

# **Dermott O'Toole Memorial Library**

## **Young Adult (YA) Collection Guidelines**

### **Definition:**

A Young Adult (YA) collection has been established to satisfy the library needs of patrons from the approximate age of 13 to 18 years. The type of materials selected reflects the social, emotional and intellectual maturity of this age group.

### **Scope of materials will:**

- Represent the many cultural, religious and ethnic groups that contribute to the diversity of the young adult community.
- Reflect a variety of viewpoints.
- Provide information on various sides of sensitive issues
- Exemplify a range of genres and literary styles
- Includes traditional print materials and non-traditional materials such as graphic novels and manga.
- Motivate teens to examine their own attitudes, behavior, responsibilities, rights and privileges as participating citizens in our society and to make informed judgments in their daily lives.
- Offer materials spanning a wide scope of reading levels and maturity levels

### **Selection:**

Selection will be made by the librarian with input from patrons, current YA booklist websites, and other resources. Selection will reflect the scope described above.

Selection will include various genres such as fantasy, realistic contemporary fiction, historical fiction, adventure, mystery, romance, classics, and nature/outdoors. The librarian is encouraged to consider books that reflect current themes such as cultural differences, the immigrant experience, teen pregnancy, bullying, etc.

### **Young Adult Identification:**

The Young Adult Collection is clearly denoted by a YA label and is housed in a YA designated area.

## **Genres and Themes to Consider for YA Collection**

**Although at any given time the library may not have books representing all of the following genres and themes, we will consider them but are not limited to only them when adding to our YA collection.**

### **Genres:**

#### **Fantasy**

Science Fiction  
Dystopian: ie. Hunger Games, Maze Runner, The Divergent  
Steampunk: techno/gadgets from 19<sup>th</sup> century mixed with modern techno  
Paranormal: themes of good/evil, werewolves, vampires, ghosts  
Time Travel Fantasy  
High Fantasy: heroic dramatic quests  
Humorous Fantasy

#### **Realistic Fiction**

Contemporary Realistic Fic.: ie. Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time, The Life of Pi  
Controversial issues or Human Issues  
Multicultural/ Human Issues books: concerns of modern day, Ethnic/racial discrimination, Bullying, Gender roles issues, Sexual orientation  
Perspectives of others: contrary to yours or completely different

#### **Historical Fiction**

ie. All the Light We Cannot See, The attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Code Name Verity

#### **Adventure**

Quest or extreme conditions  
Can contain mystery, dystopia or fantasy

#### **Mystery/Crime/Thriller/Horror**

#### **Romance/Relationship**

Usually deal with relationships, dating & romance.  
Can include themes of pregnancy, abortion, weight problems or drug abuse

#### **Humorous**

#### **Classics**

Older: ie. Dickens, HG Wells  
Modern: ie. Marsden's Tomorrow When the War Began series

#### **Nature/Outdoors**

#### **Short Stories**

**Non-Fiction**

YA patrons will utilize the juvenile and adult non-fiction collection.

**THEMES:**

War  
Prejudice  
Coming of age  
Abandonment  
Friendship  
Relationships  
Bullying  
Loss  
Loneliness  
Pregnancy  
Rape  
Death  
Mortality  
Drugs  
Poverty  
Sex  
Cultural differences  
Gender differences (LGBTQ)  
Immigrants  
Refugees  
Inter-racial relationships  
Family conflicts  
Mental and Physical Health  
Conflicts with authority  
Individualism  
Coming of Age (from childhood to adulthood)