

Social Media Policy

The Bremen Public Library (BPL) is committed to using social media to inform patrons about programs and services (including those co-sponsored with other organizations), and to encourage dialog between users and library staff. Examples of social media include: Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, X, TikTok, and blogs.

Users of all ages must be cautious when they post on or view any social media. As with all other resources provided by BPL, parents or guardians are responsible for the use by their children. The library does not act in place of a parent or guardian and is not responsible for enforcing any restrictions upon minors that a parent or guardian has placed. Parents or guardians who wish to limit or restrict access of their own children should personally oversee their use of social media.

By posting on the library's social media, users give the library permission to use their name, profile picture, and the content of any posting they make, without compensation to them or liability on the part of the library. BPL reserves the right to post pictures from library-sponsored or co-sponsored programs on social media. The library will not identify members of the public in social media posts through accompanying text or photograph (typically called "tagging") without verbal or written consent. The library is not responsible for members of the public being identified by third parties either in comments or by tagging.

Guidelines for Public Commenting

User comments, posts, and messages are welcome on BPL social media. The library reserves the right to monitor content posted on its social media and to remove any content that it deems, in its sole discretion, to be inappropriate. Posts containing, but not limited to, the following are against library standards:

- Offensive content that targets gender, sexual orientation, disability status, racial groups, ethnic groups, or religious groups
- Obscene, discriminatory, threatening, or harassing language
- Specific and imminent threats
- Defamatory or libelous content
- Private or personal information, including phone numbers and addresses, or requests for personal information
- Comments or links unrelated to the content of the forum
- Commercial promotions or spam
- Political activity
- Copyright, trademark, and fair-use violations
- Plagiarized material
- Solicitation of funds

The library, in addition, reserves the right to edit or modify posts while retaining the intent of the original post and to reproduce comments, posts, and messages in other media outlets. Users should have no expectation of



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privacy in posts on the library's social media. Posts do not necessarily reflect the opinions or positions of the library, its employees, or its Board of Trustees.

Rights and Responsibilities

Patrons who have violated the above guidelines may be blocked or banned from the library's social media. Patrons will be contacted via the social media platform in question and informed of the reason and duration of suspension. Patrons who wish to challenge the decision may petition the Library Director and Bremen Public Library Board of Trustees.

Adopted by the Bremen Public Library Board of Trustees, 3/25/24