



Lee Public Library

Library Programming Policy

The Lee Public Library offers programs for all ages to enrich lives by fostering a sense of place, community, and collaboration, while nurturing curiosity and creativity. Programs are offered by the library to introduce library resources, entertain, broaden knowledge, share experiences, and exchange information.

Programs are selected by the Library Director and Youth Services Librarian. Programs are considered and weighed against community interest in the topic, historical or educational significance, connections to other community programs, exhibits or events, popular appeal, relation to library collections, resources, services, and exhibits, the library's program budget, space requirements, relevancy and staffing ability, as well as the presenter's demonstrated qualifications, expertise, and reputation.

Library programs include, but are not limited to:

- Book discussions
- Story time for children
- Author visits/readings
- Creative performances
- Movie showings
- Demonstrations and workshops
- Instructional classes
- Lectures and presentations
- Exhibits and associated programs
- Community forums that may include sensitive and/or controversial subject matter
- Crafting

The library strives to include a wide range of subjects and viewpoints in library-sponsored programs and exhibits. Program topics, speakers and resources are not excluded from library programs based on their origin, background, sexuality, gender, religion, ability, or views, or because of possible controversy. Programs cannot be used purely for solicitation or for partisan purposes. Library staff who present programs do so as part of their regular job and are not hired as outside contractors for programming.

The sale of books or CDs is permissible as part of an approved library program. Presenters are encouraged to donate a copy of their work for the library collection, if not already owned.

No fees may be charged to people attending library programs. The library's philosophy of open access to information and ideas extends to library programming and the library does not knowingly or intentionally discriminate through its programming.

Written and Approved by the Board of Trustees, April 2023



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Library programs may occur during normal operating hours in various areas of the library, or outside of operating hours with the permission of the Library Director. The responsibility for a child's choice to attend or to be present during a program belongs with the parents and/or legal guardians of the child.

Some programs may require individuals to register or may be limited based on space and supply requirements. A waiting list is often available should program registration become full. Programs may be cancelled for a number of reasons, including but not limited to, severe weather and low registration. Library programs are promoted through a variety of venues including the library website, social media sites, newspaper releases, library newsletters, Lee newsletters, and flyers.

While the library promotes the free and open exchange of ideas, a distinction must be made between programs which are created and designed by the library and programs designed by groups outside the library. The library does not attempt to control or be responsible for the content of programs it does not create. It recognizes that the group bringing the program to the library is responsible for its content and execution. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute or imply an endorsement of the presenter's content, beliefs, or outside organizational policies by any Lee Public Library personnel, the Lee Public Library Board of Trustees, the Friends of the Lee Public Library, or by the Town of Lee.

The Library Director is responsible for the final approval of all library programming and the execution of this policy and exceptions therein. Requests for review of a programming decision can be initiated by completing the Request for Reconsideration of a Library Resource Policy.