

Dunbarton Public Library

Programming Policy, 2021

The Dunbarton Public Library offers programs intended to support the Library's Mission to serve the informational, educational, cultural and recreational needs of the community. The Dunbarton Public Library strives to offer a variety of programs for all ages that reflect the community's interests, encourage library usage, promote our materials, and to extend library service to the community. Programs are a means through which the public can share experiences, appreciate special interests and exchange information. At times the library may collaborate on programs not developed by the library that are educational and support the Library's mission.

All programs will be open to the general public and offered free of charge. Some programs may be designed with specific audiences in mind, such as children's programs and story time. Programs targeted toward specific audiences will be publicized as such.

Library sponsored programs shall be at the discretion of the Library Staff. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute or imply an endorsement of its policies, beliefs or program by any library staff or Library Board of Trustees.

Programs presenters will be selected from local, regional and national talent in order to prepare a program schedule that reflects the diversity of the town and the world. Requests from individuals to present programs, including author readings and signings are considered and weighed against the public's demonstrated interest in the topic, budget, as well as the presenter's demonstrated qualifications, expertise and reputation. Decisions on which programs to offer are made by the Library Director. The library may draw upon other community resources in developing programs, and actively partner with other community agencies, departments or educational or cultural institutions to develop and present co-sponsored programs.

The library does not offer programs of a purely commercial nature. Library programs must have a special educational, informational, or cultural value to the community. Examples of programs that would be considered of a commercial nature include but are not limited to presentations offered for free but with the intention of soliciting future business.

The library does not offer programs that support or oppose any political candidate or ballot measure. The library does not offer programs that support or oppose a specific religious conviction. Holiday programs may be offered. Programs advocating discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion or age cannot be held at the library.

The library will not be held liable for the consequences of any information presented by a speaker during a library program. The Town of Dunbarton assumes no responsibility,

financial or otherwise, for accidents or injuries sustained by individuals or groups of individuals, while attending a library-sponsored event.

Every attempt will be made to accommodate all who wish to attend a program. However, when safety, cost, 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 an advance registration, or at the door. If a program is anticipated to be extremely popular, then preference will be given to residents of Dunbarton.

Adopted January 4, 2021

Dunbarton Public Library Board of Trustees

February 1, 2021

Dunbarton Public Library Board of Trustees

Program Policy: Our new Program Policy reflects community interests, but the concept of "community" has changed. Because we are promoting virtual programs, residents of towns other than Dunbarton have shown interest in and are attending programs via Zoom. Mary asked if we needed to evaluate eligibility to attend a Dunbarton Library event. **The Board agreed that, as long as local citizens are not crowded out, we would welcome all interested attendees. The Board agreed that it will remain at the Director's discretion to monitor meeting and program capacity.**