

GALLERY - EXHIBITIONS

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OBJECTIVES

- To establish guidelines for the curation and display of exhibitions in order to ensure a balanced presentation in terms of subject, style, interpretation and current artistic developments.
- To ensure integrity and independence of exhibitions, provide ethical guidelines for exhibition development, establish durations for exhibitions, ensure public safety and the safety of artworks.

GENERAL

In this policy document the term 'exhibition' will be taken to mean the display of one or more artworks to stimulate public interest and enjoyment and the promotion of critical engagement.

It is through the exhibition program that works of art will be experienced not only as discrete objects, but also as vehicles of more comprehensive and complex meanings within the context of the production, interpretation and experience of culture within the community.

The Gallery will develop a diverse range of activities so that the interaction between art, ideas, criticism and the production of new creative work becomes part of its institutional momentum.

Ethics

- The Gallery will seek to prevent, in all its activities, any exercise of discrimination on the basis of race, culture, creed, gender, disability or sexual preference.
- The Gallery will seek to protect the freedom of artistic expression and oppose any proposal that attempts to restrict the form or content of artistic activity within its programs.
- The Gallery will recognise and observe current Australian copyright regulations on the reproduction of works of art.
- The Gallery will enter into appropriate contracts (that may be in the form of a Letter of Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding) with participating artists, curators, agents, writers, lenders, donors or lecturers when accepting works or material for exhibition, publication, collection or performance, and shall adhere to the terms of such contracts.
- Sponsorship, donations and other patronage will be sought and appreciated, but will not determine, compromise or hinder the commitments or public obligations of the Gallery.
- The Gallery will give proper acknowledgment of authorship and ownership on display labels when works are on public display and in all publicity where works or texts are referred to or reproduced, but will respect the right of an owner to remain anonymous.
- Where appropriate and feasible the Gallery will respect the installation and display requirements of artists, but in case of dispute concerning installation and/or display the decision shall be made by the Gallery and Museum Director or their nominated representative.

All policies can be reviewed or revoked by a resolution of Council, at any time.

Scope and Balance

- Gallery exhibitions will vary in terms of focus, size, scope and audience. The program may include exhibitions which consider in depth the work of a particular country, culture, theme or artist and small project exhibitions that engage with changing issues and '*the latest art developments*'. These may include exhibitions by local and/or regional artists, selected on the basis of artistic merit combined with (but not superseded by) local/regional relevance.
- Exhibitions may comprise works in any medium in use as a means of artistic expression in the visual arts, including film, video, performance, light and sound, laser and neon, computer - and/or - electronically-based works. They may also encompass other creative fields not necessarily classifiable as fine arts, such as design, ceramics, jewellery, art clothing and architecture.
- The Gallery will develop and support exhibitions which are innovative, challenging and critically engaging, notwithstanding that they may be controversial. The frequency of these shall be balanced by exhibitions (if and when available) illustrative of significant movements and periods in art history, having regard to the isolation of this community from the great museums where such works are perpetually on view.
- In any one year Orange Regional Gallery will endeavour to present an exhibition program which provides for a minimum of three major exhibitions in Gallery One; a minimum of six mid-scale exhibitions in Galleries 2 and 3.
- There shall be a display in any one year which includes elements of the Mary Turner Collection and displays of other works from the Gallery's Collection.
- The displays of the Mary Turner and Gallery Collections shall be integral to exhibition program and shall be changed periodically to achieve maximum public access to these two collections.
- Exhibitions may be curated in-house, guest-curated or received from appropriate outside professionally-curated sources.
- The Gallery will, to the best of its resources, document and display didactic and biographical material relating to exhibitions curated by it and will endeavour to augment such material relating to touring exhibitions when required.

Duration of Exhibitions

- Exhibitions will be displayed for up to 12 weeks. Only in exceptional circumstances will an exhibition be displayed for less than four weeks.
- Each exhibition accepted is to be displayed in its entirety without compromise or disturbance during the hours the Gallery is advertised as being open to the public and for its contracted period. Concerts, lectures, fundraising events etc. shall only be staged with the agreement of the artist or curator from whom the exhibition originates.

Safety and Security

- The Gallery will maintain proper environment and security controls to ensure the safety of all works of art on Gallery premises and will properly maintain works of art under its control in good condition while in storage, prior to and after display.

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- The Gallery will provide suitable crates and packing materials for works of art packed and forwarded by it to other destinations, and will take every care in re-packing and returning works from outside sources.
- The Gallery will ensure that all works of art are insured against all reasonably foreseeable risks while on its premises or in transit from it to another place.

Presentation and Access

- The Gallery shall endeavour to ensure that works displayed are framed and protected from the public by glass, Perspex or other appropriate material when this is deemed necessary by the Gallery and Museum Director. However, when it is deemed that the work is of sufficient interest or importance and financial or time constraints do not allow for such treatment, occasionally a work may be exhibited unprotected.
- The Gallery will provide suitable labels and other interpretive material to elucidate works of art on display, this may include audio-visual elements.
- The Gallery will present catalogues, floor talks, workshops, lectures etc. to complement all exhibitions in Gallery One and also for smaller shows where possible. These will be chosen and/or developed to foster criticism and scholarship whilst making the art accessible, challenging and relevant to all viewers.
- Exhibitions may be documented for educational and archival purposes and such material shall be available to students and/or researchers on request, with appropriate notice.
- The Gallery will not display an object if, in the opinion of the appropriate curator, conservator or other relevant professional, the condition of that object would be seriously impaired or endangered by display.
- Entry to exhibitions should only be charged on a case by case basis as assessed by the Gallery and Museum Director. Fees will be advertised in Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges included in the Delivery/Operational Plan or after a separate advertising period.

Touring of Gallery Exhibitions

- The Gallery shall endeavour to provide to other regional galleries in New South Wales or other states locally-sourced exhibitions curated and displayed by the Gallery.
- The Gallery exhibition program may be extended to include touring exhibitions initiated and managed by the Gallery and installed in other venues as deemed suitable by the Gallery and Museum Director.

Sponsorship and Funding

- The Gallery and will seek corporate and private funding to support its exhibition and educational activities.
- Such sponsorship or financial support shall not compromise or determine Gallery exhibition policies or procedures.
- Sponsorship or financial support shall be included in the annual Delivery/Operational Plan or included in quarterly reviews.

All policies can be reviewed or revoked by a resolution of Council, at any time.

Responsible Area – Community, Recreation and Cultural Services

REVISION					
	DATE	RESOLUTION		DATE	RESOLUTION
1	July 2006	06/685	6		
2	January 2007	07/207	7		
3	January 2009	09/453	8		
4	November 2014	15/024	9		
5	3 July 2018	18/308			
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SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS

Amendment Date	Section/Reference and Amendment
March 2018	Update title of Gallery and Museum Director throughout. Minor formatting updates.
November 2014	Minor amendments and updated formatting.