

Selection Policy

Mohall Public Library

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to guide library staff in the selection of library materials, to inform the Library Board and the general public of the principles upon which selections are made, and to declare the library's commitment to the principles of free access to ideas and information.

Background

Mohall Public Library serves Mohall and the surrounding rural area. The library collection has variety of books for patrons' reading enjoyment and does not maintain research materials but does maintain limited local history materials.

Library Mission, Goal, and Objectives

Refer to the current Mohall Public Library Strategic Plan.

Intellectual Freedom

The Mohall Public Library is committed to the principles of intellectual freedom and affirms the American Library Association's Freedom to Read statement (attached) and the Library Bill of Rights (attached). As such, materials representing diverse viewpoints on topics, including controversial ones, are actively collected. Selection of an item does not indicate that the Library, its Board, or its Staff agrees with the ideas and viewpoints it presents.

Target Audience

The Library collection will maintain materials for adults, children, young adults, and students covering a range of genres in a variety of formats for their reading enjoyment.

Responsibility for Selecting Library Materials

The Library Director of Mohall Public Library is solely responsible for selecting library materials. If any questions arise, they will be directed to the Mohall Public Library Board.

Evaluative Criteria and Selection Aids

Selection of library material is an active process that applies both to materials purchased by the library and materials donated to it. The following criteria are used in the selection process to help ensure that all materials in the library are in keeping with its goals and mission and are of use to the community served.

- The collection will attempt to provide a balance of viewpoints on all controversial issues

- The collection will attempt to include a cross-section of media formats, topics, and viewpoints representative of patron needs and interests
- The library will attempt to meet all relevant collection standards, whether issued by governmental agencies, professional associations, or regional accrediting bodies
- Reviews from professional publications (journals and websites), as well as patron requests are considered in the selection of library materials
- Artistic presentation and/or literary merit
- Popular interest
- Relevance to the community
- Materials by local/ND authors
- Materials about the city/county/state
- Redundancy with materials available through Online Library Resources (rationale for exclusion, especially of periodicals)

Formats

Paperback and hardcover books are both selected for use in Mohall Public Library. Audio books only in the form of CD, and movies in the form of DVD or Blu-Ray. Mohall Public Library also has access to RBDigital, which gives digital access to audiobooks, magazines and e-Books.

Special Collections

There are many books to choose from on the topics of North Dakota, its history, and local information. Mohall Public Library also has a large collection of Mohall School Yearbooks; these are not allowed to leave the library.

Resource Sharing

Mohall Public Library is able to get Inter-Library Loans from many libraries within the state of North Dakota. Patrons may request to order a book through Inter-Library Loan if Mohall Public Library does not have the book.

Reviewed and Adopted by MPL Board January 7, 2019