



BEE CAVE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bee Cave Public Library

Collection Development Policy

Mission Statement: The Bee Cave Public Library will provide intellectual, cultural, educational, and recreational resources in a variety of formats. The library will offer an inviting environment, promote lifelong learning, and foster a sense of community.

COMMUNITY SERVED

The City of Bee Cave is located eight miles west of Austin in Travis County, Texas, and is the fastest-growing community within the award-winning Lake Travis Independent School District. Bee Cave Public Library is located inside Bee Cave City Hall in the mixed-use development known as the Hill Country Galleria, which lies at the intersection of three major highways and offers a variety of services to the wider region. The library is funded by appropriation from the general fund of the City of Bee Cave and serves patrons from many surrounding communities without regard to residency. The City of Bee Cave prides itself on being a historic, family-oriented community committed to a high quality of life in a beautiful, natural setting.

PRINCIPLES OF COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

The Bee Cave Public Library selects materials that support its mission to provide its patrons with intellectual, cultural, educational, and recreational resources in a variety of formats to meet the lifelong learning needs of the community. The Library recognizes the rights of citizens granted by the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Texas.

The Bee Cave City Council authorizes the Library Director, with advice and input from the Library Advisory Committee and library staff, to select materials for the Library's collection in accordance with the principles and criteria outlined in the Collection Development Policy.

OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE LOCALLY

Bee Cave Public Library offers free membership to any citizen of Texas without regard to residency, and through the TexShare Card Program and Interlibrary Loan, we provide access to a world of resources beyond our own. Bee Cave patrons in good standing may receive a TexShare card, which gives them access to local public libraries including the Westbank Community Library, Austin Public Library, and the Texas State Library and Archives, as well as academic libraries of the University of Texas, St. Edward's University, Concordia University, and other institutions of higher learning.

AREAS OF FOCUS WITHIN OUR COLLECTION

I. Adults

Because of the wealth of resources available in the area, and the relatively small size of our community and our space, Bee Cave Public Library has chosen to focus its adult collection

primarily on those materials most likely to circulate often, namely popular fiction, nonfiction, and biographies. Materials are offered in a variety of formats including print, audio, video, and digital. By its membership in the Texas State Library System and through selective purchases, the Library offers access to a wide array of online databases that supplement and expand the usefulness of the collection for research purposes and general information.

II. Youth

The children and young adult collections are somewhat broader in focus. Materials are selected within our limitations of budget and space to support the educational and research needs of K-12 students and local home-schooled students, as well as their recreational and general informational needs. As an accredited Family Place Library™, we devote a significant portion of the children's collection to materials for young children who are served by no other community agency and for whom the Library may be their first experience of a structured education environment. Fostering a love of books and reading is crucial to building an educated and responsible population and is reflected in the materials and programs the Library offers to our young patrons.

Materials chosen for the children's collection will be selected to appeal to children of different ages and interests and offered in a variety of formats including print, audio, video, and digital. Library staff members will help parents and children locate materials, but they cannot presume to make decisions for parents as to which library materials are appropriate for their children.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Because of the volume of publishing, as well as limitations of budget and space, selection criteria will be applied in developing the collection, and materials may be selected based on any, several, or all of the following:

- Positive review in a professional journal or local media
- Patron request
- Individual merit of each item
- Popular appeal or demand
- Suitability of material for the general public
- Existing library holdings
- Budget
- Format

Items will be chosen for the collection based on a wide range of community tastes and interests and will not necessarily appeal to everyone. Materials will be judged based on the work as a whole, not on a section taken out of context. Selection of materials does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content, viewpoint, implications, or presentation of the materials. Self-published items or those from alternative publishers in any format are subject to the same selection criteria as items from mainstream publishers.

REVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

The collection will be frequently and systematically reviewed for currency of information, and usefulness to the community. Materials that have become outdated or are no longer of popular interest will be withdrawn from the collection.

DONATIONS

The Library accepts donations of books and other library materials that support the mission of the Library and fall within the scope of the Library's Collection Development Policy as detailed in the Donations Policy. The Library reserves the right to utilize donated materials in any way that best benefits the collection and services. Gifts not added to the collection may be sold to benefit the Library or donated to other organizations.

PATRON REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF LIBRARY MATERIAL

The Library recognizes the right of individuals to question materials in the Library's collection. The Library provides a form (Appendix A) by which a patron can request a reconsideration of material. After the form is completed and returned to the Library Director, the material in question will be reviewed by the Library Director and a Library Review Committee to determine whether the material meets the criteria contained in this policy. The patron will be notified of the committee's decision.

Requests for reconsideration may only be filed by Bee Cave Public Library cardholders in good standing. Materials under reconsideration will be kept on the library shelves during the reconsideration. The Review Committee will consist of the Library Director, Assistant Library Director, and two Library Advisory Committee members.

While the Library welcomes expressions of opinion from the public, patrons' selections of materials are an individual, private matter. While patrons are free to select or reject materials for themselves and their minor children, patrons cannot restrict the freedom of others to read, view, listen, or inquire. Parents have the primary responsibility to guide and direct the selections of their minor children. Individual items which may be controversial or offensive to some may appropriately be added to the collection if they meet the selection criteria or contribute to the mission of the Library.

Approved by Bee Cave City Council, 3/26/2024

Appendix A - Bee Cave Public Library Patron Request for Reconsideration of Library Material

Request by: _____
Address: _____ Phone: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____

Please circle the format of the material:

Book Magazine Newspaper Audiobook Kit DVD Digital Other

Title: _____
Author: _____
Publisher: _____ Pub. Date: _____

1. I object to this material because: (Please be very specific) _____

2. I did did not read/view/listen to the material in its entirety.

3. Theme of the material: _____

4. Age of individual for whom it was checked out: _____

5. Age of individual for whom it is appropriate: _____

6. What do you recommend the Library do about this material? _____

Date: _____ Signature of Patron: _____

Thank you for sharing your concerns with us. The Library Director and the Library Review Committee will review your comments and all relevant policies. You will be notified of the decision.

For Library Use Only

Received by: _____ Date reviewed: _____

Comments: _____

Date Patron Contacted: _____

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