



## PROGRAMMING POLICY

Programs presented by the Sioux Center Public Library support our mission to inspire lifelong learning, advance knowledge, and strengthen our communities by bringing diverse people, information, and ideas together. Programming is an integral component of library service that:

- Expands the Library's role as a community resource
- Introduces customers and non-users to Library resources
- Provides entertainment
- Expands the visibility of the library
- Promotes reading and lifelong learning
- Increases library use by under-served populations
- Provides opportunities to widen horizons, stimulate imagination and reflection, and enlarge experiences

Library staff utilize their expertise, collections, services and facilities in developing and delivering programming for people of various age groups, cultures, and interests. Library staff use, but are not limited to, the following criteria in making decisions about program topics, speakers, and accompanying resources:

- Community needs and interests
- Popular appeal, both existing and anticipated
- Availability of program space
- Treatment of content for intended audience
- Presentation quality
- Presenter background/qualifications in content area
- Budget
- Historical or educational significance
- Connection to other community programs, exhibitions or events
- Relation to library collections, resources, exhibits and programs

The Library may choose to partner or co-sponsor programs with their agencies, organizations, and businesses, provided the programs are compatible with the Library's mission and vision. All co-sponsored programs are subject to the same programming criteria. Performers and presenters will not be excluded from consideration based on any protected group status as defined by applicable federal, state, or local laws and regulations.

All Library programs are open to the public. A Library card is not required to attend a program, but patrons attending programs are encouraged to apply for a Library card in order to take full advantage of all the Library's resources. A fee may be charged for certain types of Library programs to recover the cost of a presenter, materials, or supplies, when it would otherwise not be feasible to offer the program. The Library's philosophy of open access to information and ideas extends to Library programming, and the Library does not knowingly discriminate through its programming. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program or the views expressed by presenters or participants.

Registration may be required for planning purposes or when space is limited. Programs may be held at the Library or offsite. The Library reserves the right to deny attendance to anyone becoming disruptive to audience members or the program facilitator, and to anyone in violation of the Sioux Center Public Library's Patron Conduct Policy. In some cases, attendance at a Library program may be restricted to specific age groups, especially programs intended for children and teens that are geared to their interests and developmental needs. Program leaders have the right to deny registration if the participant does not meet the age requirement. Unless otherwise stated by the program facilitator, adult supervision is required at all programs involving children under age 5 in accordance with the Library's Unattended Children Policy and Vulnerable Adults Policy. Program participants should expect that photographs/video/audio will be taken at events and may be used in library publicity and promotions. Participants may request from staff that their image not be used by the library.

Programs may be cancelled for a number of reasons, chiefly: severe weather, closure of the library, school closings, absence of the presenter, or low registration. Cancelled programs are not automatically rescheduled.

The Library welcomes expressions of opinion from customers concerning programming. If a customer questions a library program, he/she should first address the concern with the Program Director or the Library Director. Customers who wish to continue their request for review of Library programs may submit the Request for Reconsideration form. Requests for review of programs will be considered in the same manner as requests for reconsideration of library materials as outlined in the Library's Collection Development Policy.

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