

Art Collection Policy

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1. TITLE

Art Collection Policy

2. OBJECTIVE

- 2.1 To make Council's art collection available for the enjoyment and education of the Glen Eira community.
- 2.2 To provide the community with access to the work of artists who are innovative, inspirational and whose work is of a high standard.
- 2.3 To ensure the proper management of Council's art collection and to conserve, documents and develop the collection in accordance with current art collection and museological practices.

3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term | Meaning |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Council | Glen Eira City Council |
| Appropriately Qualified Staff | Qualified Curator or related qualification (i.e. Museum practice or conservator) |

4. POLICY

4.1 Management

- 4.1.1 Council's art collection must be presented to as wide an audience of Glen Eira residents as possible.
- 4.1.2 Artwork from the collection may be displayed in the Council Gallery, in public areas of the Town Hall, including in the Library and Service Centre and at other public venues. Security measures to be implemented if required.
- 4.1.3 Other forms of public access or display must also be encouraged, including on Council's website.
- 4.1.4 Artwork in public places, e.g. sculptures, must be included as an integral part of Council's art collection.
- 4.1.5 The loan of artwork from the collection to other galleries may be considered, subject to appropriate insurance and a loan agreement being in place.
- 4.1.6 The collection must be managed and documented by appropriately qualified staff and must be displayed and stored to industry standards.

4.2 Donations and Bequests

- 4.2.1 Gifts of artwork to enhance Council's collection may be encouraged. Before accepting any donation or bequest, the nature of the proposed donation or bequest, fits with the Council's collection and the costs associated with conservation, restoration, preparation, presentation and storage must be estimated and considered.
- 4.2.2 Donations to the collection must not be accepted if they do not accord with this Policy.
- 4.2.3 Conditional gifts of works of art must be discouraged, and other than in exceptional circumstances, donors must relinquish all rights, except copyright and Moral Rights (if already the copyright owner) to the artwork.
- 4.2.4 Donors may be required to enter into a Donation Agreement.

4.3 Acquisition and Development

- 4.3.1 The collection's artwork must be of the highest affordable quality and consist of professional work displaying excellence in that genre or medium.
- 4.3.2 New acquisitions must suit the existing collection, its themes and media.
- 4.3.3 Consideration must be given to public safety, display, storage and transport issues before acquisition.
- 4.3.4 The themes set out below shape the direction of Council's collection:
 - (a) suburban theme – a theme that both reflects and challenges residents' lifestyles;
 - (b) the work of significant Australian artists who are represented in three or more State and national gallery collections
e.g. Fred Williams, Leonard French and Charles Blackman;
 - (c) the Boyd family – works by members of the Boyd family may be collected to commemorate the family's life in Murrumbidgee; and
 - (d) works by Glen Eira artists - works of quality by artists living or working or who have lived or worked in Glen Eira.
 - (e) Works of quality by major and emerging Indigenous artists who are represented in State Government Public Art Museum collection or Regional Gallery collection.

4.3.5 The Arts and Culture Advisory Committee may recommend to Council the acquisition of artwork for the collection from time to time. All acquisitions are subject to prior Council resolution.

4.4 Deaccession and Disposal

4.4.1 Deaccession¹ aims to improve the quality of the collection by selling or otherwise disposing of artwork, where appropriate.

4.4.2 Artwork from the collection in poor condition or damaged beyond reasonable repair may be considered for removal.

4.4.3 The Arts and Culture Advisory Committee may recommend Council artwork for de-accession from time to time. All de-accessions are subject to prior Council resolution.

4.4.4 Where artwork has been recommended for de-accession or another disposal, this must be fully documented.

4.4.5 Where artwork gifted or bequeathed to Council is recommended for de-accession, reasonable steps must be taken to consult with the original donor (or their family) before de-accession. The donor (or their family) must be offered the return of the artwork at no cost before any sale or other disposal of the artwork where this is reasonable in the circumstances (depending on the nature of the original donation, any expressed wishes of the donor and Council's reason for selling or disposing of the work).

4.4.6 Where artwork purchased by Council is recommended for de-accession, the artist must be given first refusal to buy back the artwork.

4.4.7 De-accessioned artwork is not available for acquisition by Councillors or Council staff.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER COMPATIBILITY

This Policy has been assessed as being compatible with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)*.

6. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

N/a

7. REFERENCES/RESOURCES

N/a

¹ Deaccession – officially remove (an item) from a library, museum, or art gallery