Mesa County Libraries (MCL) offer exhibit space for local and regional original works of art. The purpose of the art exhibits is to enrich the library experience for patrons and to provide a temporary venue for local and regional art organizations, creators, and owners of artwork (Artists) to display their creations to the public. Artists from amateur to professional are invited to submit exhibit proposals in accordance with this policy.

**Selection Criteria**

Responsibility for the selection of exhibits resides with MCL's Art Committee. Granting permission to display materials does not imply MCL endorsement of content or points of view. Art is reviewed solely on its own merit.

The following criteria will be considered when approving all exhibits:

- Originality of artwork
- Artistic expression
- Overall community interest
- Historical prominence or significance of the Artists
- Relevance to library programs
- Proximity in time to previous displays of similar items or topics
- Item suitability for hanging
- Content suitability for all audiences
- Any special needs, costs, and/or requests associated with the artwork
- Ease of installation

**Procedures**

Exhibition decisions are made by the MCL Art Committee. The Chair of the Art Committee serves as art exhibit coordinator and contact person. Inquiries or exhibit proposals may be directed to 970West@mcpld.org.

1. The Art Committee reviews verbal or written proposals as they are received on a first-come, first-served basis.
2. Whenever possible, exhibits will be scheduled from several months to a year in advance.
3. An Art Committee member is responsible for informing prospective exhibitors of the Art Committee's decisions.
4. An Art Committee member will contact Artists and arrange time to install exhibits, meet Artists, review artwork as it is hung, and ensure Artists sign MCL Artist Agreements.

**Requirements**

1. MCL locations are public spaces used by many people. MCL will not be responsible for any damage or loss that may occur during exhibit setup, removal, and display.
2. Exhibit display dates will be established in advance at the discretion of the Art Committee. Exhibits may run for as little as one month and no more than six months.

3. It is the responsibility of MCL staff to set up and remove exhibits within established schedules.

4. Artwork to be displayed must be ready for installation with a support structure such as framing or matting and with a wire hanger in place.

5. Library use of display areas takes precedence over any other use. In the unlikely event that MCL should require display/exhibit space for its own use, the Library Director has the right to pre-empt such space without notice.

6. Permission to photograph, film, and reproduce any exhibited artwork for publicity purposes is granted to MCL and media outlets covering MCL exhibits unless otherwise stated in writing.

7. MCL reserves the right to remove any exhibited artwork for any reason. In the event MCL decides to remove exhibited artwork, MCL will promptly contact Artists to retrieve withdrawn artwork.

8. Artists must enter into an Artist Agreement with MCL before the display of the artwork.

9. No sales transactions may take place on MCL premises, but Artists' contact information and sale prices, if applicable, may be discreetly displayed in conjunction with exhibits.

REVIEWED AND ADOPTED ON MAY 31, 2018.

Laurie Tashiro – MCPLD Board President

Cynthia Cyphers – MCPLD Board Secretary