



Library Display Policy

Durham Public Library provides displays in the Library in multiple forms to highlight the collection and inform the public. The Library embraces opportunities to celebrate art, culture, diversity and inclusion.

Selection of Displays

Library displays are planned, organized, and/or implemented by library staff using the following criteria in making decisions about display topics, materials, and accompanying resources:

- Community needs and interest
- Availability of display space and resources
- Historical or educational significance
- Connection to other community or national programs, exhibitions, or events
- Relation to library collections, resources, exhibits, and programs

The Library may partner with other Town departments, libraries, community agencies, organizations, educational institutions, or individuals to develop and present co-sponsored displays and exhibits.

The Library is dedicated to the free and open distribution of ideas and the principles of intellectual freedom as set forth in the [American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights](#). The Library strives to include a wide spectrum of opinions and viewpoints in Library-initiated displays and exhibits, as well as offer displays and exhibits that appeal to a range of ages, interests, and information needs. Partisan political, religious, and commercial materials are strictly avoided in Library displays, but Library-initiated displays will not exclude topics, books, media, and other resources solely because they may be considered to be controversial.

Acceptance of a display or exhibit topic by the Library does not constitute an endorsement by Durham Public Library of the content of the display or exhibit, or of the views expressed in materials on display.

Responsibility

Using the selection criteria stated above, library staff develop and implement library displays. The Library accepts suggestions for display topics, but topics and materials selection are arranged by library staff and are at the sole discretion of the Library Director.

Bulletin Board Displays

Within the Library, and Library property, only library and Town of Durham-related signs, posters, or notices will be posted. In the cafe, a bulletin board is provided for posting non-profit activities and events of interest to the community. Please see the [Durham Public Library Bulletin Board Policy](#).

Art Exhibits in the Library

The Durham Public Library is pleased to offer artists the opportunity to display their work to the community. Exhibits are arranged by Library Staff and given final approval by the Library Director. Please see the Library Art and Exhibit Policy for details.

Objections to Library Displays

The Library will review, consider and respond to all comments and questions about library displays, although greater weight may be given to the requests of eligible cardholders who are the Library's constituents. Any individual who wishes to provide comments or questions about Library displays should complete a "REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF A LIBRARY RESOURCE FORM". Please see the [Durham Public Library Collection Development Policy](#) to access the form and details about the reconsideration process.