

## **Library Programming**

Reference:      Adopted by the Library Board  
                  *August 26, 2014*

The Cloquet Public Library offers programs intended to further the Library's mission to "build a democratic and engaged community by providing a welcoming space, stimulating imagination, and supporting children's literacy."

Programs are a means through which the public can share experiences, appreciate special interests, exchange information, and expand their horizons. All programs are open to the general public, though some programs may be designed with specific audiences in mind, such as children's programs and story times. Library-sponsored programs may be offered onsite as well as at locations in the community outside the library.

Of note:

- The library director is the final authority on whether or not a program is approved. Appeals for reconsideration of a program may be made first to the library director, then to the Board of Directors.
- Library patrons and city residents are encouraged to suggest ideas for programs to the library director, with the understanding that programs are developed based on available staff and other resources, including space.
- 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.

The library attempts to include a wide variety of subjects and a broad spectrum of opinions and viewpoints in its programs. Among the criteria used in planning programs:

- relevance to the library's mission
- community needs and interests
- historical or educational significance
- entertainment value
- connection to other library or community programs
- availability of program space
- budget

The library may offer programs of a commercial or religious nature if the primary purpose is to educate or inform.

The library does not offer programs that support or oppose any political candidate or ballot measure. However, election information, such as candidates' forums that include invitations to all recognized candidates, may be offered. Because it is not consistent with passive distribution, materials asking for library visitors to sign a petition or letter are not permitted at candidates' forums or other library programs.

All programs at the Cloquet Public Library are offered free of charge. Every attempt will be made to accommodate all who wish to attend a program; however, when safety or the success of a program requires it, attendance may be limited. When limits must be established attendance will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis, either with advance registration or at the door.

## **1017.1**

The City of Cloquet and the Cloquet Public Library assume no responsibility, financial or otherwise, for accidents or injuries sustained by individuals or groups of individuals while attending a library-sponsored program.