

Programming Policy

The mission of the Saugerties Public Library is to serve as a multi-cultural, inclusive institution dedicated to enhancing the life of every member of the Saugerties Community. It provides free access to a balanced collection of educational, cultural, informational and recreational materials and experiences in a welcoming, safe and comfortable environment.

Programs at the Saugerties Public Library are consistent with the library's core values, and further the mission of the library.

Programs expand opportunities for learning, connection, entertainment, and growth, and support the library's role as a civic gathering place. The library will evaluate community response to programs and will encourage participants and patrons to suggest topics. Programs are developed to respond to emerging community interests as well as to sustain demonstrated interests.

The library upholds the principles of intellectual freedom and supports the rights of the individual to read, speak, view and exchange differing points of view on any subject.

- Programs are open to the public and are free of charge.
- The library retains the right to determine which programs and events are scheduled.
- Permission to use library facilities does not constitute endorsement of program content.
- Programs cannot promote a business, product, or commercial enterprise.
- Fund raising is not permitted.
- Topics and speakers are not excluded from library programs because of possible controversy.
- Reconsideration requests will follow the procedures of the formal and established Reconsideration Request policy.

The library will be open to community concerns without acquiescing to censorship. Scheduled library programs will continue as scheduled. Responses to challenges must follow in the library's policies and procedures, regardless of the issue. No person or group should dictate what is suitable for others in the public library, nor should limitations be imposed based on the format of materials. *

* Adapted from the Handbook for Library Trustees of New York State

Adopted by the Board of Trustees: September 7th, 2023