

Adult Reader's Advisor Competencies **June 18, 2008**

In recent years, Reader's Advisory services have expanded from assisting library users with identifying books to read to assisting users with identifying materials for viewing and listening. These services consist of recommending titles of potential interest to the user to match the user's interests and experience as well as promoting the collection.

Library Support Staff will know:

1. The library's collection and where to locate materials by type and genre.
2. A general familiarity with popular and classic fiction, including a knowledge of authors, various fiction genres and popular, current non-fiction.
3. A general familiarity with popular and classical music, including a general knowledge of performers and composers.
4. A general familiarity with variety of films, including a general knowledge of directors and actors in different film and media genres.
5. Online and print readers' advisory tools and reviewing sources.
6. Formats appropriate for persons with disabilities affecting vision, hearing or understanding.

Library Support Staff will be able to:

7. Use online and print readers' advisory tools and reviewing sources.
8. Briefly and succinctly, describe the plot of a book, film or other media and its appeal.
9. Determine users' interests and make connections between their interests and similar works.
10. Make recommendations without judgment regarding reading, listening or viewing preferences.
11. Select materials from the library collections in response to users' inquiries.
12. Assist users with finding specific titles in their preferred format.
13. Assist in developing, promoting and implementing programs based on the library collections, such as book discussions, summer reading programs, film and media programs.

14. Assist in compiling resource lists and displays of books, recordings, films and media by genre, historical period, subject or author, composer or director.
15. Suggest additions to the collection based on trends in materials requested and borrowed.