

Policy for Art Displays

The Sturgis Public Library's Art Gallery is intended to enrich the Library experience of the patrons and promote the Arts in the community. Exhibits feature works by local and regional artists and special touring displays.

Exhibition and Display Space:

The library has approximately 92 linear feet of wall space, 50 feet on the main floor and 42 feet upstairs. Exhibitors must use the track hanging system, (unless otherwise arranged with the library director).

Artwork may only be hung in the designated areas.

The library also has a display case (with 5 shelves, 35" wide, 12" high). The case may be used by the artist or reserved separately for exhibits and displays.

Requests for use of the Gallery or display cases are subject to prior approval and must meet the following conditions:

- Artists will be scheduled by a representative from the Arts Council, with assistance from the library.
- Individuals and organizations are responsible for preparing, hanging and tear down of the exhibit. Assistance from the library staff will be provided in special circumstances.
- Exhibits and displays are generally limited to one month, depending on the type of exhibit and the scheduling of other exhibits. The time period is left up to the discretion of the Arts Council and/or Library Director or designee.
- The library will try to protect materials displayed but is not responsible for loss or damage to materials. All exhibitors are required to sign a release form.
- The Arts Council retains the right to reschedule exhibits if the need arises.

Exhibitors:

Display privileges may be granted to any group or organization whose purpose for the display promotes the educational, intellectual, cultural, or social enlightenment of the community. Private collections, traveling exhibits, local products, and the works of public institutions may be displayed.

Partisan political, religious, or commercial organization displays are not permitted unless the material displayed is impartial, or is a project specifically related to the goals of the library.

Exhibit Guidelines:

The following guidelines must be followed when creating the exhibit:

- Works must be approved by the Arts Council and/or Library Director or designee.
- An application form is available at the library.
- Delivery and pickup times are arranged through the Arts Council or Library Director.
- Exhibits will typically run for one month.
- Final placement of work will be hung at the discretion of the Library Director or designee.
- All artwork should be "ready to hang," i.e., matted, framed (with hanging wire attached) and identified as appropriate to the pieces, or display.
- Descriptive signs and biographical information are permitted and should be provided by the artist when possible.
- The artists may have their work for sale and should provide contact information on the works. The library will not broker the sales and does not take a commission, but donations are welcome and appreciated.

Exhibit Limitations:

The artwork displayed, and the manner in which it is displayed, will be regulated to the extent necessary to prevent the artwork's physical characteristics from interfering with library patrons' and staff's use of the facilities for study, work, learning and enjoyment. The library welcomes expression of all viewpoints. However, to prevent injury to library patrons, exhibited artwork may not contain the following:

- Material that threatens violence or intimidation of any individual or group.
- Obscene or explicit material, defined as material that the average person (applying contemporary community standards), would find offensive.

The library will remove any artwork violating these policies from the gallery space immediately. The library will be not be responsible for the storage or condition of any artwork removed.

As the City of Sturgis does not carry insurance for displayed items, exhibitors are encouraged to insure their exhibit.

First Hearing _4-28-08_ Second Hearing _6-25-08_ Final _7-23-08_
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