

Displays and Exhibits Policy

To as much a degree as is possible, the library serves as a community information center; notifying the public of special local programs, events, and activities that cater to educational, cultural, recreational, occupational, and informational needs. It is not to serve as a political or religious forum, a lost and found listing, a business or sales contact, a jobs directory, or an exchange point for personal notes. Every attempt will be made to accommodate all eligible requests for display space; however, as the library has only limited display area, some discretion may have to be utilized. The bulletin board in the entry way of the library is designated for display of public announcements.

This policy is not to be implemented in the spirit of either discrimination or favoritism; however, the library director reserves the right to scrutinize requests in the interests of the Library Board of Trustees and the community of Dyersville.

Exhibits in the library are seen by anyone who walks into the library, both children and adults, who may have various degrees of sophistication. The materials of the exhibits must, therefore, meet what is generally known as “a standard acceptable to the community”.

The use, by individuals or organizations, of the library’s facilities for displays and / or exhibits, other than those which pertain to the library, is not a right but a privilege which is subject to review by the Board of Trustees. The library director may grant the privilege of placing exhibits and displays in the library, subject to the following conditions:

1. No poster, display, exhibit, pamphlet, brochure, leaflet, or booklet shall be exhibited, displayed, or placed in the library without the permission of the library director or authorized staff.
2. No outside organization or individual shall be permitted to display or exhibit any materials, leaflets, or posters which advocate the election or defeat of a candidate for public office, or which advocate an affirmative vote for or against any proposition, whether political or otherwise.
3. No organization or individual shall be permitted to place in the library any box, receptacle, or canister which solicits donations, nor shall any poster or display be permitted which advocates or solicits consideration of any product or item sold by any commercial or charitable enterprise, unless the library benefits directly from such sales. Posters announcing bazaars or programs sponsored by any local educational, religious, civic or fraternal organization may be displayed provided there is room for such displays and they are of reasonable size. Nothing may be posted that advocates one religion or belief over another.
4. The library assumes no responsibility for the preservation, protection, or possible damage or theft of any item displayed or exhibited. All items placed in the library are done so at the owner’s risk.
5. Nothing may be posted or removed from exhibits or displays except by the library director or authorized staff.

6. The library shall reserve final judgment on the content and arrangement of all exhibits. Every item must meet the library's standards of value and quality and the library reserves the right to reject any part of an exhibit or to change the manner of display.
7. Persons are strictly forbidden to distribute advertising literature in the library building, to circulate or post petitions, or to solicit funds for any purpose, other than those from which the library will directly benefit. The Library will not act as a distribution center for free materials which deal with controversial issues written from one point of view only.
8. Posting of notices and distribution of materials does not imply endorsement by the library.
9. In all instances, the library reserves the right to refuse any announcement it considers too commercial, in bad taste, or of doubtful value.

Adopted 8/1988, revised 1-2008