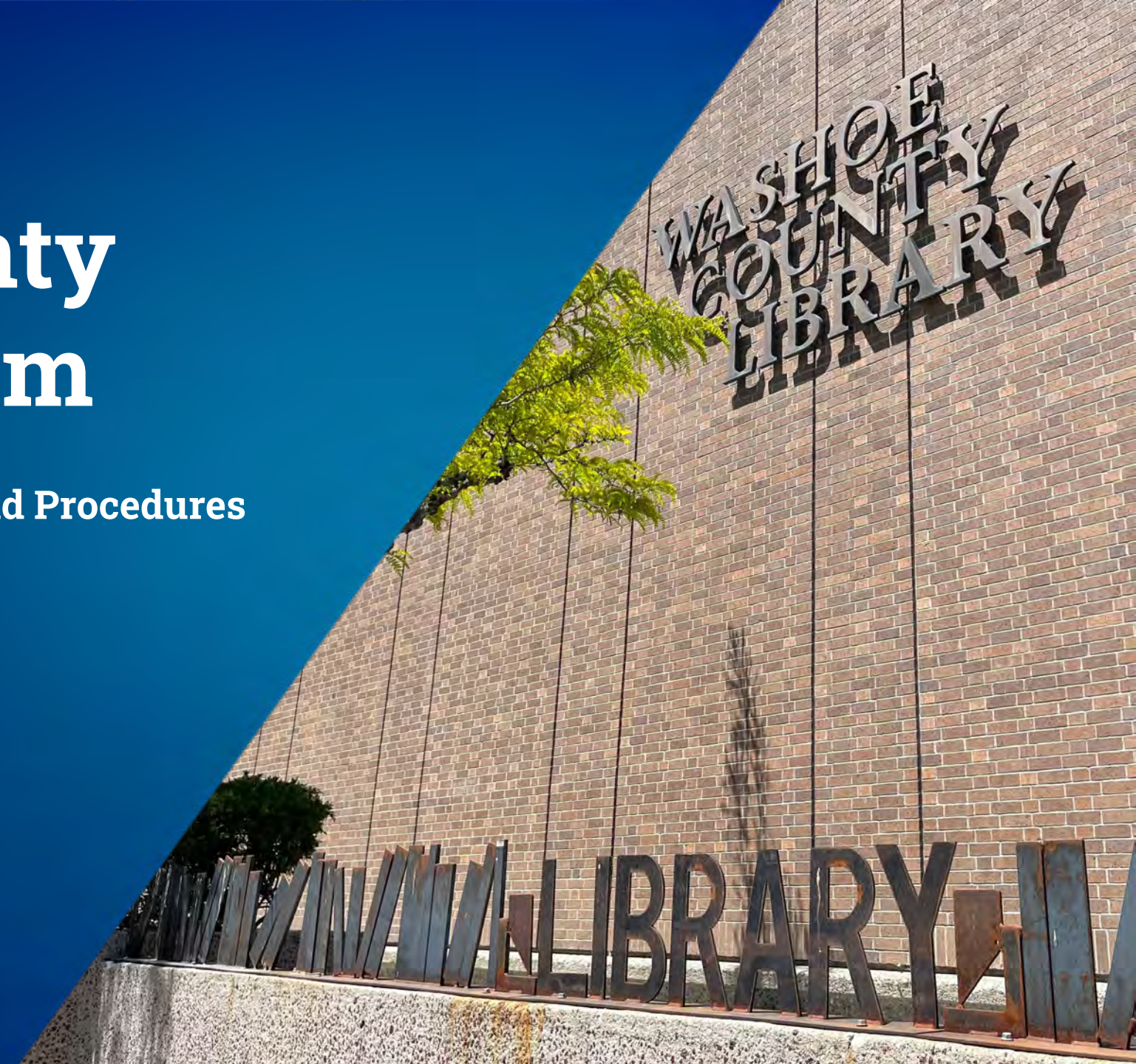
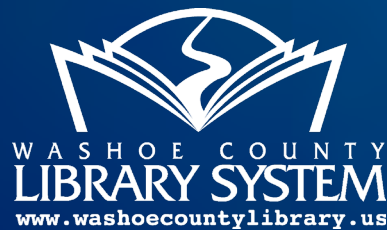


# Washoe County Library System

Collection Development Policy and Procedures





# Collection Development Mission: Curate a collection of library materials to reflect the needs and interests of our community

- 478,000 volumes across 12 branches + “digital branch”
- 1,978,000 checkouts during Fiscal Year 2023
- Fiscal Year 2023 Materials Spending: \$1,014,720
- Added 39,212 physical items and 17,571 eBook/eAudio copies



## Forecasting New Titles – 86% of purchases

- Past performance of author nationally and locally
- Editorial book reviews
- Tracking of national presale orders
- Order as early as a year in advance and monitor the number of holds to determine number of copies needed
- Goal is to have title on the shelf on street date





## Library Catalog as Discovery Tool

The screenshot shows a library catalog search interface. At the top is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon, the text 'by Keyword', a dropdown arrow, 'in Library Catalog', another dropdown arrow, and a 'Search' button with a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar is a horizontal navigation bar with five buttons: '#WhatToRead' (highlighted in blue), 'As Heard on KUNR', 'Español', 'Holocaust Collection', and 'Book Clubs'. Below this is a grid of topic tags. The first row includes 'History behind 'Oppenheimer'' (highlighted in blue), 'Can't Get Enough Barbie', 'Art & Artists in Teen Fiction', 'Cool Treats 2023', and 'Classics and Contemporaries'. The second row includes 'Americans and the Holocaust Exhibition', 'Killer Barbeque', 'Disability Pride for Kids', 'Parenting Around the World', 'LGBTQIA+ Fiction', and 'Beach Reads 2023'. The third row includes 'Remembering Cormac McCarthy', 'For Fans of 'The Last of Us'', and 'Manga'. Below the tags is the search results header: '#WhatToRead » History behind 'Oppenheimer''. To the right of the header are three buttons: 'Covers', 'Grid', and 'Hide'. The main content area displays six book covers in a row. From left to right: 1. 'American Prometheus' by J. Robert Oppenheimer, featuring a portrait of Oppenheimer and a star rating of five stars. 2. 'The Making of the Atomic Bomb' by Richard Rhodes, featuring a yellow cover with a bomb icon and a star rating of five stars. 3. 'Countdown 1945' by Chris Wallace, featuring a red cover with the title in large white letters and a star rating of five stars. 4. 'Brotherhood of the Bomb' by Gregg Herken, featuring a black and white cover with a man in a hat and a star rating of five stars. 5. 'The Bastard Brigade' by Sam Kean, featuring a blue cover with a group of people and a star rating of five stars. 6. 'Atomic Women' by Rosanne Montillo, featuring a red cover with silhouettes of women and a star rating of five stars.



## Seeking Community Input – 14% of purchases

Didn't find it?

Can't find what you are looking for? Try our Materials Request Service. [Submit Request](#)

- Purchase requests fill any gaps in collection
- More than 600 requests/month
- Interlibrary loan available for titles we don't purchase



## Collection Development Policy Highlights

Scope of Collection: Current and popular

Criteria for materials:

- Suitability of subject and style for intended audience
- Attention by critics and expert reviewers
- Reputation and significance of author
- Cost
- Consideration of work as a whole
- Representation of diverse points of view and opinions



## Reconsideration of Library Materials

- Formal process for community members to challenge an item in the collection
- Library Director responds in writing
- User may appeal decision to Library Board of Trustees



## History of challenges

- 2015 Scientology DVD
- 2023 "Johnny the Walrus"





## Current censorship threats

- Hate speech found in books
- Censorship by hiding materials

# Thank you

