

Public Response: Drag Queen Story Hour

IN RESPONSE TO KOAA ARTICLE DATED 8/27/2018:

While many libraries across the U.S. do offer "Drag Queen Storytime," Pikes Peak Library District does not provide it as a library-sponsored program. If ever offered or sponsored, the program would be part of a larger exploration of diversity as well as contextualized for children and families in a broad frame of respect for individuality and difference.

The "Drag Queen Story Hour" by Sarah Bellum, which is taking place at Penrose Library on September 1, is sponsored by Club Q. This program is offered by a member of the community under the auspices of another organization and is not sponsored by the library.

We make our meeting rooms available to the public, and all community members are allowed to use them for any purpose as long as it does not violate our <u>Meeting Room Policy</u>. This use does not violate our policy in any way.

About Pikes Peak Library District:

Pikes Peak Library District seeks to engage and transform people's lives via its 14 library branches, online resources and mobile library services. By providing free and equitable access to information, PPLD welcomes all members of the community to enrich their minds, make connections and reach for their full potential. As a national leader and the second largest library system in Colorado, PPLD serves a population of more than 642,000 residents in El Paso County, thanks to an employee base of nearly 500 full and part-time staff and almost 1,700 volunteers. PPLD continues to be recognized for its commitment to diversity and community collaboration, its innovative and community-focused programs, and excellent customer service. Learn more at PPLD.org.

Pikes Peak Library District's Meeting Room Policy: https://ppld.librarymarket.com/sites/default/files/content/policies/meetingroompolicy.pdf