

YOUNG ADULT SERVICES POLICY

I. SELECTION OBJECTIVES

The Library recognizes the uniqueness of young adults and attempts to provide for the needs and interests of the age twelve to eighteen year old patrons through the collection of library materials geared toward the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the young adult.

II. RESPONSIBILITY FOR SELECTION

The responsibility for selection lies with the professional staff of the library. Other staff members, as well as members of the general public, may make recommendations for consideration. The ultimate responsibility for book selection rests with the Director of the Library who operates within the framework of policies determined by the Library Board of Trustees.

In so far as the Library Director deems practical, general selection principles will apply in choosing young adult print and non-print materials. Criteria include the ability, authority and soundness of the author's approach and attitude; the timelessness, importance and popular appeal of the subject matter; the needs of the collection and the price of the material.

Personal growth, career aspirations, social development, recreational reading, fads and hobbies are among the types of informational needs the library will attempt to meet through the hardback and paperback books, periodicals, and other media selected for young adults. The library's budget and space limitations will be major factors in determining the size and scope of the young adult collection. .

The responsibility for the reading of young adults rests with their parents or legal guardians. Materials in the adult collection and in reference will be open to all patrons. The adult collection will not be restricted by the possibility that young adults may obtain materials their parents consider inappropriate.

Locations and designations for young adult materials can be found in the Library Procedures Manual.

SERVICE OBJECTIVES

The library will attempt to provide some programming directed primarily to young adults and will encourage attendance at general audience programs deemed to be of interest to young adults. The library staff will demonstrate the use of library reference tools, will instruct in the use of the catalog and will provide assistance in locating materials on the library shelves as requested. The staff will not engage in actual research or homework assignments which are the responsibility of the young adult

patron requesting assistance. The library will not attempt to provide textbooks used in the school curriculum either in the collection or through interlibrary loan, although a book would not necessarily be excluded from the collection simply because it is a textbook.

The library recognizes the talents and resourcefulness of young adults. For this reason the library encourages teenagers to volunteer for work assignments in the library, and to submit book requests.