



Collection Development Policy

Samuels Public Library brings people, information, and ideas together to enrich lives and build community.

To meet this mission, the Library has developed procedures for selecting, evaluating, re-evaluating, and withdrawing materials. These procedures are intended to ensure that the collection reflects a multitude of ideas, and that materials are available in diverse media formats, either fiction or nonfiction.

Samuels Public Library's collection reflects current and popular materials for a variety of uses. The Library's selectors choose materials for a wide range of interests using industry reviews and statistics. Books and materials are selected according to intrinsic merit, subject treatment, community interest, and contribution to a balanced collection in the Library. The volume and nature of requests for access to Library materials by members of the public is a significant factor in selection. Flexibility and open-mindedness are exercised during the evaluation process. Materials are selected to present an array of opinions on a subject and are judged as a whole rather than on isolated passages.

Suggestions from the public regarding selection of materials are encouraged and will be reviewed by Library staff. The Library Board of Trustees hereby endorses the American Library Association's (ALA) [Library Bill of Rights](#), the ALA's [Freedom to Read Statement](#), and the ALA's [Free Access to Libraries for Minors Statement](#), and interprets these statements to include all Library materials regardless of format. Responsibility for the selection and removal of books and other Library materials resides with the Director, who may delegate that responsibility to Library staff.

Library materials are owned by Samuels Public Library. Outdated materials, low-demand materials, and worn or damaged materials will be removed from the Library collection.

No individual or group may restrict another person's access or use of Samuels Public Library materials, information, and resources. (Note: this does not apply to the implementation of Samuels Public Library policy by Samuels Public Library board members or staff members.)

Responsibility for the utilization of Library materials by minors rests solely with their legal guardians, not with Library staff. Selection of Library materials is not inhibited by the possibility that materials may come into the possession of minors.

Any Samuels Library cardholder has the right to request reconsideration of Library offerings. Paperwork to file a request is available at all Samuels Library service desks.