

HOMER PUBLIC LIBRARY DISPLAY AND EXHIBIT POLICY

The Homer Public Library has three kinds of spaces available for displays and exhibits.

A. BULLETIN BOARDS AND INFORMATION RACKS

As a service to the City of Homer, the Library is a designated posting place for notices issued by the City. Space permitting, other public notices that meet the following guidelines will be posted.

- Official notices of borough, state, and federal agencies relevant to the Homer area.
- Notices for public meetings and fundraising events for non-profit organizations.
- Notices of educational courses sponsored by a recognized community organization (but not those publicizing instruction by individual teachers or private firms).

All notices events must be open to the general public. Notices must be dated and include the name of the sponsoring organization.

Library bulletin boards may not be used for commercial sales, announcements for political candidates or causes, religious services, or personal services.

No solicitation or active distribution of literature is permitted inside the Library or at the entrance to the Library. Advertising literature and petitions are strictly forbidden within the Library.

The Library will not act as a distribution center for materials that deal with controversial issues, presented from a single point of view.

All decisions on posting notices are at the discretion of the Library director.

Posting of notices and/or distribution of materials do not imply endorsement by the Library or City of Homer.

B. AREAS FOR NON-PROFIT DISPLAYS AND EXHIBITS

As part of its public service and information mission, the Library makes available designated display and exhibit areas to non-profit organizations and other not-for-profit enterprises engaged in educational, cultural, intellectual, or charitable activities.

The provision of display space for public use does not constitute library endorsement of the beliefs or viewpoints advocated by the displays, or the organization responsible for the displays.

Individuals or organizations interested in posting displays or exhibits should fill out an exhibit request form (provided by the Library) to include a written description and, if possible, photos.

Exhibits shall be appropriate to community standards and shall not advocate only one side of a controversial issue. All decisions regarding exhibits shall be at the discretion of the Library director. Due to limited space, the Library director will use his/her judgment regarding value to the community and balancing over time a variety of community interests. Regarding community interests and standards, the Library director may seek the advice and determination of the Library Advisory Board's exhibits committee or the entire LAB, but final authority rests with the director.

Duration of displays shall generally be for a maximum of three months.

Objects on display may not be offered for sale.

The Library does not accept any responsibility for loss or damage of exhibited materials. An owner may wish to obtain private insurance for valuables. Before leaving any materials or objects on exhibit, an individual in charge must sign and date a release form (provided by the Library).

C. AREAS FOR ROTATING DISPLAYS OF WORK BY ARTISTS

In the spirit of the mission statement of the Homer Public Library, rotating exhibitions and displays of artwork may be installed in the Library's public spaces in accordance with the following approved policies and procedures.

1. Responsibilities and liabilities

Artists and/or galleries that submit artwork for display in the Homer Public Library accept full responsibility for the proper installation, display and upkeep of artwork chosen for exhibition.

All installations and related processes must be approved by the appropriate staff of the Homer Public Library.

The general wellbeing, safety, maintenance, and good order of the Homer Public Library will take precedence over the agreement to mount or otherwise show exhibitions in library spaces

Release forms: artists and/or galleries that submit artwork for display will sign a general "release form" that establishes: (a) the official responsible parties, (b) dates of exhibition, (c) specifics of exhibition, (d) insurance coverage or waiver, and (e) details of conditions of display.

The Library does not accept any responsibility for loss or damage of exhibited materials. An owner may wish to obtain private insurance for valuables. Before leaving any materials or objects on exhibit, an individual in charge must sign and date a release form (provided by the Library).

2. Selection processes

General guidelines: it is recognized that tastes and preferences in artwork vary widely and that freedom of expression and access to alternative perspectives are among the highest national values. It is also recognized that the public library is a space in which all segments of society are welcome and encouraged to participate in all its services and activities without barrier; these considerations require a community-based process and public sensitivity in the selection process for exhibitions installed in the Homer Public Library.

Community standards: exhibits shall be appropriate to community standards. A Community Artwork Selection Panel will evaluate proposed exhibitions and develop an appropriate schedule. All final decisions regarding exhibits shall be at the discretion of the Library director.

Process: the following process is intended to achieve a broad-based consensus on “community standards” for artwork on display in the Homer Public Library.

The Community Artwork Selection Panel:

The Panel shall meet once a year to select works for exhibition and determine the schedule of the exhibitions.

Composition:

- One LAB member
- One member of the Friends of the Homer Public Library who is not a LAB member
- One member of the Public Arts Committee
- The Library director

Solicitation of artwork: the Library director and/or the Community Artwork Selection Panel may formally solicit artwork for display in the Homer Public Library.

Director review: in all cases, the director of the Homer Public Library will have final review authority of recommendations made by the Community Artwork Selection Panel.

3. Available spaces

General: while all exhibitions and displays of artwork are to be placed in such designated areas where they can be viewed by library visitors, no exhibitions or displays

will be allowed to block or otherwise impede public access or movement in and around the library.

Main Stacks area: each wall panel/exhibit space is numbered and may be assigned individually or in groups to artwork exhibitions (single works or multiple works) according to an annual calendar plan.

Children's area: selected works may be free-standing, placed on vacant wall space, or suspended from the overhead.

Lounge area: rotating displays of three-dimensional works may be placed in fireplace niches.

Open areas: may contain free-standing works that do not interfere with movement in area.

Outdoor spaces: works and exhibitions to be displayed in outdoor spaces will also be considered by the Community Art Selection Panel.

4. Sales and commissions

Artwork on display in the Homer Public Library may not be offered for sale.

5. Exhibition Openings and other events

All exhibit-related events using the Homer Public Library grounds and interior spaces must be incorporated into the Library calendar and schedule and have the written approval of the Library director (or other established Library use approval mechanism).

No alcohol may be served on Homer Public Library grounds or within the Library (Homer Public Library Policy, II.A).

Unless the Homer Public Library has been retained for private, after-hours use, all exhibition openings and related events must be open to the public free of charge.