

Selection of Small Press and Self-Published Works

Selection Criteria

The Capital District Library is often asked to add items to our collection that are published by a small press or self-published by the author. These titles are treated as a donation and subject to the same selection criteria we use for evaluating all items for our collection.

The two main criteria we use in evaluating small press and self-published items are:

- A professional review of the title in resources such as *Library Journal*, *School Library Journal*, *Booklist*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Kirkus*, *Billboard* or a local newspaper.
- Demand for the title as demonstrated by patron requests or its appearance on a bestseller list.

Along with the criteria mentioned above, we also evaluate material based on the intended audience or reader. As a public library that focuses on items in popular demand, we select materials whose content is aimed at the general reader rather than a specialist or practitioner.

When submitting an item for evaluation, please include any reviews and author information.

Preferred Bindings

Please keep in mind that the books in our collection get constant use from the public. Because of this, we look for books that are sturdily bound, preferably with sewn or glued bindings. Books with spiral or comb bindings do not stand up in library collections. Also, books with pages designed to be filled in or torn out by the reader are not appropriate for our collection.

Donated Items

If you choose to submit a copy of a title for our evaluation, we will not be able to return it in the event that it is not added to our collection. We will treat your item as a donation. All donated materials become the property of the Capital Area District Library. If your item isn't included in the collection, it may be given to the Friends of the Library for sale to the public.