

Trumbull Library Intellectual Freedom Policy

Policy Statement:

In accordance with the ALA's Library Bill of Rights, the Trumbull Library System (TLS) affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide its services to patrons and the community.

Intellectual Freedom Policy:

The Trumbull Library System strives to inform, enlighten, and empower every person in our community and believes that the freedom to read and access information is everyone's right.

We are strongly committed to intellectual freedom. It is one of our guiding principles and the cornerstone of all public libraries. We support freedom of speech and the right of every person to access knowledge, and all information protected by the U.S. Constitution, without censorship or limitation of any kind.

This policy guides the Library in every aspect of the programming and services it provides to its patrons. The TLS is committed to facilitating access to constitutionally protected information, without censorship or scrutiny. In a democratic society, free and open access to information gives people the resources to participate in the political process and strive towards self-improvement.

By collecting, organizing, and disseminating human expression in all its recorded formats, libraries are our society's most visible commitment to free speech, self-education and self-government.

We will help you find the information or resources you seek, regardless of your background or point of view. People of any race, beliefs, age, gender identity, and ethnicity have free access to Library materials and resources.

In support of these ideals the TLS offers a collection of materials that is diverse, inclusive, and protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article One, Section 6, of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut 1818*. The Board Trustees endorses the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights and all interpretations pertinent to the selection and use of library materials.

[Library Bill of Rights | Advocacy, Legislation & Issues \(ala.org\)](https://www.ala.org/advocacy-legislation/issues/library-bill-rights)

Applicability:

This policy guides the TLS in every aspect of the programming and services it provides to its patrons.

“In accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut, Section 11-23, The Trumbull Library System Board of Trustees shall make and adopt bylaws, rules and regulations for the government of the library and reading room.”

Adopted by the Library Board of Trustees on October 12, 2022