and local history as appropriate.



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COLLECTION MAINTENANCE: WEEDING & DEACCESSIONING

VPL does not automatically replace all materials that are lost and damaged. Each item is analyzed for (but not limited to): duplicate copies, patron demand, up to date subject matter, subject coverage, and demand. Materials that are obsolete, unused, damaged, and/or duplicated and are no longer needed, will be removed from the collection and processed appropriately.

Deaccessioning is performed by a librarian or designated VPL staff member(s) under the supervision of a librarian.

CONTROVERSIAL MATERIALS

When serving a diverse population we will select material with the objective of meeting the needs of most of the people most of the time. This will be done by covering diverse ideas and points of view in both fiction and non-fiction. When it comes to children we ask that parents help their children with their selection. The library and its Board endorse the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read.

GIFTS

VPL accepts the donation of monetary gifts and appropriate physical materials to satisfy the needs of the Library and enhance its programs, services, and collections. VPL reserves the right to: incorporate, sell, donate, or discard any donated materials. The patron donating materials should assess the value of their contribution for tax purposes.

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