

MESA COUNTY LIBRARIES
COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY
(*Supersedes policy: Collection Development Policy, 11/30/05*)

Purpose:

Mesa County Libraries provide materials and services for the recreational reading and informational needs of all Mesa County residents. Our collections are developed and maintained to reflect and meet the needs of the community and are based on the following library goals of the 2008-2010 Strategic Plan:

- a. Mesa County Libraries promise to stimulate the curiosities of new and existing library users who will find what they want readily available and who will receive expert assistance.
- b. Mesa County Libraries promise to inspire children to discover the joy of reading and to become lifelong readers.
- c. Mesa County Libraries promise to improve the foundational literacy skills of adult learners throughout Mesa County.

II. Standards and criteria employed for selection decisions include:

- a. Demonstrated interest, need, or demand by library users or potential users.
- b. Contemporary significance, popular interest, or permanent value.
- c. Relevance to the experiences and interests of diverse populations.
- d. Quality, including accuracy, clarity, usability.
- e. Critics' reviews.
- f. Significance of the author, including popularity, authority, and competence of the author/artist.
- g. Recent publication date or currency.
- h. Format, durability, and ease of use.
- i. Scarcity or availability of materials elsewhere.
- j. Value of resource in relation to its cost.

III. Scope:

- a. The Library does not sanction particular beliefs or views, nor is the selection of any given item equivalent to an endorsement of the author's viewpoint. The Library adheres to the *Library Bill of Rights* adopted by the American Library Association, which affirms that our libraries are forums for information and ideas.
- b. The collection encompasses a wide range of subjects to reflect the needs and interests of Mesa County residents.
- c. The collection is not archival, with the exception of materials in the Rashleigh Regional History Room, and is reviewed on an on-going basis.
- d. Materials supporting Mesa State College, School District 51 curriculum, textbooks for home schoolers, and scholarly and advanced technical material are outside the realm of our collection.
- e. The Library actively seeks to serve and reflect our diverse community. While most materials acquired are in English, the Library also aggressively acquires significant and diverse collections of materials predominantly in Spanish, and acquires language learning and recreational reading materials in other locally-significant languages as well.

IV. Formats:

The Library acquires materials in a variety of formats such as but not limited to:

- a. Books, both in hardcover and paperback.
- b. Periodicals and newspapers.
- c. Microforms.
- d. Audio CDs.
- e. Video DVDs.
- f. Electronic databases.
- g. Downloadable books.

In many circumstances, the same title may be acquired in more than one format. A sound recording of a popular work may be acquired to meet the needs of certain users even when print copies are available. Popular works may be acquired in online format so that access to them via a computer network may be preferable to ownership of them.

V. Gifts and Donations:

All donations become the property of the Library. The decision to retain gift items is made by designated library staff. Donations of money for the purchase of materials are always welcome. Suggestions of specific titles or subjects to be purchased with donated funds will be honored whenever possible and in keeping with Library materials selection policy.

The Library does not appraise gifts or provide evaluations of gifts for tax deductions or other purposes, but will acknowledge receipt of gifts in writing if requested by the donor.

VI. Retention and Withdrawal of Materials:

In order to maintain a collection of current and relevant library materials that is in good condition and that meets the needs of Mesa County residents, the Library staff assesses materials in all formats to determine which materials shall be retained. Withdrawn materials are dispensed with in a variety of ways, including donation to other entities, used book sales, waste disposal, and recycling programs.

VII. Reconsideration of Library Materials

All requests for the Library to reconsider materials must be made in writing using the library's Request for Reconsideration form, which is available from any Mesa County Library location. Instructions and guidelines are included with the form.

This Collection Development Policy was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Library Board of Trustees in their regularly-scheduled meeting of April 30, 2009.

*Linda Davidson, President
MCPLD Board of Trustees*