



www.BataviaPublicLibrary.org

Policy on Links to Other Web Sites

Preamble

The mission of the Batavia Public Library is to provide and ensure access to materials and services to meet the lifelong learning needs of residents and organizations, as well as to create a welcoming place to gather, exchange ideas, and participate in cultural events.

Section 1 — Policy on Materials Selection

The selection of links to other, external Web sites is governed by the “Policy on Materials Selection,” q.v., the current version of which is incorporated herein by reference. This “Policy on Links to Other Web Sites” is an interpretation of and a supplement to the “Policy on Materials Selection.”

Section 2 — Overview

The Batavia Public Library (“Library”) provides links to other, external Web sites as a service to its patrons and for informational purposes only, as part of its mission “to provide and ensure access to materials and services to meet the lifelong learning needs of residents and organizations.”

In order to enrich, broaden, and complement the Library’s collection of print and audio-visual resources, as well as to facilitate navigation of the Internet, the Library provides a selected collection of links to other, external Web sites in the following categories:

- World of Knowledge: A Virtual Library of Web Sites
- Selected Local and Regional Resources
- Selected Resources in Support of Library Programs, Classes, and Events

Section 3 — Scope of Collection

A. World of Knowledge: A Virtual Library of Web Sites

The Library provides a link to the Internet Public Library (IPL) / Librarians’ Internet Index (LII) — currently at www.ipl.org — or its successors, in order to provide a diverse collection of links to Web sites that meet high professional standards. The Library provides this link in lieu of maintaining its own large collection of links to other, external Web sites. IPL / ILL, which functions as “a public library for the World Wide Web,” provides thousands of top-quality Web sites that are researched, selected, organized into subject categories, and maintained by (or under the supervision of) professional librarians.

B. Selected Local and Regional Resources

The Library acknowledges a particular focus on topics of local and regional interest, and provides selected links to such Web sites. This category of links is not intended as a comprehensive collection. Further, the Library takes a broad view of Web sites related to the City of Batavia, Batavia Township, Kane County, the State of Illinois, and their environs, regardless of whether such materials meet the established standards of selection in other respects.

C. Selected Resources in Support of Library Programs, Classes, and Events

The Library provides selected links to Web sites related to Library classes, programs, and events for adults and children.

Section 4 — Criteria for Selection of Additional Web Sites

In addition to guidelines found in the “Policy on Materials Selection,” Web sites of a non-commercial nature will be selected whenever possible. However, the Library reserves the right to provide selected links to other Web sites when those Web sites provide substantial information free of charge that is not otherwise readily available.

Section 5 — Collection Maintenance

In addition to guidelines found in the “Policy on Materials Selection,” each Web site directly linked from the Library’s Web site will be accessed and/or reviewed not less than two times per year.

Section 6 — Disclaimer

A. Provide a Disclaimer

The Library shall provide a disclaimer on its Web site and (as deemed appropriate) in its publications in connection with links to other Web sites.

B. Elements of Disclaimer

1. Purpose

Example: The Batavia Public Library provides links to other, external Web sites as a service to its patrons and for informational purposes only, as part of its mission “to provide and ensure access to materials and services to meet the lifelong learning needs of residents and organizations.”

2. Definition of “Other Web Sites”

Example: Other, external Web sites are not operated, controlled, or maintained by the Library.

3. Voluntary Use Only

Example: Use of other, external Web sites is voluntary on the part of each individual visitor.

4. Quality

Example: The Library endeavors to provide links only to those Web sites that are accurate and deemed useful to visitors of the Library’s Web site.

5. No Responsibility for Content

Example: The Library is not responsible for the content of other, external Web sites and cannot guarantee that such Web sites will not change without the Library's knowledge.

6. No Endorsement or Approval

Example: Inclusion of such links to other Web sites on the Library's Web site does not imply the Library's endorsement or approval of the linked sites, their sponsors, or content.

Approval History:

- Adopted by the Board of Library Trustees on Tuesday, 20 January 2009 (Resolution 2009-002)