

## **Gouverneur Public Library (Reading Room Association of Gouverneur)**

### **Defense of Intellectual Freedom Statement**

The North Country Library System upholds the principle of intellectual freedom and resists all efforts to censor library resources. We affirm the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to View, and Freedom to Read policy statements in support of acquiring and managing collections.

Libraries are unique institutions of education and knowledge that provide access to materials that reflect a broad range of subjects, ideas, and opinions. In doing so, all libraries contain some materials which parents may not want their children to read, view, or borrow. While parents have the right to set restrictions for their own children, no person or group has the right to deny an entire community access to library materials.

Therefore, the North Country Library System stands firmly opposed to the restriction, removal, and/or censorship of books and other library materials in an attempt to limit the freedom to read or obstruct intellectual freedom.

Approved: August 11, 2022