

Cobb County Public Library System
Selection Policy - Selection Criteria for DVDs

Approved: May 20, 2013; September 22, 2014

Cobb County Public Library System, in order to serve the community needs and interests for educational, informational, and entertainment materials in non-print formats, selects, makes available and encourages the use of audiovisual materials including DVDs and videos. Materials in all genres/subjects, by many different artists/producers, will be collected. Some items are judged primarily in terms of artistic merit or documentation of the times, while others are selected to satisfy the recreational and informational needs of the community. The collection should be balanced with classic movies, independent films, foreign films, and nonfiction educational and documentary titles.

DVDs will meet standards of quality, content, and expression based on the following criteria:

- Favorable opinion of qualified reviewers in recognized, authoritative, and professional review sources such as Library Journal or Video Librarian as well as selected online resources such as the Internet Movie Database and Rotten Tomatoes
- Recognition of quality by awards and prizes
- Longevity of appeal for reissued materials
- content - present and potential relevance to community needs
- strengths and weaknesses of the current collection
- purchase price

Due to the ongoing cost of television series, CCPLS will not purchase current TV series. They may be considered for purchase based on the above criteria once the series is completed.

Controversial Materials

Cobb County Public Library System recognizes that some materials may be regarded by certain individuals or groups as controversial, whether because of bias, frankness or language, political expression, or moral implication. Selection will not be made on the basis of anticipated approval or disapproval by any individual or group in the community or because it presents an aspect of life honestly or because it exhibits frankness of expression but rather on the evaluation of the video's literary merit, authenticity, honesty of presentation, topical interest and use to the audience for whom it is intended. The primary aim of materials selection is to establish a balanced collection which adequately represents various points of view on many subjects.

Changes in technology require the library to constantly evaluate the formats available in the media collection. The library may decide to add new formats as they become more cost-effective, readily available, and popular. Decreased popularity, selection, shelf space and availability of a format may require that format be removed from the library's collection.