

Candor Free Library

Collection Development Plan & Request for Reconsideration of Materials

Candor Free Library maintains a free public library for the use and benefit of the residents of the Town of Candor, New York. The mission of Candor Free Library is to provide expert book and materials selection to aid the individual in the pursuit of education, information, pleasure, or research and in the creative use of leisure time. Resource sharing through the Finger Lakes Library System (FLLS) delivery and interlibrary loan enables virtually unlimited access to other library collections in FLLS and across the country.

Objectives of the Collection

Public libraries are responsible for providing materials to patrons of all ages, backgrounds, and opinions. Candor Free Library's collection serves the general educational interest, recreational, and entertainment needs of the public, and reflects the diverse needs of the community.

The collection strives to provide individual access to information and materials in a variety of formats. The collection serves:

1. To encourage and enhance personal, artistic, and intellectual growth;
2. To educate and to inform;
3. To promote the joy of reading; and
4. To encourage lifelong learning.

Candor Free Library does not encourage nor discourage any particular viewpoint. No material will be excluded because of the race, nationality, religion, gender, sexual orientation, political, or social views of the author. Selection of materials does not mean the library endorses the content or the views expressed in those materials.

Selection

Collection management decisions are the responsibility of Library staff. The library subscribes fully to the principles adopted by the American Library Association in its Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read statement (see Additional Resources). Collection development supports Candor Free Library's mission statement and strategic plan.

Selection of materials is based primarily on positive reviews in credible sources, such as trade and popular journals, magazines, and subject bibliographies. All collection materials are evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. Appeal to community needs and interests
2. Support or enhance library collections, programs, and services
3. Literary and artistic merit
4. Authority, accuracy, clarity, and integrity of content
5. Author / publisher reputation and significance to a wide audience
6. Persistent and/or timely value
7. Suitable and generally accessible format for library and/or home use

Candor Free Library encourages and welcomes public suggestion of items and subjects to be considered for the collection and will make decisions based on selection criteria.

Donations Of Books and Library Materials

Candor Free Library gratefully accepts books and other library materials with the understanding that these items will not necessarily be added to the collection. The library staff will determine the use or distribution of donated library materials. Materials which are not added to the library's collection may be donated to the book sale. The library will provide a written acknowledgement of donation received if requested, but will not appraise or estimate item value. This responsibility rests with the donor.

Access

Candor Free Library considers reading, listening, and viewing to be individual, private matters and that patrons should have full, confidential, and unrestricted access to information. While anyone is free to select or reject materials for themselves or minors in their care, no one can interfere with the freedom of other patrons to read or inquire.

Withdrawal of Materials

Withdrawing (weeding) materials from the collection is an important part of collection development and maintenance. Materials which no longer serve a need will be removed from the collection. Decisions for removal will be based on past circulation, physical condition, usefulness, age, accuracy, and availability within the system. Withdrawal of Library materials is the responsibility of staff.

Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials Policy

Candor Free Library provides books and other library resources for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community. The public library is a forum for information and ideas, and materials in our collection reflect the diversity of values and viewpoints present in our society.

Candor Free Library will not remove an item unless it can be shown to be in violation of the collection policy. To request the reconsideration of an item in the collection, patron must submit a completed Request for Reconsideration form. That form is available at the circulation desk.

The completed Request for Reconsideration form will be referred to a committee consisting of the library director and other relevant staff members. They will get back to you with a decision as soon as possible. If you disagree with the decision, you may appeal to the Board of Trustees.

Additional Resources

ALA Library Bill of Rights <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill>

ALA Freedom to Read Statement

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/freedomreadstatement>

ALA Statement of Book Censorship <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/statement-regarding-censorship>

Approved by the Candor Free Library Board of Trustees April 10, 2024