

UC Davis Policy and Procedure Manual

Chapter 360, Physical Facilities

Section 15, Art in Public Places

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Responsible Department: University Relations

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I. Purpose

This section sets forth policy on acquisition and siting of artwork in public areas of the campus, including building lobbies, exterior walls, and main entrances.

II. Definitions

- A. Zone 1—the area bordered by Hutchison Drive on the north, Cushing Way on the east, Lot 6 on the south, and Mrak Hall Mall on the west, and is considered an area for extension of the programs of the Art Department, the Nelson Gallery, and the Fine Arts Collection.
- B. Zone 2—public areas on the remainder of the campus, including areas such as building lobbies and foyers.

III. Policy

- A. The display of artwork in areas open to the public enriches the cultural environment of the campus and thereby enhances the University's role in teaching, research, and service.
- B. The Arts in Public Places (AIPP) workgroup shall review all proposals for artwork that will be displayed in zone 2 public areas prior to its acquisition.
 - 1. UCDHS maintains an art program that is a separate activity (see UCDHS Hospital Policies and Procedures Section 3350).
 - 2. Ongoing campus programs such as short-term exhibits, installations, and events traditionally scheduled or presented by campus galleries operate under separate guidelines for temporary displays.
 - 3. The display of artwork within private areas assigned to and managed by individual departments are the responsibility of the departments.

IV. Roles and Responsibilities

- A. The AIPP Work Group is appointed by and advisory to the Chancellor.
 - 1. The Vice Chancellor—University Relations is the chair, appointed by the Chancellor.
 - 2. Work group membership shall include the Art Department chair, Director—Nelson Art Gallery and Fine Arts Collection, Landscape Architecture Department chair, Vice Chancellor—Facilities, Director—Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts, Executive Associate Dean—Clinical and Administrative Affairs, Director of Development—HARCS, Assistant Vice Chancellor—Campus Planning, University Librarian, or appropriate designees for each.
- B. The AIPP is responsible for the following:
 - 1. Providing general direction for the UCD Public Art Program.
 - 2. Coordinating contractual agreements between artists, donors, Purchasing, and Business Contracts.
 - 3. Initiating insurance agreements with Risk Management Services for artworks as they become part of the collection.

4. Review and recommendation to the Chancellor of the suitability and placement of artwork to be displayed in zone 2.
- C. The Art Department is responsible for the following:
1. Selection of artwork to be displayed in zone 1.
 2. Recommendation to the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor of the location of up to five areas or pads for the display of artwork.
- D. The Director—Nelson Art Gallery and Fine Arts Collection is responsible for the following:
1. In coordination with the Nelson Gallery Accession Committee, designating a work to be included in the Fine Arts Collection.
 2. Determining when the Fine Arts Collection contains works appropriate for display on campus as part of the Public Art Program.
 3. Assigning staff to oversee coordination of display of artworks from the Fine Art Collection.

V. Procedures

- A. Acquisition and commission
1. The acquisition of public art will be by gift, bequest, or purchase, and only from the legal owner.
 - a. In the case of gifts and bequests, the University retains the right to accept only those artworks that meet the criteria in V.A.2, below, and to refuse or dispose of those artworks that are outside those parameters of quality, relevance, authenticity, and overall purpose.
 - b. Gifts shall not be accepted if offered with caveats, such as display in perpetuity, without the prior approval of the Chancellor.
 - c. The University shall not furnish valuations of items for donors.
 2. Considerations for acceptance
 - a. Acquisition, commissioning, or acceptance of a work of art is based on a critical review of its aesthetic quality as well as a review of the history, reputation, and/or promise of the artist.
 - b. Works of art submitted for commission will be additionally evaluated on their appropriateness to the project statement.
 - c. Other major considerations for acceptance or selection of a work of art include whether the work enhances and expands the existing campus collection, adds to the aesthetic quality of the campus, or contributes in a significant way to enriching the campus cultural environment.
 - d. In some cases, art accepted as part of the Public Art Program may be considered controversial.
 3. All acquired or commissioned works will become the property of The Regents of the University of California.
 4. The Richard L. Nelson Gallery and Fine Arts Collection is the office of record of all works of art acquired by the campus through the Public Art Program.
 - a. The Nelson Gallery is the campus agent responsible for establishing fine arts insurance, overseeing appropriate maintenance and conservation, and incorporation with other campus collection custodians for each piece of art acquired

by the campus.

- b. Copies of all materials, memos, agendas, planning drawings, and other documents for artworks will be deposited with the registrar of the Nelson Gallery.
- c. The Nelson Gallery will be reimbursed for all direct costs involved with management functions provided for all artworks acquired through the Public Art Program.

B. Siting

1. Art in public areas should be interwoven with campus buildings and open spaces.
2. To facilitate the incorporation of art in and around newly planned buildings, artists may be appointed as consultants to work with members of the AIPP Work Group and architects to ensure that artworks or sites for art are included in the initial plans for significant new campus structures.

C. Funding

1. The campus may actively solicit gifts and grants for the acquisition and installation of public art. The AIPP is responsible for making recommendations pertinent to the funding of public art projects.
2. The Art Department is responsible for identifying funding sources for any costs of installation in Zone 1.

D. Deaccessioning

1. The University shall retain the right to sell or otherwise dispose of artworks that do not meet its standards of quality and relevance as herein described.
2. Deaccessioning policies and procedures shall be consistent with the guidelines established by the Richard L. Nelson Gallery and the Fine Arts Collection and will reflect the professional standards appropriate to other public institutions charged with the cultural care of artworks (e.g., guidelines established by the Association of Art Museum Directors).
3. Funds realized from the sale of artworks shall only be used to augment University holdings in the public fine arts area to ensure that the original intent of the donation, bequest, or acquisition will be fulfilled as determined by the Chancellor upon the recommendation of the AIPP.

VI. Further Information

Additional information on the Public Art Program may be obtained from the Chair of the Art in Public Places Work Group.