



## Collection Development User Group

### Discussion Notes

March 12, 2025

#### Discussion Topic –Collection Development policies

California public libraries are required by the Freedom to Read Act (AB 1825) to have a written and publicly accessible Collection Development Policy by January 1, 2026.

- Lompoc Library confirmed that their Collection Development Policy has been approved by the State Library. The policy had been revised in early 2024 and additional language was added later as requested by the State Library. Their policy includes detailed guidelines for their different locations, which include the Village, Bookmobile and Main library locations.
- Santa Paula's Policy has been updated and submitted to the State
- Santa Maria's Policy is currently with the City Attorney for approval before sending it to the State but might not include the language required by AB 1825.
- Paso Robles and Goleta Libraries have not yet updated their policies to meet the State's required language
- Carpinteria confirmed that their Policy has been approved by the State.

#### Discussion Topic –Acquisition policies

Santa Maria asked if other libraries are considering eliminating physical magazines.

- Paso reduced their magazine collection pre-covid and they will not be building it back up. However, they do get some patron complaints about the reduction in magazine titles. Right now, they do not plan to eliminate the 20 or so titles that they still carry.
- Lompoc reduced the magazine collection pre-covid. Now they only offer Consumer Reports
- Santa Paula said that they now have labels on their magazine shelves referring patrons to the OverDrive magazine collection hoping to eventually get rid of their physical magazine collection. They noted that 2 magazine titles were recently circ'd to another library.
- Santa Maria stated that their library is also pushing OverDrive Magazines, but is unsure if patrons are utilizing the digital options.
- Teresa noted that the overall Black Gold magazine collection has 133 titles System wide.

#### Book and DVD acquisitions

- Paso primarily source print materials from Baker and Taylor and audiovisual materials from Midwest Tapes. They do purchase from Amazon for replacement copies and popular titles like the New York Times best sellers. They order no more than three copies of any book title, but they might have more than that number if they receive donations of such. A significant portion of the budget goes towards best sellers and patrons' suggestions are prioritized. An effort will be made to match the city's demographics to the collection since there is a significant population that are native Spanish speakers. Paso's budget for print materials (including both

English and Spanish) is approximately \$30,000 to \$40,000 and they spend 10-15 hours per month on collection development for the Adult collection.

- Lompoc spends about 10-15 hours per month on acquisitions of Adult titles. Resources often used are B&T lists, Book Page, Book Tok and Library Journal. Sarah also looks at the Zip book authors to consider new titles. For Spanish, she looks at South American popular authors. They have a two-copy limit for purchases. Budget is \$68K for Adults and Youth, and \$9K for Bookmobile (youth). Last year they received \$85K from the Foundation and Friends. YS librarian spends about 5 hours per month on purchases (resources through School Library Journal) and spends another 10 hours per month on weeding.
- SM has a budget of \$67.5K for the Main library, and another \$24,690 for the remaining 5 branches. They also have Measure U funding and receive donations from the Friends. They purchase print materials from Ingram and are now shifting to pre-processed materials to save time. Ingrams Spanish titles are translations. They prefer Tomo for Spanish as they are written in their native language.
- Goleta splits their purchasing between Elizabeth for AV and OverDrive, Kim for Adult and Spanish (\$126K), and Kaley for Juvenile (\$80). Goleta is willing to fill in the needs for the total Black Gold collection, especially as she has some budget flexibility in the upcoming months. She recently purchased new travel books due to outdated materials in the collection. Jody suggested that Goleta could consider purchasing duplicates to share
- Carpinteria - Jody described their ordering process, where they create a list of books on Amazon and then she asks Eric to pull them from Baker & Taylor if they're available. They can typically get around 1/4 of their desired books from Baker & Taylor, focusing on high-demand titles. They also heavily rely on patron requests to guide purchases. If a book is requested but not available, they will prioritize getting it in. Space Constraints: Carpinteria's library has limited shelf space, so every new order requires removing something from the collection. This makes it a continuous process of space management. Their budget is \$90K for print and digital. They resource through Amazon, Editor's Pick, NYT Best Sellers, and Tertulia. She will look at the holds list and if Carp has 3 or more patrons on the list, she will buy that title. The Carpinteria library focuses on natural and local history, surfing, skating, horses, ranching and interior design.
- Santa Paula uses the following resources: B&T, McNaughton, Book Page, Good Reads, Amazon, Top 50. Their budget for books and AV is about \$20K. Brenda purchases Adult print and OD and Olivia purchases for YS

### **Foreign Languages**

- Santa Maria has collections from donations in German and Japanese and they have Korean titles purchased through a grant. They have a few dozen Vox Books in Chinese and Filipino.
- Goleta has a Portuguese collection that has been enjoyed by patrons noting they were very satisfied with.
- Spanish Language in OverDrive – the budget is small and frequently the metered titles expire with many circs remaining. Recently, changes were made to use the \$100 per month budget toward Cost per Circ Spanish titles up to \$4.99 each. There seems to be a demand, for these Spanish-language materials, and looking at the hold list can be a good indicator of what patrons actually want to read. Glynis showed the hold screen on Overdrive to illustrate which Spanish titles have the most holds. She mentioned that any title with a high number of holds would be prioritized for purchase

Teresa offered to continue to provide libraries with lists of new and popular titles that she doesn't see in our collection. Jody was very appreciative of this offer noting that Teresa has a global view that the libraries might not have and asked that she continue to send the suggestions. Teresa will also continue to build the list of resources for all selectors to use if they choose to. These lists will be posted to the ATS web site <https://ats.blackgold.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Collection-Development-and-Selection-Links.pdf>

**The next Collection Development Group meeting will be focused on the OverDrive Collection**