



Public Library System

Free Speech Activity

Policy Statement:

The City of Scottsdale and the Scottsdale Public Library System respect, value and support the constitutional right of free speech. Members of the public are welcome to use exterior areas around library buildings for free speech activity, subject to the city's regulations as to time, place, and manner of use, as described in this policy ("Policy"), including the attached diagrams of the Civic Center, Mustang and Arabian Libraries ("Libraries").

Regulations:

These regulations are designed to enable those wishing to exercise their freedom of speech with persons visiting the Libraries, while protecting the public's right to the use and enjoyment of the Libraries and the City staff's ability to conduct necessary business activities without interference.

1. The City of Scottsdale recognizes the following as free speech activities ("Free Speech Activities"):
 - a. "Demonstrating" - speaking, holding or carrying signs, or using expressive conduct, without attempting personal contact with library customers;
 - b. "Pamphleteering" - passing out literature, or attempting to engage customers in discussions, but not requesting signatures or contributions; and
 - c. "Petition passing" or "Soliciting" (including "panhandling") - approaching and requesting action, including but not limited to signatures or donations, from individual library customers.

Persons engaging in any of these activities are referred to in this Regulation as "Speakers."

2. The interiors of the Libraries are dedicated to the quiet study and enjoyment of customers, free from disturbance by others, and Free Speech Activities will not be conducted in these areas.¹

¹ This regulation also applies to the interior of Palomino Library, a shared-use library located on Scottsdale Unified School District ("District") property. Regulation of Free Speech Activities on the exterior of this library is subject to the control and policies of the District.

3. The shaded areas marked “Free” on the attached diagrams of the Libraries (“Designated Areas”) indicate the areas within which Speakers may engage in Free Speech Activities. Access to and use of these areas for Free Speech Activities will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
4. All areas outside of the Designated Areas are reserved for the ingress and egress of library customers and library staff (“Access Areas”). At no time will Speakers use Access Areas for demonstrating, pamphleteering, petition passing, or soliciting.
5. Access Areas must continuously allow free ingress or egress from any library building and/or library parking lot. No person will place obstacles of any kind in an Access Area.
6. Speakers will treat library customers and staff with courtesy and respect, and will not act in any manner that causes library customers or staff to experience distress, embarrassment, or intimidation.
7. Speakers will control the level of any noise resulting from their activities so that it does not disturb library customers or library staff, or otherwise interfere with the use of the library for its intended purposes by customers or staff.
8. Tables, chairs, umbrellas, or other appropriate personal property may be used by Speakers in conjunction with Free Speech Activities, but must be placed and maintained only within Designated Areas. The library management reserves the right to request the relocation of people, furniture, or other items of personal property, if it is determined that an activity is interfering with or is hindering access to the library by customers or staff. Failure to comply with a request by a library staff member to relocate either persons or property will result in the Speaker being asked to leave the Library premises.
9. Speakers must provide their own supplies, furniture and/or equipment, as they will not be available from or provided by the Libraries. The Libraries will not store such equipment.
10. No unattended furniture or other personal property is allowed, either in an Access Area or a Designated Area. Unattended articles will be removed from the location in which they are found and discarded.
11. Posters, notes, pamphlets, or other printed information of any kind must be hand-held or hand-distributed. No such materials may be placed on or attached to building walls, columns, lights, or other structural or ornamental features of the Libraries. Unattended signs are not permitted and, if found, will be removed and discarded.

Procedures:

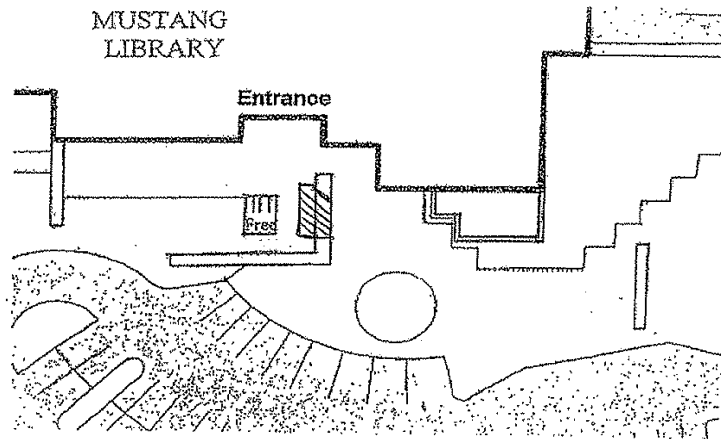
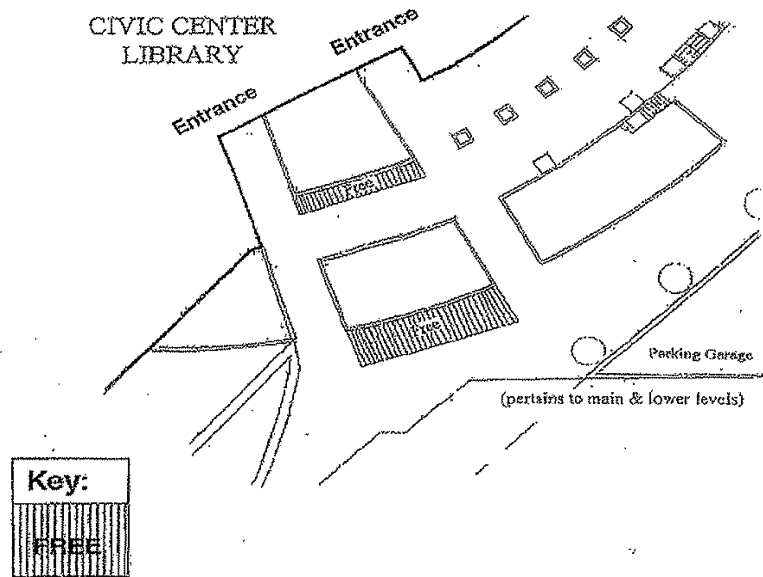
1. Library staff will be alert for inappropriate Speaker behavior in both the Designated and Access Areas.

2. Library staff will contact the Librarian-in-Charge for assistance, if it is necessary to ask Speakers to leave the library premises or modify their behavior in any way. In the event that it is necessary to ask a Speaker to leave the Library premises, the Librarian-in-Charge, accompanied by one or more staff members, will personally so direct the Speaker.
3. If library staff members receive complaints from customers that any Speaker is behaving in a manner that is distressing, intimidating or embarrassing to library customers or staff members, staff will issue the individual Speaker a warning that if additional complaints are received, or they continue to engage in the conduct complained of, the Speaker will be asked to leave the library premises.
4. If library staff members receive complaints from customers that any Speaker or Speakers are creating a sound or noise that is distracting or annoying to customers or staff, staff will issue that individual Speaker a warning that if additional complaints are received, or they continue to engage in the conduct complained of, the Speaker will be asked to leave.
5. Once a Speaker has received a warning, if additional complaints are received relating to a Speaker's activities, or the Speaker continues to engage in the conduct complained of, staff members will notify the Librarian-in-Charge to ask the Speaker to leave the library premises.
6. If library staff receives information that any Speaker and/or his/her furniture or personal property are in the Access Area, the Librarian-in-Charge will ask the Speaker to move out of the Access Area, or remove his/her furniture or personal property, as applicable.
7. Any Speaker's posters, notes, pamphlets, or other printed information found unattended on library property will be removed and discarded by library staff.
8. Any Speaker's furniture or personal property found unattended on library property will be discarded by library staff.
9. In the event that a Speaker has been asked to leave the premises and refuses to do so, or when otherwise deemed appropriate, the Librarian-In-Charge or designee will notify the Scottsdale Police Department and request assistance.



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Free Speech Activity Designated Areas





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ARABIAN LIBRARY

