

Art Collection Management, Acquisitions and Exhibitions

HEAD OF POWER

Local Government Act 2009
Moreton Bay Region Community Plan 2011-2021
Corporate Plan 2009-2014

OBJECTIVE

To establish a framework for the management of Moreton Bay Regional Council's Art Collection and Exhibition programs.

DEFINITIONS/APPLICATION

"Art Collection" - the Moreton Bay Regional Council Art Collection. The Moreton Bay Regional Council Art Collection is comprised of three sub-collections: the Main Art Collection, the Corporate Art Collection and the Public Art Collection.

"Art Galleries" - Pine Rivers Art Gallery, Caboolture Regional Art Gallery and Redcliffe City Art Gallery.

"Corporate Art Collection" - Art acquired by and used in Council's administrative offices as workplace decor. The Corporate Art Collection forms part of the larger Art Collection.

"De-accession" - the removal, sale, or disposal of an artwork from the Art Collection.

"Exhibition programs" - Council managed exhibitions and associated public programs such as workshops, forums, guided tours, and children's activities taking place in Art Galleries.

"Public Art Collection" - Public artworks on land or buildings owned or controlled by Moreton Bay Regional Council. The Public Art Collection forms part of the larger Art Collection. Due to the specific requirements of public art, the management of the Public Art Collection is considered outside the scope of this policy.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Moreton Bay Regional Council Art Collection is a strong collection reflecting the vision, diversity and character of the region. Focussing on culture, identity, spirit and sense of place, the Art Collection is an important source of reference and inspiration which stimulates public discussion and debate and returns long term cultural benefits to Council and the community of the Moreton Bay Region.

Council recognises the important role that the Art Collection plays in the development of high-quality and locally-significant exhibitions for its network of Art Galleries. The Art Collection also provides opportunities to showcase the cultural capital of the Moreton Bay region at a state and national level through the loan of artworks to other like-minded institutions.

Underpinned by Council's Cultural Strategy which outlines the overall strategic direction for Arts, Culture and Heritage for the region, this policy provides a framework for the development and management of Council's Art Collection, as well as the curation and delivery of high quality Exhibition Programs.

Art Collection – Development and Management

Acquisitions and de-accessions

Council is committed to the continued development of a quality Art Collection that integrates new artworks into the collection. This will be achieved through an annual acquisitions program that endeavours to acquire high quality and significant works of art from emerging and established artists in a range of genres and styles. Council will also seek additional funding and artwork donations from private and public sectors to facilitate further growth of the Art Collection.

All artworks will be assessed against the acquisition criteria listed below before acceptance into the Art Collection.

Acquisition Criteria

1. **Place within existing collection:** the proposed artwork should place artworks already in the collection in a larger regional or global context;
2. **Artist standing:** the artwork should be created by an artist who is generally considered by the arts industry to be of state, national or international standing;
3. **Regional reference:** the proposed artwork may make reference to places, events and personalities of major regional significance or be made by an artist who was a resident of the region at the time of creating the artwork;
4. **Exhibition potential:** the artwork should be suitable for exhibition;
5. **Constraints:** the artwork should be unencumbered by onerous restraints associated with gifts or bequests;
6. **Establishment of title and provenance:** the artwork should have title and provenance established;
7. **Storage:** there should be availability of appropriate storage for the artwork;
8. **Maintenance and conservation:** the artwork should have manageable maintenance and conservation requirements; and
9. **Value:** the artwork should represent value for money.

From time to time, Council may be required to de-accession works from the Art Collection. De-accessioning of works is a serious and rigorous process which requires careful consideration before actioning. Possible reasons for de-accessioning artworks include:

- the work being damaged beyond repair or conservation;
- duplication;
- inferior quality work;
- theft or loss;
- repatriation of cultural material to an Indigenous community with proof of a valid claim;
- works no longer being relevant to the priorities of the collection; and
- in the case of public art, the art reaching the end of its lifespan.

This process will be managed in accordance with the de-accession principles outlined in the Art Collection Management, Acquisitions and Exhibitions guidelines.

Exhibition Programs

Exhibitions presented in council exhibition spaces will include a mix of touring exhibitions, locally-developed curated exhibitions and community-initiated exhibitions.

Council is committed to developing, implementing and promoting Exhibition Programs which meet the following criteria:

- **Artistic rigour:** Exhibition Programs should be of high artistic excellence and integrity;
- **Relevance:** Exhibition Programs should demonstrate the exploration of local, regional and national issues; debates related to the cultural sector; and/or have relevance to the Art Collection;
- **Coherence:** Exhibitions must be programmed strategically across council's network of exhibition venues;
- **Audience development:** Exhibition Programs should meet audience targets by meaningfully engaging with established audiences of the region and/or creatively attracting new audiences;
- **Best-practice:** Exhibition Programs should be in-line with industry standards, particularly with regard to the standard of display and interpretation.

Council is committed to providing opportunities for regional artists and showcasing community artmaking and has developed exhibition spaces specifically for this purpose. The exhibition application process for all council exhibition spaces is detailed in the Art Collection Management, Acquisitions and Exhibitions guidelines.

REVIEW TRIGGERS

This Policy is reviewed internally for applicability, continuing effect and consistency with related documents and other legislative provisions when any of the following occurs:

- (1) The related documents are amended.
- (2) The related documents are replaced by new documents.
- (3) Amendments which affect the allowable scope and effect of a Policy of this nature are made to the head of power.
- (4) Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council.

Notwithstanding the above, this Policy is to be reviewed at least once every two years for relevance and to ensure that its effectiveness is maintained.

RESPONSIBILITY

This Policy is to be:

- (1) implemented by all Council Officers
- (2) reviewed and amended in accordance with the "Review Triggers" by the Manager Community Services, Arts and Heritage in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

VERSION CONTROL

Council Resolution number	13/597	Date	16.4.13
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Related Links:

- Cultural Strategy
- Art Collection Management, Acquisitions and Exhibitions guidelines