



AURORA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

PUBLIC ART POLICY

1. PURPOSE

The role of Public Art in the Library is to serve as an expression of the APL Vision and Mission and as a visual resource which complements the Library's print and electronic resources. This role may well differ, and arguably should differ, from the purpose of art displayed in other municipal or public buildings. Accordingly, art in the Library is not intended to simply serve as decoration or adornment.

By way of example, the Library provides access to a wide variety of print and electronic resources concerning world history, ranging in time period from primitive times to modern day and ranging in comprehension from that accessible by a young child to that accessible by a mature adult. Permanent art in the Library, which is owned by the organization, should strive to serve a similarly wide range of interests for the similar purpose of informing and educating. Accordingly, it is noted that this role for permanent art collections may not necessarily lend itself to a specific focus on local art or artists.

Aurora Public Library recognizes and values its growing arts community, and offers support through the provision of temporary display space. These displays enhance the Library environment, bringing engaging and diverse art for the pleasure and enjoyment of library visitors.

The Public Art Policy addresses both requirements for the acquisition of permanent public art and for the provision of display space for local artists and members of the cultural, historical, and crafts communities.

2. PERMANENT PUBLIC ART

Permanent public art is owned by the Library and is acquired as a result of either a purchase or a donation. Decisions to acquire works of art through either of these means result from a formal selection and recommendation process, similar to that applied to donations to the print collections. Permanent public art acquired by Aurora Public Library shall be comprised of high quality art that engages the public and reflects the APL Vision and Mission.

Recommendations concerning acquisition of permanent art are made to the Library Board by an appointed Art Committee, which in turn uses established selection criteria in adjudicating potential acquisitions. The Terms of Reference for the Art Committee and Selection Criteria are attached, as Appendices A and B respectively.

Aurora Public Library will not purchase or accept works of art with restrictions or conditions. All works of art acquired become the sole property of the Library. The Library Board reserves the right to dispose of any purchased or donated work without notifying the donor or artist.

3. TEMPORARY ART

Temporary art is loaned to the Library by artists for a limited period of display and will include a focus on artists of all ages, including those who have limited inventory and opportunities to display their work, such as students.

Temporary displays will be considered through an application process to the Library and through use of the established selection criteria, as applicable to temporary art. An Application for Art Display (Appendix D) must be completed and signed.

The Library does not bear responsibility for theft or damage of temporary exhibits. Insurance is the personal responsibility of the exhibitor.

An exhibit does not imply an endorsement by the Aurora Public Library Board or its staff. Exhibits must not contravene any federal, provincial or municipal statutes or laws nor be seen to be encouraging contravention of such statutes or laws. Acceptance or refusal of a specific display is at the discretion of the Library.

4. DISPLAY SPACE

The Library is responsible for determining the designated space and the display methodology for both permanent and temporary art. This determination is made with due reference to Aurora Public Library’s Display Policy for other types of materials and Aurora Public Library’s Art Exhibit Regulations (Appendix C).

Related APL Policies

- 1. Display Policy
- 2. Collection Development Policy

Approval Date : September 16, 2009.....	Motion #09.09.71.....
Effective Date: September 16, 2009	
Date of Last Revision: November 15, 2005	



Aurora Public Library Board
Public Art Policy – Appendix A

ART COMMITTEE: TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Role of the Committee

- To recommend works of art for the permanent collection and display in the Library, through adjudication based on use of established criteria:
 - Adjudication will apply to potential purchases and to offers to donate works of art
- To establish locations within the Library facility suitable for permanent and temporary display of art

2. Membership

The Committee will be appointed by the Library Board and will consist of:

- Three (3) members of the Library Board
- One (1) Library staff member appointed by the Library Board Chair
- Library CEO or designate will serve as committee secretary and attend all meetings
- The Art Committee Chair, with the consent of committee members, may invite any additional persons to attend a meeting in order to provide information and comment; however those invited persons shall not participate in the regular business of the meeting.

3. Accountability

The Art Committee is responsible to the Library Board and will make its recommendations in accordance with these Terms of Reference.

4. Term of Office

The term of the Art Committee will be four year terms consistent with the four year term of the Library Board.

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Public Art Policy – Appendix B

PERMANENT ART SELECTION CRITERIA

The following selection criteria are for use in adjudicating art for the purpose of permanent acquisitions of Aurora Public Library by purchase or donation. These criteria are not to be applied in isolation. It is critical that they be applied in the context of the broader parent Public Art Policy, notably with respect to the role of art in the Library.

1. All works of art are to be recommended to the Library Board through a majority vote of the members of the Art Committee.
2. Works being considered for the permanent collection must be deemed to be of professional quality, considered singularly original and executed in mediums approved for maintenance.
3. Works of art may be two or three dimensional and may be executed in any medium, with due respect for the limited opportunities to display three dimensional and fragile materials.
4. Works of art must be deemed to be in sufficient and good taste to be shown to the viewing public of all ages. This is not meant to censor controversial work but to ensure consideration of the public nature of the Library as a facility and a community service.
5. Evaluation must include consideration of unusual display requirements (including matting and framing required, stands for sculpture, special lighting, and spatial requirements) and maintenance costs such as annual insurance.

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Public Art Policy – Appendix C

TEMPORARY ART EXHIBIT REGULATIONS

1. Temporary art exhibits are arranged by staff as a facet of the Library's information service, certain spaces may be used to exhibit temporary art displays. Exhibit space is open to established artists or arts groups, new artists, students, historical and cultural groups and guilds, subject to the terms and conditions below.
2. Applications for temporary art displays (Appendix D) should be made to the Chief Executive Officer of Aurora Public Library and must include the following:
 - A list of the artworks to be displayed, including the actual dimensions
 - Pictures of the original artwork proposed
 - A curriculum vitae of the artist and any relevant reviews
 - A description or discussion of the display's benefit to the viewing public
3. Ownership of the art will at all times remain with the artist.
4. Exhibitors may not transfer an exhibit reservation to another exhibitor.
5. Exhibitors are responsible for obtaining insurance for their works against damage or theft and must sign a waiver relieving the Library of responsibility in these events. Displays will not be supervised or otherwise secured and are accessible to the public during the Library's open hours. The Library will not be responsible for the security of an exhibit. Exhibitors shall have no right to a claim for loss or damage to artworks in whole or in part against the Aurora Public Library Board.
6. Exhibitors are responsible for installing the display and leaving the display area in the same condition as found, under the supervision of Library staff, at the pre-arranged date and time.
6. Exhibitors are responsible for any damage caused to the Library facility by installation or removal. They will be required to indemnify the Aurora Public Library Board against any and all claims which may arise out of or by reason of granting the exhibitor use of the display space.
7. The artist or group may passively exhibit work in a space pre-determined by the Library for a minimum of one month.
8. The Library will not act as an agent with respect to the sale of any work by the artist(s). Works may not have a price affixed to them, but the artist(s) may provide contact information.

9. All artists must advertise their exhibit in their own name, not implying Library sponsorship.
10. Exhibits not dismantled within the approved timeframe will be removed by the Library without any liability or assumption of risk by the Library. All works will be disposed of if not claimed within one (1) week of removal.
11. The Aurora Public Library Board reserves the right to accept or refuse a display, or to change, cancel or remove any display at any time, at its discretion.
12. These regulations are subject to review by the Aurora Public Library Board at any time.

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Public Art Policy – Appendix D

APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY ART DISPLAY

Date of Application: _____

Name of Artist or Group: _____

Contact Person/Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Res. Tel.: _____

Bus. Tel.: _____

Cell Tel.: _____

Email: _____

Description of Exhibit: _____

Preferred Date(s) of Exhibit: _____

Name of Insurance Company: _____

I/We understand and agree to abide by the terms and conditions outlined in the Aurora Public Library's *Public Art Policy and Regulations*, dated September 17, 2009. I/We further agree to indemnify fully and save harmless the Town of Aurora, including the Aurora Public Library Board, their officers, agents, officials, and employees, from any and all actions, suits, claims, and demands whatsoever, and from all losses, costs, charges, damages, and expenses, including legal costs on a substantial indemnity basis and disbursements, which may be made by any party against the Town of Aurora, including the Aurora Public Library Board, or which may be incurred, sustained or paid by the Town of Aurora, including the Aurora Public Library Board, in consequence of my acts or omissions in the course of installing or dismantling my art display at Aurora Public Library, or otherwise arising from my use of the space at Aurora Public Library to display my artwork.

By signing below I/we further agree to release, waive and forever discharge the Town or Aurora, including the Aurora Public Library Board, from all actions, claims, demands, debts, costs or liabilities whatsoever with regard to any and all damages that may be caused to my art display for so long as my art display is exhibited at the Aurora Public Library, including any periods of storage at the Aurora Public Library when my art display is not on public display, howsoever such damage was caused and from any injuries that I may sustain in the course of installing or dismantling my art display at the Aurora Public Library.

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date: _____

