**WTBBL COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library (WTBBL) adheres to the *Revised Standards and Guidelines of* *Service for the Library of Congress Network of Libraries for the Blind and Physi*­*cally Handicapped* (American Library Association, 2011) which states: "Network libraries shall acquire or produce reading materials to supplement the national collection as appropriate to their service communities” and in alternate formats “emphasizing titles of regional and local importance,” (p. 21).

**Local Audio and Braille Production Overview:**

WTBBL strives to produce books that will be of enduring or broad interest to a diverse group of patrons. Books are selected by WTBBL staff or evaluated upon patron request. Books relevant to the Pacific Northwest, including authors closely identified with the region, novels set in the region, and histories of the cities, towns, and Native peoples of the region are most strongly considered. Subjects closely linked to the Northwest, such as logging, boating, maritime history, and Lewis and Clark are also strongly considered. Northwest fiction and non-fiction, adult or juvenile materials will all be given equal consideration. General interest titles will also be considered.

 **Selection Guidelines:**

1. WTBBL will not duplicate the efforts of NLS or other Network libraries by knowingly producing books available from these sources. WTBBL will, however, consider producing books available only as commercial audiobooks, or only available from fee-based services if they would make a significant contribution to the collection.
2. Books from an established publisher with favorable reviews in standard reviewing sources (i.e. Booklist, Library Journal, Publisher’s Weekly, and School Library Journal) are given precedence over un-reviewed or negatively-reviewed books.
3. Authors already produced by NLS or WTBBL that have been popular with our patrons in the past will be favorably considered, even without reviews.
4. Washington Reads titles, award winners and award nominees are given priority for consideration.
5. WTBBL may decline to produce an otherwise worthwhile book if the braille or audio format is inappropriate or the content is beyond the capabilities of our volunteer narrators and braille transcribers; i.e., if the book is chiefly illustrations, contains charts, graphs, or other material vital to the understanding of the text, is in a language other than English or contains multitudes of foreign words and phrases, or is of a length that would be difficult to produce in a timely manner.
6. WTBBL primarily circulates popular fiction and general interest nonfiction and will decline to produce textbooks, reference books or other material of limited appeal. Examples of such books would be: genealogical reference materials, political or religious tracts expounding a personal viewpoint, materials that will become outdated within 5 years, and self-published or “vanity press” books.

**To receive serious consideration for local production in either audio or braille, a title requested by an individual patron must meet the above guidelines.**

Policy updated/reviewed 4/2016.