

EMMA S. CLARK MEMORIAL LIBRARY VIDEO COLLECTION SELECTION POLICY

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

The Video collection serves much the same purpose as the library's print collection, i.e., to instruct, to enlighten and to entertain. As in the print collections, the various elements of the video collection (feature films, performance, children's and special interest should be representative of the best that is available. Selection decisions are based on reviews in both the popular and the professional media.

SPECIFIC CHARACTERISTICS

A. CHILDREN'S COLLECTION

1. Quality fictional videos and feature films with a strong "storytelling" emphasis.
2. Instructional videos to introduce children to a broad range of topics.

B. SPECIAL INTEREST

Information videos which complement our nonfiction book collection and which may be used to inform or instruct. The collection's size and its personal-use orientation dictate that the items selected for inclusion be of a general nature, rather than academic, technical or specialized. Particular emphasis is placed on travel, nature, how-to, general health, sports and recreation and history.

C. PERFORMING ARTS

Outstanding opera, dance and theatrical performances.

D. FEATURE FILMS

The library's collection will endeavor to provide opportunities for borrowers to view outstanding films which may have had limited commercial release in our area and which may be less likely to be available at commercial video outlets.

The collection will include quality feature films which:

1. Are noteworthy for their theme, technical mastery, acting, direction, cinematography, etc.
2. Have been recognized by nominations or awards given by recognized critical, cultural or professional organizations.
3. Have been positively reviewed (a "B" average or better) in standard popular newspapers and magazines.
4. Have been reissued in video format after some time and which can be considered to be "classics" because of longevity of appeal.

Outstanding popular films will be purchased only if they comply with the above criteria.

Last revised: December 15, 2009