

## **AGENDA**

**Library Board of Trustees-Verona Public Library  
500 Silent Street Verona, WI 53593  
608-845-7180**

**Wednesday, June 1, 2022, 6:30 p.m.  
Library Community Room**

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Library Board of Trustees will hold its meeting in person and as a virtual meeting.**

**Members of the public can join the meeting in person or using Zoom Webinar via a computer, tablet, or smartphone, or by calling into the meeting using phones, as described immediately below. Those requiring toll-free options should contact the Verona Public Library for details prior to the meeting at [sburkart@ci.verona.wi.us](mailto:sburkart@ci.verona.wi.us) or 608-845-7180.**

### **Join the meeting by computer, tablet, or smart phone:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83229121571>

### **Join the meeting via phone by dialing:**

**1-312-626-6799**

The online meeting agenda and all support materials can be found at [veronapubliclibrary.org](http://veronapubliclibrary.org) or [www.ci.verona.wi.us](http://www.ci.verona.wi.us). Anyone with questions prior to the meeting may contact the Library at (608) 845-7180 or [sburkart@ci.verona.wi.us](mailto:sburkart@ci.verona.wi.us).

### **Call to order**

- Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of 5/4/22
- Review and approval of May 2022 invoices
- Public Comments
- City Council Liaison's report
- Library Director's report
- Old Business
  1. Preliminary discussion of the 2023 budget
  2. Discussion and possible action regarding the Collection Development Policy
- New Business  
(No new business)

**VPL Board Meeting Minutes**  
*Library Board of Trustees-Verona Public Library*  
500 Silent Street Verona, WI 53593

**Wednesday, May 4, 2022, 6:30 p.m.**  
**In Person & Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

Present: Hopp, Conwell, Cronin, Huemmer, Sohail, Voss, Burkart  
Absent: Safarik

**Call to order:**

Hopp called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Conwell, seconded by Sohail to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of 4/06/2022. Motion carried.

**Review and Approval of Invoices:**

A motion was made by Cronin, seconded by Conwell to approve the April 2022 invoices. Motion carried.

**Public Comments:**

None

**City Council Liaison Report:**

- No Mow May signs are available at City Hall.
- Several road construction projects are underway, the PB & M intersection and the Epic off ramp will be under construction this summer.
- Construction continues on the Sugar Creek development site.

**Library Director's Report:**

- The front doors are failing and need to be replaced.
- Verona Reads! Community Read project launches May 26.

**Old Business:**

**1. Discussion and possible action regarding library response to COVID-19:**

The community room will reopen for public reservations starting in June. The room will be heavily used for library programs and story times over the summer.

**2. Preliminary discussion of the 2023 budget:**

Dane County funding will remain at current level for 2023. The library is taking a close look at staffing levels. Phase 2 of the re-carpeting project will also be a capital budget request.

**New Business:**

**1. *Discussion and possible action regarding the Collection Development Policy***

The board discussed the proposed changes especially around the request for reconsideration of library materials, the library managers will make additional changes and the board will review the policy again at the June meeting. No action taken.

**2. *Discussion and possible action regarding purchase of display shelving for new books***

A motion was made by Cronin, seconded by Conwell to approve the purchase of new display shelving for the center of the library. Motion passed.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

**Next meeting:** June 1, 6:30 p.m., to be held in person and virtually

VERONA PUBLIC LIBRARY  
DIRECTOR'S REPORT  
May 2022

***I. Collection Development***

A complete inventory of the library collections was completed in May.

Number of items added and deleted in April 2022.

<b>Item Type</b>	<b>Added</b>	<b>Deleted</b>
Books	862	210
Audio	6	9
Software	4	0
Video/DVD	71	10
Other (kits, etc.)	9	0
Magazines	125	89
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1077</b>	<b>318</b>
<b>YTD</b>	<b>4328</b>	<b>2866</b>

***II. Circulation***

April Statistics

Self-check-outs	31,797
Total check-outs	47,514
Self-check-outs vs. desk	86.92%
Check-ins	35,964
Library cards added	129
Holds placed	12,098

***III. Reference***

Statistics, April 23- May 20:

Reference: 784 transactions
Children's Reference: 333 transactions
Directional: 215 transactions
Proctoring: 5 exams proctored
Outer Library Loans: 41 requests
One-on-One Instruction: 52
Personal Archiving Lab Sessions: 2
Computer Use: 434
Library Visits: 11,593
Librarian's Choice: 3

**Social Media & Email Engagement:**

Facebook: 4,139 followers, 40 posts
Twitter: 1,782 followers, 0 tweets

Instagram: 1,313 followers, 2 posts, 3 reels  
Events Newsletter A: 10,363 recipients  
Events Newsletter B: 10,354 recipients

#### ***IV. Personnel and Staff Development***

Ayanna Cone started as a Page I on May 2.

Abby Kolosovskiy began her position as Communication Coordinator/Reference Librarian on May 23.

An all-staff in-service was held on May 13. Library staff toured the Verona Senior Center, participated in person-in-charge training, and finished the library inventory project.

#### ***V. Equipment and Physical Facilities***

Emma returned five patron computers to their terminals in the center of the library, bringing the total available back to ten.

#### ***VI. Administration and Internal Operations***

The management team met and discussed updates to the Collection Development Policy.

#### ***VII. Marketing and Public Relations***

Emma made graphics for 11 adult programs, plus bookmarks. Emma also created promotional materials for Verona Reads! Mark has been creating and sharing events on Facebook, while Tonja has taken over updating the web slider, TV, and self-checks.

Emma completed the marketing mini grant project. A postcard will be delivered to 2,528 Verona households encouraging residents to visit the library.

#### ***VIII. System and Interagency Cooperation***

Marissa and Leah will be going to Verona Area High School during lunch on Friday, May 27, to give away free copies of *Firekeeper's Daughter* to students and promote Verona Reads!

Staff from Sun Prairie Public Library reached out to Theresa to discuss Verona's acquisitions/technical services processes, a site visit is planned for June.

#### ***IX. Fundraising***

The annual 5K Run/Walk fundraiser will take place on Saturday, April 30. The library raised \$11,690 for the endowment fund this year.

#### ***X. Events, Programs and Exhibits***

##### **Green Challenge**

March 20 – April 25

Participants: 207 households

Completed activities: 1,574

Patrons were encouraged to participate in the Green Challenge by completing activities based on making environmentally-friendly choices and changes. The most completed activities included: cleaning with chemical-free products, composting food waste, recycling plastic bags, using less water, growing something, switching to reusable bags, biking somewhere you would normally drive, using less paper, and fixing or reusing something. People tried making new foods, from hummus, to bread, to fancy DIY coffee

drinks to-go, and many meatless meals. Someone made a Mancala board game out of an egg carton. Another person used Furoshiki wrapping to gift a ham. Patrons joined Citizen Science Projects, including bird nest watching and water quality testing for the Sugar River. Someone successfully removed dog prints off windows with water and vinegar. A child used a pair of torn pajama pants to make clothes for her stuffed animals, while another person fixed a hole in their pants. One patron even fixed an old lawn mower left on the curb. People also discovered where they can recycle atypical items, learned about what they can and cannot include in their recycling bins, and committed to moving away from certain one-use plastics. Some households joined CSAs and visited local farmer's markets for the first time. Others created bug-friendly habitats, planted native prairie patches, and participated in no mow May.

### **Kid's Events and Programs:**

#### **1000 Books before Kindergarten**

Fifteen kids were registered this month, bringing the total number of registrants to 2313.

#### **In-person Story Times**

March 14 – May 6

Baby Story Time: 7 story times, attendees: 159, average: 23

Toddler Story Time: 13 story times, attendees: 388, average: 30

Preschool Story Time: 13 story times, attendees: 388, average: 30

Everybody Story Time: 16 story times, attendees: 418, average: 26

Total: 1353

Virtual Toddler Story Time Fridays at 9:30

Total one-minute views: 151

Average one-minute views: 19

Virtual Preschool Story Time Mondays at 11:30

Total one-minute views: 118

Average one-minute views: 15

#### **Virtual Music & Movement Story Time**

Tuesday, April 19, 9:30 am

Join us for a musical story time with egg shakers and ribbon rings! Geared to ages 1-3.

1-minute views: 13

Bags distributed: 75

#### **Virtual Clifford Story Time**

Tuesday, April 26, 9:30 am

Enjoy stories, songs, and activities about Clifford!

1-minute views: 29

Bags distributed: 100

#### **Lego Club**

Tuesday, April 28, 4 pm

Join fellow Lego fanatics for challenges and meet-up over Zoom. Ages 6-11.

Attendees: 8

### **Free Comic Book Day**

Saturday May 7, 1 – 3 pm

Drop by to celebrate Free Comic Book Day! Choose some free comics for kids and teens, plus create your own comics, decorate a superhero mask and more. While supplies last. Geared to ages 6 - 18.

Attendees: 79

### **Virtual Baby Shark Story Time**

Tuesday, May 10, 9:30 am

Enjoy stories, songs, and activities about Baby Shark!

1-minute views: 42

Bags distributed: 96

### **Pokémon Club**

Thursday, May 12, 4 pm

Now in person! Join fellow Pokémon fanatics for a Pokémon related activity each month. Bring your Gameboy, Switch, or learn to play the trading card game and compete against other kids! Bring your own deck or borrow one of ours. Ages 6-11. In the community room

Attendees: 21

### **Favorite Books and Bites: Mr. Lemoncello**

Monday, May 16, 4 pm

Now in person! Discuss the Mr. Lemoncello series, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the books.

Please register in advance. Ages 8 - 11.

Attendees: 4

## **Upcoming Kids' Events**

### **Lego Club**

Tuesday, May 26, 4:00 pm

Join fellow Lego fanatics for challenges and meet-up over Zoom. Ages 6-11.

### **Summer Reading Program**

The summer reading program will be very similar to last year's, where participants will use the Beanstack software to track their reading to earn coupons and prizes, plus kids and teens may do activities to earn tickets to try to win bigger grand prizes. The reading program will be June 1 – August 31. Coupons are similar to past years, plus kids and teens can earn three free books each.

### **Kindermusik**

Thursday, June 2, 10:30 am

The Wonder Studio presents a demo Kindermusik class for ages 0 - 5 and accompanying adult. Come sing, play, and move with us!

### **Virtual Story Time: Octonauts**

Tuesday, June 7, 9:30 am

Enjoy stories, songs, and activities about the Octonauts! Octonauts craft bags will be available in the children's area starting May 31, while supplies last.

## **Summer Story Times - June 13 - July 29**

### **Indoor Story Time**

Baby Story Time: Fridays at 10:30 am

Toddler Story Time: Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:30 am

Preschool Story Time: Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 am

### **Virtual Everybody Story Time, on Facebook Live**

Tuesdays at 10:30 am

### **Outdoor Story Time**

Thursdays at 10:30 am

### **Toddler Art**

Tuesday, June 14, 9:30 – 10:00 am

### **Minecraft Club**

Tuesday, June 14 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Build in Minecraft based on a new theme each session! Ages 6 - 11. In the community room.

### **Meet the Author: Brian Young**

Tuesday, June 14, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Author Brian Young will discuss the middle-grade Verona Reads selection *Healer of the Water Monster* plus share information about the Diné culture, history and belief system. This program will be presented via Zoom. Register in advance so we can send the Zoom link via email. Sponsored by the Verona Public Library Endowment Fund and Friends of the Verona Public Library.

### **Tween Craft: Jellyfish Lanterns**

Wednesday, June 15, 2:30 – 3:30 pm

Ages 8-11.

### **Pokemon Club**

Thursday, June 16, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Join fellow Pokémon fanatics for a Pokémon related activity each month. Bring your Gameboy, Switch, or learn to play the trading card game and compete against other kids! Bring your own deck or borrow one of ours. Ages 6-11.

### **Open Art: Beach**

Friday, June 17, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Drop in and get creative with different art projects each week. Ages 4 - 10. No registration required.

### **Read It and Eat: The Aquanaut**

Monday, June 20, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Discuss the graphic novel *The Aquanaut* by Dan Santat in person, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Ages 8 - 11. Books will be available for check out approximately one month prior to the discussion. Stop by the youth services desk to request one.



### **Ocean STEAM: Octopuses**

Tuesday, June 21, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Have fun with ocean-themed STEAM activities! We will do 1-2 crafts and learn cool ocean facts. Geared toward ages 6 – 10.

### **Lego Club**

Thursday, June 23, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Join fellow Lego fanatics for challenges and meet-up over [Zoom](#). Ages 6-11.

### **Among Us**

Tuesday, June 28, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Ages 8-11 Registration required. Virtual event. Register with an email you have access to on the day of the event. We will email you the link to join the meeting just before the event begins.

### **Tween Nailed It! Cupcakes**

Wednesday, June 29, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Ages 8-11.

### **Verona Reads! "Healer of the Water Monster" Book Discussion**

Thursday, June 30, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Discuss our kids' community read, *Healer of the Water Monster* by Brian Young, plus enjoy activities and snacks related to the book. Ages 8 - 13.

### **Teen Events:**

#### **Teen Writing Club**

Monday, May 16, 4:15 – 5:15 pm

Teens created short stories based on memories and first-sentence-of-a-book prompts.

Attendees: 3

#### **CosmoKnights Book Club & Craft**

Wednesday, April 27, 4:30-5:30 pm

UW-Madison ischool students invited some teens in the library to make dream jar craft.

Attendees: 3

#### **College Admissions 101**

Wednesday, May 11, 7 – 8 pm

Zach Galin from Galin Education met with interested parents and teens to learn what sophomores and juniors can be doing now to prepare for the college application process.

Attendees: 6

#### **Free Comic Book Day**

Teens were able to select free comics and create their own comic page.

Attendees: 15

## **Upcoming Teen Events:**

### **Teen Summer Reading Program**

June 1 – August 31

### **Sea Creature Sculptures**

Monday, June 13, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Join other teens in creating sea creatures or mythical monsters (or whatever you want) out of paper pulp!

### **Crafty Tuesday**

Tuesdays, June 14 & 28, 2:00 pm

Stop by Teen Central for DIY projects. Create throughout the week, as supplies last.

### **Teen Craft: Jellyfish Lanterns**

Wednesday, June 15, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

### **Lawn Games & Frozen Treats**

Monday, June 20, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Play lawn games behind the library with other teens, weather permitting. Enjoy a cool treat and face off in cornhole, ladder toss, Spikeball, giant Jenga, etc. Don't forget your sunscreen!

### **Teen Gaming**

Wednesday, June 22, 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Snack and play board games, face off on the Nintendo Switch or SNES, or bring your own device.

### **Teen Outdoor Movie: Tremors**

Friday, June 24, 8:45 – 10:45 pm

Snack on some popcorn while you watch Tremors on a big screen in our parking lot theater! Bring a camp chair (we'll have some available), and dress for the weather. If it rains, we'll move the event indoors.

### **Teen Tech**

Monday, June 27, 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Explore Nintendo Labo (cardboard Switch creations), Makey Makey and littleBits kits. Make short films with Lego Minifigs. and action figurines.

### **Teen Nailed It! Cupcakes**

Wednesday, June 29, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Attempt to create a cupcake design masterpiece. Succeed or fail, you will walk away with some new decorating techniques – and cupcakes!

## **Adult Classes & Events:**

### **Adult Classes and Events**

#### **Distance Learning English Classes**

Beginner English, Monday, April 18, Attendees: 6

Intermediate English, Tuesday, April 19, Attendees: 6

Beginner English, Monday, April 25, Attendees: 6

Intermediate English, Tuesday, April 26, Attendees: 7

Beginner English, Tuesday, May 3, Attendees: 1

Intermediate English, Tuesday, May 3, Attendees: 4

### **Cranes over Wisconsin - Virtual**

Wednesday, April 27, 6:30-7:30 pm.

Stephanie Schmidt, Outreach Coordinator for the International Crane Foundation, presented an interactive presentation on the cranes of Wisconsin.

Attendees: 10

### **Becoming Red Cross Ready, a Guide to Disaster Preparedness**

Monday, May 2, 6:30-7:30 pm

Molly McCormick, Disaster Program Specialist at the American Red Cross-Southwest WI Chapter, provided simple steps in advance to ensure you can weather a crisis safely and comfortably.

Attendees: 2

### **Senior Case Management Outreach**

Monday, May 9, Drop in Between 1:00-2:00

A case manager from the Verona Senior Center was available to answer questions and provide resources for older adults and their caregivers.

Attendees: 1

### **Speaking With Music**

Monday, May 9, 6:30-7:30 pm

Neng Now presented a musical performance and discussed how Hmong music is the last surviving musical language in the world.

Attendees: 18

### **Library Yarn Club**

Wednesday, May 11, Drop in Between 4:30-6:00 pm

Fiber art enthusiasts met up to learn new techniques, exchanged ideas and found inspiration for their next project.

Attendees: 15

### **Stand with Ukraine: Ukrainian Author Event**

Thursday, May 12, 6:30-7:30 pm

Dr. Westerlund talked about the war and read from her book, *From Borsch to Burgers: A Cross-Cultural Memoir*. She shared stories about Ukraine, pictures of her peaceful agrarian country and briefly covered the history of Ukraine's fight against the Russian aggressor for more than a century.

Attendees: 23

### **Rainforests and Climate Change**

Thursday, May 19, 6:30-7:00 pm

Bruce Calhoun, president of Save the Rainforest, discussed climate change, the ecology of rainforests, and a new Save the Rainforest Inc. initiative that supports the forest protection efforts of indigenous peoples living in the Amazon.

Attendees: 5

### **Using Social Media to Enhance Your Genealogical Research - Virtual**

Monday, May 23, 6:30-7:30 pm

Social media now has a big stake in our lives: how we communicate, how we learn, how we socialize, and how we break down barriers. Eleanor Brinsko, professional genealogist, will walk you through how to use

some of the largest social media platforms in order to answer your genealogical questions, connect you to cousins, and learn about the hometowns and origins of your ancestry.

Attendees: 7

## **Upcoming Adult Classes & Events**

### **Distance Learning English Classes for Adults**

Mondays 6-8 pm, Beginner, Beginner, June 6-August 16

Tuesdays 6-8 pm, Intermediate, Intermediate, June 7-August 16

This free group English class will be offered mostly online using Zoom. In-person classes will take place at the Verona Public Library (500 Silent St, Verona WI 53593) on March 7 and May 3. You will practice speaking, listening, reading, writing and new vocabulary in English. You can take your Zoom class on your smartphone, a tablet, a laptop, or a computer. If you do not have any of these, Literacy Network can lend you a device. Students will receive free English textbooks, at their level, in the mail. The textbook will be used for class and weekly homework. This class is presented in partnership with Literacy Network. For more information and to sign up, please call Becky Fabrizio at Literacy Network at (608) 268-6425 or email her at [becky@litnetwork.org](mailto:becky@litnetwork.org).

### **Library Yarn Club**

Wednesdays, May 25, June 8, June 22, 4:30 - 6:00 pm

If you enjoy knitting, crochet, embroidery, or another needlecraft, please join us at a new twice-monthly, drop-in stitching circle hosted by the library. Meet up with other fiber art enthusiasts, learn new techniques, exchange ideas, or find inspiration for your next project.

If weather permits, we will meet outside on the lawn behind on the library. Bring a lawn chair and your project. In case of cold or rainy weather, the group will meet in the library's Community Room. All skill levels welcome.

### **Verona Reads! Free Book Giveaway**

Thursday, May 26, 5:30 pm

Pick up your free copy of *Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley. Limited copies available. One copy per family.

### **Adult Summer Reading Program 2022**

June 1 – August 31

Visit [veronapubliclibrary.beanstack.org](http://veronapubliclibrary.beanstack.org) and/or get the Beanstack Tracker app to create an account starting June 1. Then register to participate. Log every hour of reading you do (up to 20 hours total) and enter to win a \$50 gift card to a Verona business. All reading counts, including audio books. The Summer Reading Program is funded by the Friends of the Verona Public Library.

### **Creating a Pollinator Paradise – Virtual**

Wednesday, June 1, 6:30-7:30 pm

Whether planting a garden, enjoying the beauty of your landscape or sitting down to a delicious meal, you have bees, butterflies, and other pollinators to thank. These essential members of our ecosystem are responsible for much of the food and beauty we enjoy each day. Create the right habitat and you can fill your landscape with bees, butterflies, birds, and other pollinators. Melinda Myers, gardening expert and author, will discuss plant selection, design strategies and plant care to help attract and support pollinators. Soon you will be enjoying their beauty and increased productivity in the garden! This webinar is free, but registration is required. Thank you to American Transmission Co. for sponsoring this webinar.

### **Wisconsin Dells Singers & Dance Troupe**

Thursday, June 2, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Wisconsin Dells Singers & Dance Troupe and Elliott Funmaker Sr. of the Ho-Chunk and Meskwaki Nations will perform traditional songs, stories, and dances of the Ho-Chunk people.

Music CD's will be available for sale and signing.

### **People of the Sacred Language**

Tuesday, June 7, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

The Ho-Chunk, *People of the Sacred Language*, have called Wisconsin home for centuries. They continue to exist and have overcome disease, genocide, removal, and colonization. Learn about the journey and how they continue to remain resilient and strong. Storyteller and Ho-Chunk tribal member, Andi Cloud, shares history, culture, and stories.

### **Firekeeper's Daughter Book Discussion**

Thursday, June 9 and June 16, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

We will meet and discuss *Firekeeper's Daughter*.

### **Senior Case Management Outreach**

Monday, June 13, Drop in between 1:00 – 2:00 pm

A case manager from the Verona Senior Center will answer questions and provide resources for older adults and their caregivers. Information on Medicare/Medicaid, nutrition, housing, assistance in the home, and resources in Verona and Dane County will be available.

### **Celebrating Verona's Archaeological Treasures: Snapshots and Stories From 10,000 Years of Verona History**

Wednesday, June 15, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Since the glaciers of the last Ice Age began to recede ten to twelve thousand years ago, Verona Township has been home to humans. The diverse landscape left behind by the glaciers has attracted people and supported a wide range of human communities over the millennia. Each community has left their own distinct traces; from the first Paleo-Indian hunting bands to the mound builders of the Woodland period to nineteenth-century homesteaders. Archeologist Paul Reckner will highlight the contribution of archaeology to our understanding of the deep history that often lies just beneath our feet. We will even meet the Sugar River Valley's first natural history museum curator and take tour of his collection.

### **Maintaining Your Landscape with Pollinators in Mind – Virtual**

Wednesday, June 22, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

You can have a landscape that you and pollinators enjoy. A few changes to the way we maintain our plants and manage insect pests and diseases can help create a safe environment for pollinators. Melinda Myers, gardening expert and author, will cover pollinator-friendly care to keep your landscape healthy and looking its best throughout the year. Then we will explore ways to manage the space without harmful chemicals to keep plants and visiting pollinators healthy. This webinar is free, but registration is required.

Register at: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_FliDbJekQ0mVKE2u59I7HA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_FliDbJekQ0mVKE2u59I7HA)

Thank you to American Transmission Co. for sponsoring this webinar.

### **Meet the Author: Angeline Boulley – Virtual**

Thursday, June 23, 7:00 - 8:15 pm

Author, Angeline Boulley will discuss her debut novel, *Firekeeper's Daughter*, a groundbreaking YA thriller about a Native teen who must root out the corruption in her community.

## **A Look at Food, Culture and History of the Woodland Area**

Wednesday, June 29, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Executive chef and founder of Wild Bearies, Elena Terry, will speak about the connection traditional food culture has with Natives of the woodland area while addressing the beauty of sharing a meal with someone. Terry will discuss how Wild Bearies is working to build a stronger community, one dish at a time.

## **Exhibits**

### ***Verona: Then and Now* - Photography Exhibit**

June 1 - 30

Take a trip through space and time as you gaze upon large photographs of historic Verona placed side by side with their modern counterparts. Why does Hometown Junction look like a train station? Did someone once live in Kismet Books? Discover the hidden stories behind places you walk by every day.

## **Outreach Events**

### **Outreach story times:**

Total daycare story time presentations: 5

### **Prairie Oaks Book Group**

Thursday, April 28, 1:00–2:00 pm

The group read *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman.

Attendees: 7

### **Books 'n Booze(less)**

Thursday, April 28, 6:00–7:00 pm

The group discussed *Whiskey When We're Dry* by John Larison in person at the library.

Attendees: 5

### **Senior Center Book Group**

Wednesday, May 11, 10:00–11:00 am

The group discussed *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George.

Attendees: 9

### **Family Literacy Night at Stoner Prairie Elementary School**

Wednesday, May 11, 3:30–6:30 pm

Maureen and Marissa brought information about the summer reading program, a themed craft, and made two library cards at Stoner Prairie's Family Literacy Night.

Attendees: 69

### **Four Winds Book Group**

Tuesday, May 17, 10:00–11:00 am

The residents met to discuss *Camino Island* by John Grisham.

Attendees: 9

## **Upcoming Outreach Events**

### **Noel Manor Book Group**

Friday, May 20, 10:30–11:00 am

Maureen will be leading a discussion of *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys for a new book group at Noel Manor.

### **SRP School Visits**

Library staff will be visiting local elementary schools plus hosting most of the kids from Sugar Creek Elementary school at the library to do half-hour presentations about this year's summer reading program, May 23 – June 8.

### **Glacier Edge Field Trips**

Wednesday, May 25, 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, and 12:45 pm

Four classes of first graders from Glacier Edge will be coming to the library to hear a story, get a tour, and look at books. Students will also be receiving library cards.

### **Book Bike at the Farmers Market**

Wednesday, May 25, 3:00–6:00 pm

The book bike will be going to the Verona Downtown Farmers Market for its first event of the season.

### **Prairie Oaks Book Group**

Thursday, May 26, 1:00–2:00 pm

The group will be reading *Hello, Summer* by Mary Kay Andrews.

### **Books 'n Booze(less)**

Thursday, May 26, 6:00–7:00 pm

The group will be discussing *The Searchers* by Tana French.

### **Dive into Reading at Country View**

Wednesday, June 1, 8:00–9:00 am

Maureen and Marissa will be going to Country View to make library cards, hand out bookmarks, and distribute summer reading information at this family literacy event.

### **Nakoma Summer Reading Program**

Tuesdays, June 7 and 21, 3:00–4:00 pm

There will be books for checkout, library card applications, summer reading materials, and a craft for Glacier Edge students at the Nakoma Heights Apartments at this annual program.

### **Senior Center Book Group**

Wednesday, June 8, 10:00–11:00 am

The group will be reading *Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley.

### **Four Winds Book Group**

Tuesday, June 21, 10:00–11:00 am

The residents will meet to discuss *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson.

# Verona Public Library Collection Management Policy

## **I. Introduction**

- a. This policy was developed to serve as a guide for the library's selectors in regards to collection development, management, and material selection. It defines what comprises the collection, specifies what types of materials are included, and explains the basis for making collection management decisions. The policy also serves to inform the public about the library's collection and the principles that govern the selection process.
- b. The goals and objectives stated in this policy are designed to assist library professionals in the selection process rather than replace their judgement.
- c. The library will continuously work to curate a collection representing a wide array of people, cultures, ideas, and experiences. The process of curating, maintaining, and providing a diverse and equitable collection is an ongoing process which will be considered during all aspects of collection management.
- d. The following statements and policies have been adopted by the Library and are used as guidelines for the development of the Library collections. The Library endorses the American Library Association's "Library Bill of Rights," "Freedom to Read," and "Freedom to View," presented under VII. Appendix.

## **II. Library Mission Statement**

The mission of the Library is to enrich lives and build community by providing opportunities to discover, connect, learn, and enjoy.

## **III. Collection Development Policy**

- a. The Library's collection is reviewed in an ongoing basis to meet current needs with the exception of certain areas of the collection outlined in the following policy. This policy works to support the library's goals as outlined below:
  1. Provide popular materials
  2. Promote lifelong learning
  3. Support diversity, equity, and inclusion
  4. Provide a space for community gathering
- b. Selection of library materials and resources is the responsibility of the professional staff of the Verona Public Library. Other staff members and the public may recommend materials for consideration. Final responsibility rests with the Director. The Director, who operates within the framework of this policy as approved by the Library Board of Trustees, delegates the authority to interpret the policy in day-to-day decisions to professional staff members. The Director retains the authority to reject or select any item contrary to the recommendations of the staff.
- c. Guidelines
  1. The selection of any material or resource does not constitute an endorsement
  2. The library recognizes that many materials and resources can be controversial
  3. Selection decisions are guided by the merits of the work, collection needs, and interests of a diverse community.
  4. Selection decisions are not influenced by the possibility that material may be accessible to children. Responsibility for children's use of library materials and resources lies with their parents, legal guardians, or caretakers.



5. The library selects materials of varying complexity and format because it serves a public that includes a wide range of ages, educational backgrounds, interests, sensory preferences, and reading skills. When staff review and select materials for purchase, they consider the needs of the entire community.
  6. The library may select materials that are to be used in the library only.
  7. Library materials will not be marked or identified to show approval or disapproval of the contents and nothing will be sequestered except to protect it from theft or damage.
- d. Criteria for Selection
1. Each type of material must be considered in terms of its own merits and its intended audience. A single standard does not apply to all acquisition decisions; therefore, some material may be chosen to fulfill recreational needs of the community, while others may be selected because of their artistic merit, scholarship, or value to humanity.
  2. Library materials that experience high demand, may or may not meet the general and specific criteria contained in this policy. Volume and nature of patron requests is a serious consideration for selectors. Additionally as the community's social and intellectual climate changes, materials not originally recommended for purchase can become of interest. Such materials will be reevaluated as the need arises.
  3. Acquisition guidelines are objective in order to build a reputable collection. Selectors evaluate both purchased and donated acquisitions by examining professional reviews (ex. Library Journal) and by adhering to the standards listed in this policy.
  4. As a member of the South Central Library System (SCLS), the library provides materials and services to residents throughout the system who have library cards.
  5. Materials donated to the library are not automatically added to the collection. These items are reviewed according to the selection criteria. The Library may add works produced by authors, printer, or publishers with Verona connections that meet the purpose and objectives of this policy.

#### **IV. Maintenance of Library Materials**

- a. Most library materials are processed in such a way as to ensure their maximum use under normal circumstances.
- b. Damaged but still usable materials are mended according to an established set of procedures.

#### **V. Weeding of Library Materials**

- a. Weeding is a positive and necessary function that enhances the collection's usefulness and appearance. Weeding can reduce the space a collection occupies to make room for better suited materials in addition to decreasing the time required to maintain it.
- b. Criteria to consider when weeding materials:
  1. Relevancy and accuracy of information
  2. Low circulation statistics
  3. Availability of improved or newer editions
  4. Material no longer in demand in the community
  5. Condition and appearance
  6. Space availability
  7. Outdated or harmful representations of groups of people
- c. Replacement of materials that are withdrawn is not automatic. The following criteria are considered when determining the need for replacement:
  1. Number of copies in SCLS libraries
  2. Existence of adequate coverage of the subject

3. Demand for the specific title or for material in that subject area
  4. Existence of a newer format as a replacement
- d. Withdrawn materials may be donated to the Friends of the Library for resale, donated to another local organization, or offered to other libraries. Materials unsuitable for transfer or sale are discarded or recycled. The library will not accept requests to hold weeded materials for individuals, with the exception of batches of frequently discarded newspapers. Donated items not added to the library collection may be disposed of in this way or sold to benefit the library.

## **VI. Reconsideration of Library Materials**

- a. The Verona Public Library recognizes that at any given time some materials may be deemed inappropriate or offensive by patrons. Selection of materials are based on the principles stated in this policy. Materials will not be identified to show approval or disapproval. No materials will be sequestered except to protect it from damage or theft.
- b. The Library Board believes that censorship is purely an individual matter and declares that while anyone is free to reject for themselves books and other materials that they do not approve of, they cannot exercise this right of censorship to other persons to read or use other library materials. The Verona Public Library adheres to and supports the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read Statement. (See Appendix.)
- c. Responsibility for supervising children's use of the library and library materials rests with parents or legal guardians. At no time will the library staff act *in loco parentis*. Selection of library material will not be inhibited by the possibility that materials may come into the possession of children.
- d. Patrons requesting that an item be moved or withdrawn from the Verona Public Library collection must complete a "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" form, a sample of which is included in the Appendix of this policy. Patrons must reside in a South Central Library System county to have their request considered and only one request per patron will be considered at a time. The request for reconsideration will be acknowledged in writing by the Library Director within (10) ten days. The Library Director will assign a panel of staff members to evaluate the item in question. This will be completed in no more than (30) thirty business days of the initial request for reconsideration. The panel's recommendations will be considered, and the Library Director's final decision will be mailed to the patron. Once a title has been considered, it will not be reviewed again for a period of 2 years.
- e. Patrons may appeal the decision of the Library Director to the Verona Public Library Board of Trustees. An appeal must be made in writing and delivered to the Library Director. Upon receipt of the written appeal, discussion of the appeal will be scheduled on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Library Board of Trustees. Their decision will be final.

## **VII. Appendix of the Collection Development Policy includes:**

"Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" form

"Certificate of Donation" form

"Freedom to Read Statement"

"Freedom to View"

"Library Bill of Rights"

This policy replaces any previous policy regarding collection development.

Library Board approved on August 6, 2008

Library Board approved revision on June 8, 2011

Library Board reviewed on June 6, 2012

Library Board approved revision on June 5, 2013

Library Board Approved revision on June 4, 2014

Library Board approved revision on March 7, 2018

# Verona Public Library Collection Management Development Policy

## Verona Public Library

### I. Introduction

- a. This policy was developed ~~for the Verona Public Library's collection and~~ to serve as a guide for the library's selectors in regards to collection development, management, and material selection. It defines what comprises the collection, specifies what types of materials are included, and explains the basis for making collection management decisions. The policy also serves to inform the public about the library's collection and the principles that govern the selection process.
- b. The goals and objectives stated in this policy are designed to assist library professionals in the selection process rather than replace their judgement.
- ~~b.c.~~ The library will continuously work to curate a collection representing a wide array of people, cultures, ideas, and experiences. The process of curating, maintaining, and providing a diverse and equitable collection is an ongoing process which will be considered during all aspects of collection management.
- ~~c.d.~~ The following statements and policies have been adopted by the Library and are used as guidelines for the development of the Library collections. The Library endorses the American Library Association's "Library Bill of Rights," "Freedom to Read," and "Freedom to View," presented under VII. Appendix.

### II. Library Mission Statement

The mission of the Library is to enrich lives and build community by providing opportunities to discover, connect, learn, and enjoy.

### III. Collection Development Policy

- a. The Library's collection is reviewed in an on-going basis to meet current needs with the exception of certain areas of the collection outlined in the following policy. This policy works to support the library's goals as outlined below:
  1. Provide popular materials
  2. Promote lifelong learning
  3. Support ~~cultural~~ diversity, equity, and inclusion
  4. Provide a space for community gathering
- b. Selection of library materials and resources is the responsibility of the professional staff of the Verona Public Library. Other staff members and the public may recommend materials for consideration. Final responsibility rests with the Director. The Director, who operates within the framework of this policy as approved by the Library Board of Trustees, delegates the authority to interpret the policy in day-to-day decisions to professional staff members. The Director retains the authority to reject or select any item contrary to the recommendations of the staff.
- c. Guidelines
  1. The selection of any material or resource does not constitute an endorsement
  2. The library recognizes that many materials and resources can be controversial
  3. Selection decisions are guided by the merits of the work, collection needs, and interests of a diverse community.
  4. Selection decisions are not influenced by the possibility that material may be accessible to children. Responsibility for children's use of library materials and resources lies with their parents, legal guardians, or caretakers.

5. The library selects materials of varying complexity and format because it serves a public embracing that includes a wide range of ages, educational backgrounds, interests, sensory preferences, and reading skills. When staff review and select materials for purchase, they consider the needs of the entire community.
6. The library may select materials that are to be used in the library only.
- 5.7. Library materials will not be marked or identified to show approval or disapproval of the contents and nothing will be sequestered except to protect it from theft or damage.
6. Criteria for Selection~~The library may select materials that are to be used in the library only.~~

d.

~~d.~~ **Criteria for Selection:**

1. Each type of material must be considered in terms of its own merits and its intended audience. A single standard does not apply to all acquisition decisions; therefore, some material may be chosen to fulfill recreational needs of the community, while others may be selected because of their artistic merit, scholarship, or value to humanity.
2. Library materials that experience high demand, may or may not meet the general and specific criteria contained in this policy. Volume and nature of patron requests is a serious consideration for selectors. Additionally as the community's social and intellectual climate changes, materials not originally recommended for purchase can become of interest. Such materials will be reevaluated as the need arises.
3. Acquisition guidelines are objective in order to build a reputable collection. Selectors evaluate both purchased and donated acquisitions by examining professional reviews (ex. Library Journal) and by adhering to the standards listed in this policy.
4. As a member of the South Central Library System (SCLS), the library provides materials and services to residents throughout the system who have library cards. ~~The Verona Public Library collections are part of the greater LINK catalog.~~
5. Materials donated to the library are not automatically added to the collection. These items are reviewed according to the selection criteria. The Library may add ~~to its collection~~ works produced by authors, printer, or publishers with Verona connections that meet the purpose and objectives of this policy.

#### IV. Maintenance of Library Materials

- a. Most library materials are processed in such a way as to ensure their maximum use under normal circumstances.
- b. Damaged but still usable materials are mended according to an established set of procedures.

#### V. Weeding of Library Materials

- a. Weeding is a positive and necessary function that enhances the collection's usefulness and appearance. Weeding can reduce the space a collection occupies to make room for better suited materials in addition to decreasing the time required to maintain it.
- b. Criteria to consider when weeding materials:
  1. Relevancy and accuracy of information
  - ~~1-2.~~ Low circulation statistics
  - ~~2-3.~~ Availability of improved or newer editions
  - ~~3-4.~~ Material no longer in demand in the community
  - ~~4-5.~~ Condition and appearance
  6. Space availability
  - ~~5.~~ Outdated or harmful representations of groups of people
  - ~~6-7.~~ Low circulation statistics
- c. Replacement of materials that are withdrawn is not automatic. The following criteria are considered when determining the need for replacement:
  1. Number of copies in SCLS libraries
  2. Existence of adequate coverage of the subject
  3. Demand for the specific title or for material in that subject area
  4. Existence of a newer format as a replacement
- d. Withdrawn materials may be donated to the Friends of the Library for resale, donated to another local organization, or offered to other libraries. Materials unsuitable for transfer or sale

are discarded or recycled. The library will not accept requests to hold weeded materials for individuals, with the exception of batches of frequently discarded newspapers. ~~Gift-Donated~~ items not added to the library collection may be disposed of in this way or sold to benefit the library.

## VI. Reconsideration of Library Materials

- a. The Verona Public Library recognizes that at any given time some materials may be deemed inappropriate or offensive by patrons. Selection of materials are based on the principles stated in this policy. Materials will not be identified to show approval or disapproval. No materials will be sequestered except to protect it from damage or theft.
- b. The Library Board believes that censorship is purely an individual matter and declares that while anyone is free to reject for themselves books and other materials that they do not approve of, ~~he/she/they~~ cannot exercise this right of censorship to other persons to read or use other library materials. The Verona Public Library adheres to and supports the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read Statement. (See Appendix.)
- c. Responsibility for supervising children's use of the library and library materials rests with parents or legal guardians. At no time will the library staff act *in loco parentis*. Selection of library material will not be inhibited by the possibility that materials may come into the possession of children.
- d. Patrons requesting that ~~an item-Verona materials~~ be moved or withdrawn from the Verona Public Library collection must complete a "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" form, a sample of which is included in the Appendix of this policy. Patrons must reside in a South Central Library System county to have their request considered and only one request per patron will be considered at a time. -The request for reconsideration will be addressed acknowledged in writing by the Library Director within (10) ten days. The Library Director will assign a panel of staff members to evaluate the item in question. This will be completed in no more than (30) thirty business days of the initial request for reconsideration. The panel's recommendations will be considered, and the Library Director's final decision will be mailed to the patron. Once a title has been considered, it will not be reviewed again for a period of 2 years.
- d.e. Patrons may appeal the decision of the Library Director to the Verona Public Library Board of Trustees. An appeal must be made in writing and delivered to the Library Director. Upon receipt of the written appeal, discussion of the appeal will be scheduled on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Library Board of Trustees. Their decision will be final.

## VII. Appendix of the Collection Development Policy includes:

- "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" form
- "Certificate of Donation" form
- "Freedom to Read Statement"
- "Freedom to View"
- "Library Bill of Rights"

This policy replaces any previous policy regarding collection development.

Library Board approved on August 6, 2008

Library Board approved revision on June 8, 2011

Library Board reviewed on June 6, 2012

Library Board approved revision on June 5, 2013

Library Board Approved revision on June 4, 2014

Library Board approved revision on March 7, 2018



## Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials

Verona Public Library

### Required:

Your Name:	_____	Date:	____/____/____
Address:	_____	Phone:	_____
Title of Item:	_____		
Author/Artist:	_____		

**Please answer the following questions about the item that you would like to have reconsidered.**

1. Did you find the item on the shelf at the Verona Public Library or place a hold through LinkCat?
2. How did you learn of this item?
3. What are your objections to this item (please include page numbers if applicable)?
4. Did you read/listen/view the work in its entirety? If not, what parts did you read/listen /view?
5. What harm do you feel might result from reading/listening to/viewing this work?
6. Have you read any professional reviews of the work? If so, please list sources of reviews.
7. What do you think are the main ideas of the work/what was the author's/artist's purpose in creating this work?
8. What suggestion do you have for a work with a similar purpose to replace this item?
9. What would you like the library to do with this material?

**Thank you for taking the time to fill out this form. The Library Director will respond to your concerns within 10 days of the receipt of this form.**

Signature and Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## THE FREEDOM TO READ

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label “controversial” views, to distribute lists of “objectionable” books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as individuals devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

Most attempts at suppression rest on a denial of the fundamental premise of democracy: that the ordinary individual, by exercising critical judgment, will select the good and reject the bad. We trust Americans to recognize propaganda and misinformation, and to make their own decisions about what they read and believe. We do not believe they are prepared to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be “protected” against what others think may be bad for them. We believe they still favor free enterprise in ideas and expression.

These efforts at suppression are related to a larger pattern of pressures being brought against education, the press, art and images, films, broadcast media, and the Internet. The problem is not only one of actual censorship. The shadow of fear cast by these pressures leads, we suspect, to an even larger voluntary curtailment of expression by those who seek to avoid controversy or unwelcome scrutiny by government officials.

Such pressure toward conformity is perhaps natural to a time of accelerated change. And yet suppression is never more dangerous than in such a time of social tension. Freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions, and enables change to come by choice. Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with controversy and difference.

Now as always in our history, reading is among our greatest freedoms. The freedom to read and write is almost the only means for making generally available ideas or manners of expression that can initially command only a small audience. The written word is the natural medium for the new idea and the untried voice from which come the original contributions to social growth. It is essential to the extended discussion that serious thought requires, and to the accumulation of knowledge and ideas into organized collections.

We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture. We believe that these pressures toward conformity present the danger of limiting the range and variety of inquiry and expression on which our democracy and our culture depend. We believe that every American community must jealously guard the freedom to publish and to circulate, in order to preserve its own freedom to read. We believe that publishers and librarians have a profound responsibility to give validity to that freedom to read by making it possible for the readers to choose freely from a variety of offerings. 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 expressions, including those that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.*

Creative thought is by definition new, and what is new is different. The bearer of every new thought is a rebel until that idea is refined and tested. Totalitarian systems attempt to maintain themselves in power by the ruthless suppression of any concept that challenges the established orthodoxy. The power of a democratic system to adapt to change is vastly strengthened by the freedom of its citizens to choose widely from among conflicting opinions offered freely to them. To stifle every nonconformist idea at birth would mark the end of the democratic process. Furthermore, only through the constant activity of weighing and selecting can the democratic mind attain the strength demanded by times like these. We need to know not only what we believe but why we believe it.

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.*

Publishers and librarians serve the educational process by helping to make available knowledge and ideas required for the growth of the mind and the increase of learning. They do not foster education by imposing as mentors the patterns of their own thought. The people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church. It is wrong that what one can read should be confined to what another thinks proper.

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.*

No art or literature can flourish if it is to be measured by the political views or private lives of its creators. No society of free people can flourish that draws up lists of writers to whom it will not listen, whatever they may have to say.

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.*

To some, much of modern expression is shocking. But is not much of life itself shocking? We cut off literature at the source if we prevent writers from dealing with the stuff of life. Parents and teachers have a responsibility to prepare the young to meet the diversity of experiences in life to which they will be exposed, as they have a responsibility to help them learn to think critically for themselves. These are affirmative responsibilities, not to be discharged simply by preventing them from reading works for which they are not yet prepared. In these matters values differ, and values cannot be legislated; nor can machinery be devised that will suit the demands of one group without limiting the freedom of others.

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.*

The ideal of labeling presupposes the existence of individuals or groups with wisdom to determine by authority what is good or bad for others. It presupposes that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. But Americans do not need others to do their thinking for them.

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.*

It is inevitable in the give and take of the democratic process that the political, the moral, or the aesthetic concepts of an individual or group will occasionally collide with those of another individual or group. In a free society individuals are free to determine for themselves what they wish to read, and each group is free to determine what it will recommend to its freely associated members. But no group has the right to take the law into its own hands, and to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other members of a democratic society. Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive. Further, democratic societies are more safe, free, and creative when the free flow of public information is not restricted by governmental prerogative or self-censorship.

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.*

The freedom to read is of little consequence when the reader cannot obtain matter fit for that reader's purpose. What is needed is not only the absence of restraint, but the positive provision of opportunity for the people to read the best that has been thought and said. Books are the major channel by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down, and the principal means of its testing and growth. The defense of the freedom to read requires of all publishers and librarians the utmost of their faculties, and deserves of all Americans the fullest of their support.

We state these propositions neither lightly nor as easy generalizations. We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of the written word. We do so because we believe that it is possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free. We realize that the application of these propositions may mean the dissemination of ideas and manners of expression that are repugnant to many persons. We do not state these propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant. We believe rather that what people read is deeply important; that ideas can be dangerous; but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours.

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

*A Joint Statement by:*

American Library Association  
Association of American Publishers

*Subsequently endorsed by:*

American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression  
The Association of American University Presses, Inc.  
The Children's Book Council  
Freedom to Read Foundation  
National Association of College Stores  
National Coalition Against Censorship  
National Council of Teachers of English  
The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression

# Freedom to View Statement

The **FREEDOM TO VIEW**, along with the freedom to speak, to hear, and to read, is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. In a free society, there is no place for censorship of any medium of expression. Therefore these principles are affirmed:

1. To provide the broadest access to film, video, and other audiovisual materials because they are a means for the communication of ideas. Liberty of circulation is essential to insure the constitutional guarantee of freedom of expression.
2. To protect the confidentiality of all individuals and institutions using film, video, and other audiovisual materials.
3. To provide film, video, and other audiovisual materials which represent a diversity of views and expression. Selection of a work does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content.
4. To provide a diversity of viewpoints without the constraint of labeling or prejudging film, video, or other audiovisual materials on the basis of the moral, religious, or political beliefs of the producer or filmmaker or on the basis of controversial content.
5. To contest vigorously, by all lawful means, every encroachment upon the public's freedom to view.

This statement was originally drafted by the Freedom to View Committee of the American Film and Video Association (formerly the Educational Film Library Association) and was adopted by the AFVA Board of Directors in February 1979. This statement was updated and approved by the AFVA Board of Directors in 1989.

**Endorsed January 10, 1990, by the ALA Council**

**(/offices/oif)**

# *Library Bill of Rights*

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

- I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
- II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
- IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.
- V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

Adopted June 18, 1948.

Amended February 2, 1961; June 28, 1967; and January 23, 1980,  
inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996,  
by the ALA Council.