

## **Wallingford Public Library Library Programming Policy**

In order to fulfill our mission of connecting people with ideas, experiences, and each other to inspire, enrich, and inform, the Wallingford Public Library (WPL) is dedicated to providing a diverse range of programs.

The definition of programs includes lectures, discussions, classes, workshops, presentations, hands-on activities, and performances. In support of the Library's commitment to diversity equity, and inclusion, programs will celebrate marginalized groups and target underserved populations whenever practical.

All programs are intended to further the mission of the Library. Library programs may include, but are not limited to, programming that will address the following educational, recreational and/or civic needs:

- To increase awareness/use of resources and foster an enduring connection to the Library
- To provide educational, informational, and cultural experiences on a variety of topics
- To champion the principle of intellectual freedom
- To provide programs for various age groups, cultures, and interests
- To meet popular demand, both existing and anticipated
- To increase Library use by underserved populations

The Library's staff use the following criteria in making decisions about program topics, speakers, and accompanying resources:

- Community needs and interests
- Availability of program space
- Treatment of content for intended audience
- Presentation quality
- Presenter background/qualifications in content area
- Staff time and resources
- Relevance to community interests and issues
- Historical or educational significance
- Connection to other community programs, exhibitions or events
- Relation to Library collection, resources, exhibits and programs
- Note that local authors who express interest are invited to the annual Local Author Spotlight. Individual local author events are not considered.

The Library's philosophy of open access to information and ideas extends to Library programming and the Library does not knowingly discriminate through its programming. Library approved programming does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program, nor the views expressed by participants, and program topics, speakers and resources are not excluded because of possible controversy. We serve a diverse population with a wide variety of interests; therefore, The Library does not proscribe or cancel a program solely because an individual or group may find the content objectionable.

Ultimate responsibility for programming at WPL rests with the Library Director, who administers under the authority of the Board of Managers. The Director, in turn, delegates the authority for program management to the Library's Department Heads who oversee this responsibility through the designated staff in their respective departments.

When necessary for the comfort and efficacy of a specific program, Library staff may require registration, set appropriate limitations, and/or impose a maximum capacity for that program. While attending Library programs, individuals are expected to follow WPL's Code of Conduct, or they may be asked to leave both the program and the premises.

*Approved by the Wallingford Public Library Board of Managers on November 26, 2024.*

*See also related policies: Confidentiality, Meeting Room Use, Code of Conduct.*