

## **COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT**

### **A. MATERIALS SELECTION**

1. The purpose of the Granger Public Library is to provide all individuals in the community with carefully selected books and other materials to aid the individual in the pursuit of education, information, research, pleasure, and the creative use of leisure time. Because of the volume of publishing, as well as the limitation of budget and space, the library must have a selection policy with which to meet community interests and needs.

It is the right and responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to monitor their child's reading activity. Selection of materials for the library collection is not restricted by the possibility that minors may obtain materials their parents consider inappropriate. Library staff and Board upholds the confidentiality of all patrons' circulation records. The library endorses the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read Statement adopted by the American Library Association.

### **B. SELECTION RESPONSIBILITY**

1. The responsibility for material selection and the development of the library collection rests with the Director, with input from library staff. Suggestions from patrons are welcomed and given consideration within the general criteria for selection. The final decision for purchase rests with the library.

### **C. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION**

1. The main points considered in the selection of materials are: individual merit of each item, popular appeal/demand, suitability of material for the patrons, existing library holdings, budget, and space limitations.

### **D. INTERLIBRARY LOAN**

1. The library cannot provide all materials that are requested because of budget and space. The interlibrary loan program is used to obtain from other libraries those materials that are beyond the scope of this library's collection. In return for utilizing interlibrary loan to satisfy the needs of our patrons, the Granger Public Library agrees to lend its materials to other libraries through the same interlibrary loan network.

### **E. GIFTS**

1. The library may accept donations, but the Director will decide by means of criteria whether to add the gift to the collection.

### **F. WEEDING**

1. An up-to-date and attractive collection is maintained through a continual withdrawal and replacement process. Replacement is dependent upon current demand usefulness, more recent acquisitions, and availability of newer editions. Ongoing weeding is the responsibility of the Director and is authorized by the Board. Withdrawn materials will be handled in a similar manner as donated materials.

**G. CITIZEN CONCERNS**

1. Materials are carefully selected but there can arise differences of opinion regarding suitable materials. Patrons requesting that materials be withdrawn from or restricted within the collection may complete a "Statement of Concern About Library Resources" form, which is available in the library. The inquiry will be placed on the agenda of the next regular meeting of the Board.

(Revised/Approved by the Granger Public Library Board 02/15/2021)

**THE FREEDOM TO READ STATEMENT**

The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights. We therefore affirm these propositions:

1. It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expression, including those that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.
2. Publishers, librarians, and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what should be published or circulated.
3. It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.
4. There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.
5. It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept the prejudgment of a label characterizing any expression or its author as subversive or dangerous.
6. It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large; and by the government whenever it seeks to reduce or deny public access to public information.
7. It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the

exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a “bad” book is a good one, the answer to a “bad” idea is a good one.

This statement was originally issued in May of 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and American Book Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Institute to become the Association of American Publishers.

Adopted June 25, 1953; revised January 28, 1972, January 16, 1991, July 12, 2000, June 30, 2004, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee.

First Amendment of the Bill of Rights to the United States Constitution

CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGION, OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF; OR ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS; OR THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE PEACEABLY TO ASSEMBLE, AND TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT FOR A REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES.

The Bill of Rights to the U.S. Constitution was ratified on December 15, 1791.

Adopted by the Granger Public Library Board Feb. 24, 2021

