

43 Church Street Dedham, MA 02026 781-751-9284

Diversity and Inclusion Policy

Voted and approved by the Board of Library Trustees: April 28, 2022

Effective date: April 28, 2022

The mission of the Dedham Public Library includes providing free and equitable access to information and to empower discovery, inquiry, and growth. Our Library's Vision Statement includes "offering sanctuary and resources to address community disparities and helping those in need." In furtherance of those goals, the Dedham Public Library is committed to supporting diversity, inclusion, and well-being within the community we represent and serve. We are committed to providing equitable access to all facets of the library experience and to providing the resources that further these objectives. Specifically, the Dedham Public Library and Dedham Board of Library Trustees commit to the following:

- Building a culture that is respectful, open to change, and empathetic to all perspectives
- Holding ourselves accountable to our commitment and to our community
- Fostering intellectual freedom and diverse discourse
- Ensuring our services, spaces, and resources are representative of diverse cultures and perspectives, intentionally inclusive, and accessible to everyone
- Recognizing, valuing, and empowering members of our community and celebrating aspects of their identity, including:
 - age, ancestry, citizenship status, color, creed, culture, disability/ability, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, geographic origin, language, marital status, national or ethnic origin, neurodiversity, parental status, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, veteran status, and all others.