

Policy: Exhibits and Gallery

Approved: 9/15/05

Amended: 7/16/09, 11/17/16

Reviewed: 3/21/13, 11/17/16

Pursuant to its mission to enrich the community by providing services related to its collection, the Bristol Public Library welcomes exhibits and displays of interest, information, and enlightenment to the community.

The Library will seek to present exhibits that

- are drawn from the library's collection or highlight an aspect of it;
- focus on matters related to the Bristol, VA, or the Bristol, TN, area;
- are the product of local artists or artisans;
- provide the Library the opportunity to display works of significant artistic or educational merit.

Exhibits are to be approved by the Gallery Committee, which shall include but not be limited to a Library Board member, the Executive Director, and an active member of the art community who will be appointed to the position by the Library Board.

The criteria for selection of exhibits are:

- Relevance to library collections or library programming;
- Relevance to Bristol;
- Importance as a document of the times;
- Relevance of work or artists to the region;
- Suitability of format to the Library's display capabilities; or
- Renown of the artist(s), as based on extent of displays, number of commissions, or reviews

Exhibits require documented advance approval by the Gallery Committee. Anyone interested in exhibiting must submit an application to the Gallery Committee, which can be obtained by contacting the Library Director at 276-645-8782. The application will require such information as a description or photograph of the works to be exhibited, resumes of the responsible parties, anything pertinent to the need of the Library to match potential exhibits with its own criteria. Notification of acceptance or rejection of applications will be made by mail or email.

A written agreement between the Library and the Exhibitor must be signed prior to installation. The agreement will be retained during the life of the exhibit and used to certify receipt of exhibit materials by the Library and, upon the dismantling of the exhibit, return of same to the Exhibitor. The Library will provide no storage, assumes no responsibility for exhibit items left after the exhibit is over, and may dispose of such abandoned items at its own discretion. Installation of the exhibits is the responsibility of the Exhibitor. The method and manner of installation and display of the exhibit must conform to the Library's specifications for proper use of its designated exhibit spaces.

The Library assumes no liability for any items placed for exhibit.