

# The Library Bill of Rights

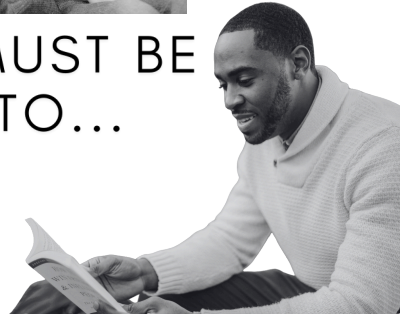
The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

- I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and **enlightenment of all people** of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
- II. Libraries should provide materials and information **presenting all points of view** on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- III. Libraries should **challenge censorship** in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
- IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with **resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas**
- V. **A person's right to use a library should not be denied** or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such **facilities available on an equitable basis**, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.
- VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a **right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use**. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; January 29, 2019. Inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.



PEOPLE MUST BE TRUSTED TO...



...MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS ABOUT...



...WHAT THEY READ.



## Library Materials for Everyone

### An introduction to Intellectual Freedom & The Library Bill of Rights

*"We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of the written word. We do so because we believe that it is possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free."*

Read the full Freedom to Read Statement  
[ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom](http://ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom)



Upper Moreland  
Free Public Library

109 Park Avenue, Willow Grove, PA 19090  
(215) 659-0741 [UpperMoreland@mclinc.org](mailto:UpperMoreland@mclinc.org)  
[www.UpperMorelandLibrary.org](http://www.UpperMorelandLibrary.org)  
*knowledge & adventure beyond words*



## What is Intellectual Freedom?

***Intellectual freedom is the right of every individual to both seek and receive information from all points of view without restriction. It provides for free access to all expressions of ideas through which any and all sides of a question, cause or movement may be explored.\****

This core tenant of library service gives every individual, regardless of background or belief, the right to access information without censorship or restriction. UMFPL upholds this right by curating collections that reflect a wide range of human thought and experience and by fostering an environment for individuals to explore various aspects of a topic, form informed opinions, engage in critical thinking, challenge ideas, and contribute to informed public discourse.

(\*from [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org))

## UMFPL Policy Page



View UMFPL's  
*Collection Management*  
*and Suggestions and*  
*Concerns policies*  
[www.UMFPL.org/policies](http://www.UMFPL.org/policies)

## Library Use & Kids: What Librarians Wants You to Know

As part of our mission UMFPL provides information for a wide variety of users. As a parent or guardian, you have the **right** and **responsibility** to make decisions about what materials are suitable for your own family. No one has the right to make rules restricting what other people access, or to make decisions for other families.

- Encourage kids to understand the library is a place to find things to read and do for fun AND to seek answers to questions. By asking questions and learning to find their own answers, young people learn to think for themselves and analyze what they see and hear.
- Talk to the librarian! Your librarian will ask you and your child questions and make recommendations based on your child's age, maturity level, knowledge and interest. When you can't be here with them, talk to your child about what they found at the library.
- If you feel an item is too advanced or not appropriate for your child, use the opportunity to express your views and provide guidance to your child. Discuss your family expectations regarding library use with your children.

## How do librarians decide where materials are shelved?

UMFPL has 50+ collections which are based on broad age range and type of material. Classification of materials into collections makes it easier to find relevant materials and format for a desired age level. UMFPL's Collection Management policy outlines criteria used when Librarians consider purchases for collections.

Selection criteria includes, but is not limited to, professional reviews, publisher's intended audience, and accuracy. Professional judgement and Librarians' understanding and knowledge of our community's needs and interests is also used to determine the collection additions.

## Who are UMFPL librarians?

Not everyone who works at UMFPL is a librarian! The Pennsylvania Department of Education certifies Librarians based on their completion of a master's degree in library science.

Librarians are specially educated in developing and maintaining collections, and managing and providing access to information. While anyone can suggest titles, only professional Librarians select materials for UMFPL collections.

# UPPER MORELAND FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## STATEMENT OF CONCERN

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Material/Program/Policy/Procedure of concern: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you represent: Self? \_\_\_\_ An organization? \_\_\_\_ Name of Org: \_\_\_\_\_

What brought this concern to your attention? \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Library use or visit: \_\_\_\_\_ Use or visit was: in-person \_\_\_\_ online/virtual \_\_\_\_

*Please note: It is part of the Library's Collection Management and Programming policies that materials and programs are evaluated as complete works and not on a particular passage or part. Therefore, only those requests in which the initiator has read/listened/viewed/attended the **entire** work or program are considered.*

If material, have you read, viewed, or listened to this work in its entirety? \_\_\_\_\_

If program, did you attend the entire program? \_\_\_\_\_

Please state your concerns regarding the materials, program, procedure, or policy. Include specific objections.

What action would you suggest the Upper Moreland Free Public Library takes regarding this material, program, procedure, or policy?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:** Executive Director • Upper Moreland Free Public Library • 109 Park Ave • Willow Grove, PA 19090

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_