

# Library-Initiated Programs and Display Policy

*Approved by the York County Library Board of Trustees on May 18, 2023*

Library-initiated programs support the mission of York County Library by providing users with additional opportunities for accessing information, education, and recreation. Library displays increase awareness of programs, resources, and services.

Programs are primarily delivered by our professionally trained staff. Storytimes for children from birth to age five are literacy-based, and include simple practices based on research to help parents and caregivers develop a child's early literacy skills. In addition, York County Library draws upon other resources in developing programs and actively partners with other community agencies, organizations, educational and cultural institutions, and professional performers and presenters to develop and present co-sponsored public programs. Program registration may be required for planning purposes or because space is limited.

York County Library actively seeks to include a variety of programming options that represent the multitude of viewpoints and cultural perspectives of our community. All Library programs are free and open to the public. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program or the views expressed by participants.

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

- Support of the Library's mission
- Community needs and interests

- Availability of program space
- Presentation quality
- Presenter background/qualifications in content area
- Budget
- Historical, educational or artistic significance
- Connection to other community programs, exhibitions or events
- Relation to Library collections, resources, exhibits and programs
- Diversity and inclusivity in our community

Many of York County Library's programs are designed for an intended age group or audience based on educational suitability and audience interest; however, library staff strive to make programs accessible for all and welcome requests for reasonable accommodations. Parents and guardians may restrict their own children's access to library programs, but no person or organization can interfere in others' access and participation.

Programs will not be canceled because of the ideas or topics of the program or the views expressed by the participants or speakers, nor will library staff censor or remove displays because someone may disagree with the content. Concerns, questions, or complaints about library-initiated programs and displays will comply with procedures for reconsidering library materials.