

Title: Mead Public Library Art Policy Chapter: Collection Development Approved By: Library Board of Trustees	Document Type: Policy Document Number: 12.05 Original Effective Date: 9/23/2021 Date of Last Revision: 9/23/2021
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Mead Public Library Art Policy

Mead Public Library Vision

We aspire to create a vibrant, informed and cohesive community.

Mead Public Library Mission

We connect people with ideas, resources and technology to educate, entertain and empower.

Mead Public Library Values

Goals for the Policy

The Mead Public Library Art Policy provides a framework for the growth and development of temporary exhibitions and permanent collections in support of the Library's mission. It is the Library's goal to present our community with artwork and exhibitions that reflect a wide range of art styles and mediums, views, expressions, opinions and interests. Mead Public Library adheres to the principles of intellectual freedom, adopted by the American Library Association, as expressed in the [Library Bill of Rights](#), the [Freedom to Read](#) and [Freedom to View](#) Statements and the [Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#) as adopted by the American Library Association. Guidelines and Criteria for Art Displayed in the Library

Guidelines and Criteria for Art Displayed in the Library

Exhibitions of art may include temporary visiting displays as well as rotating exhibits of items owned by the library. Mead staff are responsible for selecting exhibitions based on the library's needs and appropriateness to the exhibition space available. General criteria for selecting art for Library exhibitions are listed below. An item need not meet all of the criteria in order to be acceptable.

- Contemporary significance, popular interest or permanent value
- Local interest and connection to community partners or events
- Potential for public interest
- Timeliness of material
- Relation to existing collections and exhibitions
- Authenticity of historical, regional or social setting
- Reflecting the diverse interests, backgrounds, cultures, and identities of the community
- Collections may be given priority over individual pieces
- The ability of the library to protect the piece(s) over time

Policy for Gifts of Artwork

The Library Board under guidance of the Director will consider prospective gifts and/or purchases of artwork in order to determine the appropriateness for inclusion in the Mead Public

Library collection.

Work will be considered based on the following criteria:

- Artwork acquired by the Mead Public Library should be of sufficiently high artistic merit to warrant inclusion in the Library collection. This generally requires that the works be unique pieces created by artists of established reputation or recognized potential.
- Artwork should be compatible with the vision, mission and values of the Library.
- Artwork must be durable, sound, non-hazardous, and maintainable in terms of the nature of the materials.

An exception to this could be made in the case of works that are specifically time-based or of a temporary nature when it is understood that their installation would be of limited duration.

In addition to the criteria above, the Art Committee will take into account the significance of artwork as it relates to the library's presence within the community.

Mead Public Library will provide recognition to all individuals, groups and/or corporations who donate services, financial support or gifts of art to the Library. Appropriate recognition will be determined through consultation with the donor and will generally be consistent with the recognition given to library donors. Display of accepted artwork is at the discretion of Mead Public Library. There is no obligation for display.

De-Acquisition of Artwork

Mead Public Library will work to retain all works accepted as gifts, but does reserve the right to de-acquisition any items if it is seen to be in the best interest of the Library; any de-acquisition of items owned by the library would have to be approved by the Mead Public Library Board and the library will have sole discretion in what to do with pieces at the time of de-acquisition.

Request for Reconsideration of Artwork

The Library welcomes citizens' expressions of opinion concerning artwork displayed at the library. Requests to remove materials will be considered within the context of the policies set forth in this document. Anyone who wishes to request that a specific item be reconsidered for inclusion in the collection of materials is asked to review the Policy for Reconsideration of Library Materials, Programs, and Exhibits and follow the procedures outlined in the policy.