

East Fishkill Public Library District Programming Policy

POLICY

It is the policy of the East Fishkill Public Library District to provide residents of East Fishkill with opportunities to attend programs that will entertain and educate. These programs seek to draw upon the needs and interests of the community's wide-ranging demographics and the Library's effort to foster all literacies.

Programming is developed solely by library staff and is dependent upon many factors, including but not limited to: interest, age, educational/entertainment value, budget, physical plant, and congruence with the Library mission. Presenters are chosen for their proven expertise and public performance experience. Other factors considered are the availability of staff and meeting rooms.

Programs are generally free of charge; fees may be charged if the attendees leave with materials or supplies.

Merchandise of a performer or author may be sold at Library events only if prior arrangements have been made.

Events may require registration and/or possession of a valid library card; limits may be set based on age or attendance maximums. The Library may give preference to those within our tax district. All special conditions will be included in any library-generated communications.

Programs may be canceled for a variety of reasons, including severe weather, absence of the presenter or low registration. The Library will attempt to reschedule, but there is no guarantee. Any money paid by registrants in advance of a program, will be reimbursed upon cancellation.

The Library does not advocate or endorse the content or viewpoints of presenters.

PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

Programs designed for children, tweens and teens fall under the same policy as stated above, with the following additional considerations:

Whenever reasonable, parents and caregivers will be welcomed into program; for some events, parent/caregiver attendance may be deemed mandatory. Parents and caregivers are expected to keep side conversations to a minimum to not interfere with the presenter. If a child or sibling exhibits behavior that disrupts the program, the parent/caregiver should be attentive and remove the child until they are able to rejoin the group.

Parents and caregivers are requested to be vigilant regarding indications that the child is unwell. Contagious illnesses can travel quickly and may affect some individuals with more serious results than others. Please keep your sick children at home.

It is the practice of the Library not to include references to specific holidays in story and craft events. This is done out of respect for the diversity of customs and beliefs of those in attendance.

Separate events may be scheduled as stand-alone events from the multi-week sessions of story/craft times.

When determining which library events your child should attend, please be mindful of listed age parameters. While the Library recognizes that each child is unique, group programs coalesce around the abilities on average of a specific age range. Children within that range will have a more productive experience.

Careful consideration is given in designing the Story Time and Craft curriculum taking into account many factors such as appropriate developmental content, dexterity, listening and participation ability, and social/societal culture. For these reasons, the curriculum is designed by Library professional staff members. The use of outside-agency volunteers or professionals is prohibited.