



Programming Policy

The Paris Public Library schedules, develops, and presents a wide variety of programs that provide opportunities for information, life-long learning, and leisure pursuits. Programming is an integral component of library services that:

- Expands the Library's role as a community resource
- Provides entertainment
- Provides opportunities for lifelong learning
- Expands the visibility of the Library

Responsibility for Library programming rests with the Library Director, and sometimes in turn, delegates the authority for program development and management to appropriate staff.

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

- Community needs and interests
- Availability of program space
- Availability of Library staff
- Treatment of content for intended audience
- Budget
- Historical or educational significance
- Connection to other community programs, exhibitions or events
- Relation to Library collections, resources, and exhibits

In addition, the Library draws upon other community resources in developing programs and actively partners with other community agencies, organizations, educational and cultural

institutions, or individuals to develop and present co-sponsored public programs. Library staff who present programs do so as part of their regular job, which includes "duties as assigned."

Performers and presenters will not be excluded from consideration because of their origin, background, or views. Programs are not used for commercial, religious, or partisan purposes or the solicitation of business. External organizations or individuals partnering with the Library on programs must coordinate marketing efforts with the Library's staff and secure staff approval before distributing any promotional materials.

The Library does not present programs that support or oppose any candidate for any office or any political party. Petitions or campaign literature are not permitted at the library. The Library reserves the right to revise and edit any copy provided by a program presenter as appropriate for the Library's various promotional outlets.

No program shall be permitted which poses the imminent threat of public unrest or violence. No program shall be permitted that endangers Library patrons or staff. No program shall be permitted that endangers Library facilities, or otherwise materially interferes with Library operations or any facility where Library programs are held.

Professional performers and presenters that reflect specialized or unique expertise may be hired for Library programs.

Presenters, performers, and any person assisting with programs, especially children's programs, may be required to have a background check at the Library Director's discretion.

All Library programs are open to the public. Registration may be required for planning purposes or when space is limited. Programs may be held on-site, off-site or online.

No admission fees may be charged or products or services sold by any business, outside group, or organization. Exceptions include the following:

- Groups and organizations may conduct customary activities such as collecting dues from members or refreshment money, but cannot solicit donations.
- At library sponsored programs only, pre-approved works by a featured presenter may be offered for sale. In all cases, his/her representative collects payment, not library staff.

The Library's philosophy of open access to information and ideas extends to Library programming, and the Library does not knowingly discriminate through its programming. Program topics, speakers and resources are not excluded from programs because of possible controversy. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program or the views expressed by participants or speakers.