



Programming Policy

Programming is an integral part of library service. It supports the Library's overall mission of connecting people with the world of ideas and information by offering presentations of an educational, informational, cultural, or civic nature. These programs:

- Promote reading and literacy
- Introduce patrons and non-users to Library resources
- Provide opportunities for personal growth, enrichment, and education
- Expand the visibility of the Library as a valuable community resource
- Help to foster a sense of "community"

The Joliet Public Library provides programming to patrons of all ages. Some programs may be restricted by age level, size limitations, or residency. Registration is often limited, but waiting lists are provided for interested patrons. The Library markets these programs in-house, in the community, and through mass media. The Library's philosophy of open access to information and ideas extends to its programming by offering a broad spectrum of opinions, viewpoints and ideas.

The selection of Library programs, topics, and classes are chosen by staff for their relevance to community needs or interests, popular appeal, and suitability for a general audience. Presenters are chosen for their proven or unique expertise and public performance experience. Presenters will not be excluded from consideration because of their origin, background, or views or because of possible controversy; however, acceptance of a program or topic by the Library does not constitute an endorsement of that group's or individual's policies or beliefs. Other factors influencing the selection of programs include availability of staff, budget, and space considerations. The Library often draws upon community resources to provide cooperative programming with other agencies, organizations, or educational institutions.

Presentations should be free of solicitations, sales pitches, or proselytizing. Only books and recordings by performing authors or musicians may be sold during Library programs, except at the discretion of the Library Director or designee. Programs may be cancelled for a number of reasons, chiefly: severe weather, absence of the presenter, or low registration. Cancelled programs are not automatically rescheduled.

The Library asks that patrons with disabilities make requests for special accommodations at least 72 hours in advance of a library program.

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