

Normal Public Library -COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY - VIDEO

The library acquires, makes available and encourages the use of the video format to serve the general information and recreation needs within a diverse community. Materials selection is guided by a general design to maintain a 75/25 split between feature films and nonfiction films representing a wide variety of general subjects and genres. The collection does not include material purchased specifically for school or college curriculum use. The library subscribes to the "Library Bill of Rights" and "Freedom to View" and does not label or censor materials.

There is no single set of criteria that can be applied to all items because of the great diversity of materials. Some items are judged primarily in terms of artistic merit while others are selected to satisfy the recreational and informational needs of the community. The library encourages purchase suggestions from the public and will give them serious consideration. Currently both VHS and DVD formats are included in the collection. Funding for DVDs is increased each year, while no additional VHS are being purchased.

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Nonfiction

Nonfiction videos are purchased when the format provides a presentation most effectively or appropriately delivered by the video format or provides information or presentation that is unique to or only available in that format. Particular emphasis will be given to travel, craft, how to, sports, cooking, exercise and documentaries.

Feature Films

Feature films will be purchased to satisfy the public's need for recreational materials and to serve differing tastes and interests. An effort will be made to include all popular genres including comedy, mystery, classics, musicals, award winners, romance as well as other broad-based genres.

Children's and Young Adults

Materials should be useful to children's needs, interests and activities. Children's materials will be purchased for the age group ranging from preschool through high school. Feature films, after school specials, learning videos and a wide variety of other films will be selected for children. Young adult films will emphasize current and popular themes that will appeal both to this group and the entire family.

Amended September 30, 2009