Clarion

Public

Library Collection Development Policy

Purpose

The Collection Development Policy supports the Library in its mission and core values by defining collection development principles. It provides direction for the growth and development of collections and communicates these guiding principles to library staff and the public.

Mission

Clarion Public Library supports an informed community, lifelong learning, and the love of reading.

Intellectual Freedom

The Clarion Public Library adheres to the principles of intellectual freedom adopted by the American Library Association as expressed in the Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to Read, and Freedom to View Statements. Library users make choices as to what materials they and their children will use based on individual interests and standards.

Selection

The goal of the Library is to collect materials that reflect a wide range of views, expressions, opinions, and interests. The Library recognizes that some items acquired for the collection may include those that are unorthodox, unpopular with

the majority, or controversial in nature. The Library’s acquisition of such material does not constitute endorsement of the material’s content.

Responsibility

The Library Director or designated library staff, under the guidance of the Director, selects library materials.

General Criteria

Selecting library materials include, but are not limited to the following:

* Budget and space limitations.
* Public demand, interest, or need.
* Timeliness of information.
* Relation to existing collection.
* Availability from other local libraries.

Selection Sources

* Reviews in professional library and publishing publications, such as Publishers Weekly, Booklist, Library Journal etc.
* Individual subject expertise of staff and community members.
* Publisher’s catalogs.
* Coverage in newspapers, recognized authoritative blogs and websites, and in bookstores.

Gifts, Donations and Memorials

The library welcomes donations of books and other materials as well as financial contributions. The Library reserves the right to decide the disposition of all gifts received. Gifts accepted become the property of the Clarion Public Library and will be placed where most appropriate. Materials not added to the collection may be put on our book sale.

Replacement and Withdrawal

The Library continuously evaluates the collection to ensure its usefulness and relevance to the community. This evaluation relies on staff professional expertise to assess the content of the collection for the ever-changing needs of the community.

Revised by the Clarion Public Library Board of Trustees, January 13, 2020.