

Shire of Mundaring

POLICY

ART COLLECTION

Policy Ref:	OR-09
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Amended by:		Date:	
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PURPOSE

To ensure the sound management of the Shire of Mundaring Art Collection and adherence to the Shire's art collection statement of purpose is maintained.

VISION

The Shire of Mundaring Art Collection should reflect the unique creativity of the artists of the Hills community.

BACKGROUND

The Shire of Mundaring Art Collection was established in 1986. It is a unique, valuable and richly varied body of artworks created by local artists and craftspeople who have resided in the Shire of Mundaring. While the collection includes many donated works, the Shire has acquired the majority through its financial support of an annual exhibition, from which it purchases art using funds dedicated for this purpose. This exhibition is curated and hosted by the Mundaring Arts Centre, who also manages the care, interpretation and display of the Collection on behalf of the Shire.

The first exhibitions were open to local exhibitors but it soon became apparent that with so many prominent Western Australian artists living in the area it would be wiser to hold alternate open and invitational exhibitions. More recently, a commissioning year has been included to further enable a fully representative collection to develop. Currently, the collection is comprised of over 100 acquired artworks including paintings, watercolours, works on papers, photographs, sculpture, ceramics, textiles, silver and wood crafts as well as over twenty donated artworks and several public artworks. The majority of these works are housed at the Shire Offices.

POLICY

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

1. The Shire of Mundaring Art Collection acquires the work of artists who have an identifiable association with the Shire of Mundaring to establish and build a collection which reflects the history, people, place and diverse cultural identity of the Hills community.
2. The Shire of Mundaring collects, promotes, preserves and interprets its collection through documentation and exhibition.
3. The collection is owned by the Shire of Mundaring who undertakes appropriate stewardship and seeks to provide access and benefits for the community in recognition of this valuable asset.

SCOPE

The policy applies to all movable and public artworks accessioned into the Shire of Mundaring Art Collection.

MANAGEMENT

1. The Shire of Mundaring Art Collection is managed by designated employees of the Mundaring Arts Centre who are charged with the role of maintaining high standards of management of the collection.
2. The Shire of Mundaring aims to resource the collection appropriately, including budget allocation for acquisition and development of the collection's holdings.
3. On behalf of the Shire of Mundaring, the Mundaring Arts Centre ensures the conservation of the collection's holdings and aims for high standards of environmental control and secure collection store and exhibition spaces.
4. The Shire of Mundaring ensures the collection is subject to regular valuation and appropriate insurance.
5. On behalf of the Shire of Mundaring, the Mundaring Arts Centre maintains a complete catalogue including photographic, location, registration records and provenance.

ACCESS

1. The Shire of Mundaring Art Collection currently has no dedicated exhibition venue. Nevertheless, the Shire of Mundaring exposes the collection to as wide an audience as possible through initial display at the Mundaring Arts Centre' gallery space and then in appropriate places in public ownership including public areas and offices within the Shire of Mundaring administration building and public libraries within the Shire of Mundaring.

2. On behalf of the Shire of Mundaring, the Mundaring Arts Centre aspires to present interpreted exhibitions of works from the collection and public programs to enhance the awareness and appreciation of the collection.
3. Images and information about the collection can be accessed electronically via both the Shire of Mundaring and Mundaring Arts Centre's websites.
4. Information about the artworks and artists represented in the collection will be presented in a catalogue publication accessible to the public through the Shire's Visitors Reception and public libraries as well as the Mundaring Arts Centre.
5. Where appropriate, works from the Shire of Mundaring Art Collection are considered for external exhibitions subject to appropriate loan agreement. (See Section 10, 'Loans')

ACQUISITIONS

The Shire of Mundaring:

1. Acquires works of art which build upon the existing strengths of the existing holdings which represent the depth and diversity of artistic talent in the Hills community.
2. Acquires original and significant works of a standard appropriate to the existing collection. This standard is determined as artistic integrity, the intent of the maker and the ability of the work to convey that intent.
3. Acquires work by artists living in or who have lived in or have been closely associated with the Shire of Mundaring.
4. Selects artwork for acquisition that reflects the ongoing development of an artist already represented in the collection, or artwork by artists not currently represented in the collection.
5. Acquires artwork which has some significance to the community or relates to their experience of living in the Hills area
6. Acquires work by way of purchase from an exhibition at the Mundaring Arts Centre (See Section 9, 'Exhibition Criteria'), bequest or gift.
7. Accepts donated works that are the sole property of the donor and which accord with the acquisition policy for the collection. No conditions may be placed on donations.
8. Acquires work which does not duplicate existing holdings.

EXHIBITION CRITERIA

1. An alternating program of Invitation; Open and Commissioning years is maintained for the annual acquisition exhibition for the collection.
2. All works purchased must accord with the acquisition policy for the collection.

3. After the Shire of Mundaring has had the opportunity to acquire works from the exhibition, all remaining exhibition artworks are available for purchase by the general public. A commission of 35% will be taken on all sales of artwork by the Mundaring Arts Centre to offset costs in promoting, managing, curating and advertising the exhibition.
4. The catering and promotional costs of the exhibition opening event are part funded by the Shire of Mundaring through their payment of an annual fee to the Mundaring Arts Centre.
5. The Shire of Mundaring is not bound to acquire any work or spend their entire budget allocation each year.
6. The exhibition is scheduled to coincide with Australia Day with the opening night held as close as convenient to January 26th.

Invitation Year

- i) Artists will be identified by the Mundaring Arts Centre's Exhibitions Sub-committee.
- ii) To allow for a fair rotation of participating artists, if an artist is acquired in any given year, that artist will not be invited to contribute work for the exhibition for a period of 5 years. The artist may however enter work in the 'open' exhibition and is not precluded from having that work purchased by the public or the Shire.
- iii) All exhibited works to be for sale except in commissioned exhibitions.
- iv) Work must have been completed within the last twelve months.

Open Year

- i) In advance of the exhibition, the Mundaring Arts Centre issues an open invitation to eligible artists in the local press on behalf of the Shire. Official entry forms must be submitted to the Mundaring Arts Centre together with an entry fee.
- ii) All exhibited works to be for sale.
- iii) Work must be recent, original work by the artist not previously exhibited.

Commissioning Year

An appropriate artist will be identified by the Mundaring Arts Centre's exhibitions sub committee. The underlying purpose of the exhibition is to commission or acquire a work from the chosen artist. The exhibition may be a solo show of the artist's works or feature works by the artist complemented by works on loan from other collections, friends and family. It may include photos and oral histories to provide a context to the artist's association with Mundaring. Works may not necessarily be for sale.

Selection Panel

1. The judging of works to be acquired by the Shire will be undertaken by a panel of at least four judges appointed by the Mundaring Arts Centre. It will include one elected member from the Shire of Mundaring, one member of the Mundaring Arts Centre Board, the Mundaring Arts Centre Director and at least one independent recognised expert in the field of fine arts (ie. professional curator, gallery director, well-known artist, art critic, art historian.) Two such independent judges could be appointed if a range of media exhibited requires further expertise.
2. Works will be pre-selected if necessary by the Mundaring Arts Centre's Exhibitions Sub-committee. Members of this committee who are exhibiting in open or invited years will not be on the exhibition pre-selection committee.

Copyright

The artist and the Shire of Mundaring will have joint copyright in the purchased artwork(s). Neither party will exploit the copyright without the prior written consent of the other party. Such consent will not be unreasonably withheld.

Authorship and Attribution

Acknowledgment of the artist will accompany the display of all artwork(s) and any publicity using artwork(s) created in the course of this exhibition. All reproductions of the artwork(s) for publicity or otherwise, shall properly attribute the role of the artist.

LOANS

1. All inward and outward loans are managed by the Mundaring Arts Centre.
2. The Shire of Mundaring has the right to decline any loans of artworks from their Collection, including short term, permanent or indefinite loans.
3. All outward loans are required to be made under signed agreement with the Shire of Mundaring.
4. All outward loans are to be insured by the recipient organisation for the duration of the loan period. All costs for insurance of outward loans will be the responsibility of the recipient organisation.
5. All loans to the collection are properly cared for by the Mundaring Arts Centre in keeping with the standards outlined in this policy.

DEACCESSIONING AND DISPOSAL

1. Works from the collection may be considered for removal from the collection if they are in poor condition, damaged or deteriorated beyond repair or conservation, duplicated or do not meet with the requirements of the collections policy statement.

2. Where a work has been nominated for de-accession it will be fully documented by the Mundaring Arts Centre before disposal.
3. Undamaged works to be de-accessioned will either be offered to the artist, offered to a more suitable non-profit organisation, or put up for public auction, or otherwise disposed of subject to full consultation with the Art Collection Manager, the exhibition sub-committee from the Mundaring Arts Centre and Manager Community Development with approval from the Chief Executive Officer. However the Shire of Mundaring, as the owner of the Collection, is responsible for making the final decision as to how and to whom any de-accessioned works are to be disposed.
4. De-accessioned work may be acquired by elected members or Shire of Mundaring employees only through the approved public processes outlined in point 11.3.
5. In general, works donated by individuals may only be disposed of in exceptional circumstances and must have the specific approval of Council. In this case, donated items should be first offered to the donor or donor's family, or be offered to other collections or institutions. At last resort, artworks are offered for sale and funds employed to purchase future acquisitions.

RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility for the implementation of this policy lies with the Mundaring Arts Centre in cooperation with the Chief Executive Officer of the Shire of Mundaring.