

Policy Title	Exhibits and Displays		
Approval Date	April 21, 2026	Revision Date	
Related Policies	Access to Library Services Code of Conduct Collection Development		
Statutory Reference			
Purpose	To provide guidelines for the exhibiting of artwork, cultural and educational displays, and private collections in Lopez Island Library District facilities.		

In the event of the amendment of any law, regulation, or ordinance incorporated into this policy or upon which this policy relies, the policy shall be deemed amended in conformance with those changes.

In cases where this policy conflicts with any local ordinance, state or federal law, the terms of that law, and its underlying rules or regulations shall prevail. In all other cases, Lopez Island Library District (“LILD” “Library”) policies and practices prevail.

The Board reserves the right to change and/or modify this policy at any time, as circumstances dictate and in accordance with applicable law.

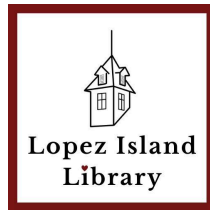
Policy:

This policy recognizes that some portions of LILD facilities may be considered public forums. The Library imposes reasonable time, place and manner restrictions on activities and expressions of free speech in accordance with state law and to the extent necessary to prevent unreasonable interference with the public’s use of the library.

Background

The Library offers both artist exhibits (“Exhibits”) and library-curated displays (“Displays”). LILD regularly invites artists and community organizations to temporarily exhibit artwork in the Library. In addition, Library staff regularly curate public-facing displays.

These Exhibits and Displays often include art in a variety of mediums including but not limited to painting, sculpture, photography, audio/visual work, writing, and craft as well as



online/digital content. LILD recognizes these multiple forms of community-created art and library-initiated displays as vital forms of cultural expression, education, and community dialogue. LILD acknowledges that art can challenge, inspire, document lived experience, and frame social understandings; and that art displayed, collected, or commissioned by the library contributes to public perception of culture, history, and belonging and to the shaping of community memory.

In alignment with the public service role of libraries and the core values of librarianship laid out by the American Library Association (ALA) - including access, equity, intellectual freedom, social responsibility, and the public good - Exhibits and Displays are curated and selected with the intention of responsibly reflecting the multidimensional experiences, identities, and perspectives within our local community and beyond.

Nature of Exhibit and Display Space

Displays and Exhibits are provided as a service to the community and are selected and presented at the discretion of the Library in accordance with this policy and the Library's mission, vision, and strategic priorities.

Exhibit and Display space in the Library is limited and curated. Display and exhibit areas are not intended to serve as open public forums, and the Library cannot accommodate all requests to use the space.

Exhibits

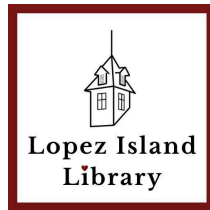
The Library may host temporary exhibits of artwork or other materials created by artists, organizations, or community members. These exhibits may include but are not limited to visual art, installations, artist talks, or other forms of creative expression.

The views expressed in Exhibits are those of the artist(s) and do not constitute endorsement by LILD.

Exhibits are selected by the Library based on considerations including but not limited to:

- Relevance to community interests
- Artistic quality and intent
- Alignment with the Library's mission, values, and strategic priorities
- Contribution to diverse perspectives, particularly those historically marginalized
- Safety and operational feasibility

Exhibits will not be allowed that harass, threaten or dehumanize others, or promote hatred, discrimination or violence against individuals or groups.



The library is not responsible for damage or repair of damage to displayed art and assumes no legal or financial responsibility for art displayed at the library.

Artworks on exhibit may be offered for sale; however, the library will not handle sales.

Artists are responsible for the content of their work. The Library does not edit or alter artwork but may collaborate with artists on contextual materials to support public understanding. LILD also reserves the right to deny the exhibition of art or to remove art already installed at any point if it is found to be out of line with this policy.

Displays

LILD maintains library-curated Displays throughout the library that showcase our diverse collections and highlight cultural, educational, and local interests, among others.

Library-initiated displays are a specific and special way for the library to feature its collection (including physical and digital resources); highlight new and relevant collections items and offerings; educate the public on a variety of subjects, genres, and formats; and inspire curiosity in the Library's collections, services, and resources

Displays should highlight a variety of perspectives and experiences, informed by the following criteria:

- Interest, information, and enlightenment of people in the community
- Historical, cultural, or educational significance, particularly those underrepresented
- Content developed for intended audience
- Connection to other community or national programs, exhibitions, holidays, or events
- Promotion of library collections, resources, and programs
- Budget and staff resources
- Availability of display space

LILD will make a good faith effort to implement this policy in a fair and consistent manner. The Director will establish administrative procedures necessary to implement this policy.