

Kelso Public Library

Policy No. 701

Library Programming Policy

Purpose of the Library Programming Policy

701.1 The purpose of programs at the Kelso Public Library and in the community is to fulfill the Library's mission. Programs will include lectures, discussions, classes, workshops, presentations, performances, and other activities that promote life-long learning and Library use; enhance cultural and leisure activities; champion the principle of intellectual freedom; benefit the community; and foster an enduring connection to the Library.

Policies

701.2 Library programs are free and open to the public.

701.3 The Library does not require program attendees to possess a Kelso Public Library Card.

701.4 Attendance of Library programs may be limited due to space, or when safety or the success of a program requires it. Limits will be accomplished on a first come, first served basis either with advanced registration or upon arrival at the program.

701.5 Library programming is offered that furthers the Library's mission, values, and vision, and that meets the cultural, informational, and educational needs and interests of the community. Among the purposes that programs may fulfill are:

- a) To provide information,
- b) To encourage curiosity and creativity,
- c) To contribute to knowledge of self and the world,
- d) To promote social skills and language development,
- e) To provide opportunities that allow the Library to engage with residents,
- f) To promote and make accessible the Library's resources and services, and;
- g) To give residents the opportunities for engagement, community involvement, collaboration, and learning.

701.6 Library programs for children focus on stimulating development of intellectual and social abilities of young children. Children's programming emphasizes literature, language, reading, creativity, and the encouragement of life-long learning and effective social skills. Programming is offered on a frequent and regular basis for in-house and outreach audiences.

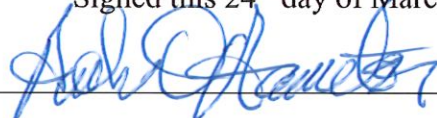
701.7 Library programs for teens focus on literature, language, reading, technology, current interests, and creativity. They may also focus on providing skillsets which promote life-long learning, social skills, and team building.

701.8 Programming for children and teens may also incorporate STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) activities, gaming, and other activities designed to promote life skills.

701.9 Library programs for adults focus on promoting reading and life-long learning; the enjoyment of leisure activities; informing the community about Library collections and

- services; improving information and digital literacy; preserving and teaching local history and genealogy; and covering issues of current local and global interest.
- 701.10 The Library is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for all and reserves the right to remove any program attendees who do not abide by the guidelines developed through the Library Use Policy.
- 701.11 The Library will plan unique programs to augment and enhance community events and to attract new audiences.
- 701.12 Library programs do not duplicate programs offered within the community unless they support the Library's mission and/or strategic plan, there is sufficient local interest, or library resources are available to support duplication.
- 701.13 The Library co-sponsors programs with other City departments, governmental agencies, community organizations, and businesses when they are compatible with the Library's program goals and priorities. Co-sponsored programs must include participation by Library staff to plan program content, provide logistical support, or include information about Library collections relevant to the program. Co-sponsorship and collaboration decisions are made on the basis of mutual needs and equitable benefits between the Library and potential partners, as well as available Library resources. Programs are designed to be informative learning opportunities, not a vehicle for commercial ventures.
- 701.14 The creation and dissolution of co-sponsored programs and partnerships with other entities are up to the discretion of the Library Director and are evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- 701.15 The Library will strive to include a wide spectrum of opinions and viewpoints in Library-sponsored programs, as well as offer programs that appeal to a range of ages, interests, and informational needs in order to engage the community.
- 701.16 Sponsorship of a program does not constitute the Library's or City of Kelso's endorsement of the content of the program or the views expressed by presenters or participants.
- 701.17 The Library does not proscribe or cancel a program solely because an individual or group may find the content objectionable.
- 701.18 At the discretion of the Library Director, fundraising to benefit the Library may be permitted.
- 701.19 At the discretion of the Library Director, sale of books or other materials by authors, vendors, or performers may be permitted as part of a Library program.

Signed this 24th day of March, 2025



Andrew Hamilton, City Manager



Erik Moser, Library Director

Revision History

- Original Adoption: June 2023
- Revised: March 2025

