

Program: Community Lifestyle
Date of Adoption: 24 January 2024
Resolution Number: ORD-2024-5
Review Date: 24 January 2027

Scope

This policy applies to public exhibitions and displays held at Artspace Mackay, including those exhibitions that tour to other venues. It does not cover the public exhibition or display of Artworks, or Item/s created by tenants or hirers of Mackay Regional Council (MRC) premises.

Objective

This Policy

- defines the principles governing the selection and management of exhibitions at Artspace Mackay;
- clearly outlines how MRC's Art Collection is to be acknowledged and exhibited; and
- defines the ways in which MRC endeavours to raise community interest in, and support for, arts and culture.

Policy Statement

This Policy guides gallery best practice for temporary and Touring Exhibition programs in line with ICOM standards.

MRC considers that to the extent this policy engages and limits, or potentially limits, any human rights, that limitation is reasonable in that it is proportionate and justified.

This process to remain in force until otherwise determined
by Mackay Regional Council

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1.0 Principles

1.1 Selection and management of exhibitions at Artspace Mackay

- 1.1.1 Artspace Mackay will endeavour to raise community interest in, and support for arts and culture through:
- presenting an exhibitions program that is broad and diverse in its appeal and allows the community an opportunity to experience a breadth of artistic expression, both traditional and contemporary that is representative of a wide range of art media;
 - encouraging and supporting exhibitions with a well-developed artistic or historical focus;
 - developing exhibitions of excellence which are a rich cultural and educational resource for the community; and
 - ensuring that exhibitions and public programs align with the values and goals of the Mackay Regional Council Arts and Cultural Plan as updated.
- 1.1.2 Artspace Mackay will attract and support quality touring intrastate and interstate exhibitions in order to provide access for the Mackay and wider community to a range of quality visual art experiences.
- 1.1.3 The Artspace Mackay exhibition program will include Curated Exhibitions from the MRC Art Collection which are of a social history or cultural interest.
- 1.1.4 The exhibition program will be determined at least eighteen months in advance.
- 1.1.5 Exhibition standards will be in line with ICOM professional standards for the global museum community. Handling, storage and presentation of Artwork and Items will be in accordance with ICOM standards.
- 1.1.6 Artspace Mackay will maintain a high standard in terms of professional exhibition display in all the gallery's exhibition spaces. Allocation of exhibition space for proposed exhibitions will be arranged according to the gallery's annual exhibition program.
- 1.1.7 Artspace Mackay expects Incoming Loan works for exhibition loans to be of a professional standard and to meet current industry standards. In respect to all Incoming Loan works from individuals, communities and collecting institutions, Artspace Mackay will exercise the same care as it does in safe keeping of comparable property of its own.
- 1.1.8 An Artwork should not be excluded from a public gallery on moral, political, racial, religious, sexist, language or other sensitive grounds alone other than those Artworks that have been subject to Federal or State prohibition. Nor should Artworks be included on these grounds alone; whatever pressure is brought to bear by groups or individuals.
- 1.1.9 Where it is reasonably considered that Artworks could be considered offensive by the public, the display area will be entered by a separate

entrance contrived through appropriate screening. Any exhibition or display containing Artworks that could reasonably be considered offensive by the public will carry appropriate warning signage that is clear and positioned at the gallery entrance and in the screened display area. A warning will be conveyed to patrons entering the gallery, either verbally, via signage or other written communication, or a combination of these means.

1.2 Selection and display of art works and items at MRC Offices

Artwork/s and Items from MRC's Art Collection may be displayed in both public and private areas of the MRC Offices. The selection of Artworks and items will be made according to an assessment of any environmental and security risks relevant to the Artworks being displayed.

Handling of works will be undertaken by trained Employees or other appropriately trained or skilled persons.

1.3 Approvals

The Director Community Services (Director) is responsible for ensuring policy implementation, compliance, monitoring, evaluation and review and is also responsible for providing advice in relation to this policy. The Director, under delegation from Council, will approve the forward exhibition program.

2.0 Complaints

Any complaints in relation to a decision or a service relating from this policy will be assessed and managed in accordance with MRC's Administrative Action Complaints Policy, a copy of which can be found on MRC's website.

When an individual feels that they are the subject of MRC's failure to act compatibly with human rights, they can make a complaint directly to MRC. These complaints will be assessed against the Human Rights Act 2019.

Complaints may be made as following:

In writing to
Chief Executive Officer
Mackay Regional Council
PO Box 41
MACKAY QLD 4740

Via Email - complaints@mackay.qld.gov.au

In person at the following MRC Client Services Centres:

- MRC Mackay Office – 73 Gordon Street, Mackay
- MRC Sarina Office – 65 Broad Street, Sarina
- MRC Mirani Council Office – 20 Victoria Street, Mirani

3.0 Definitions

To assist in interpretation the following definitions shall apply:

Artwork/s or Item/s shall mean material for exhibition including (but not limited to) books, manuscripts, paintings, photographs, prints and drawings, maps, posters, ephemera, realia (objects), serials and sheet music. Digital files, facsimiles, audio and video recordings and multimedia may also be considered items within the scope of this policy.

Curated Exhibition shall mean a selection of collection or loan artworks or items on public view at Artspace Mackay which has a strong, well developed curatorial rationale. Artworks included may or may not be from the MRC Art Collection.

Employees shall mean all persons employed by MRC on a permanent, temporary or casual basis and includes persons engaged under a contract of service, and volunteers.

ICOM shall mean International Council of Museums.

Incoming Loan shall mean the temporary bailment of artworks or items from an external organisation or individual to Artspace Mackay for the purpose of exhibition or display, where no transfer of ownership is involved.

Touring Exhibition shall mean a type of exhibition that is available for circulation to one or more venues in addition to the premises of the organiser.

4.0 Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

- The related documents are amended or replaced.
- Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council.

Notwithstanding the above, this policy is to be reviewed at intervals of no more than three (3) years.

5.0 Reference

- Arts and Cultural Plan
- MRC Policy 071 – Art Collection
- Artspace Mackay Incoming Loan Agreement

Version Control:

Version	Reason / Trigger	Change	Endorsed / Reviewed	Date
1	New Policy		Council	27/09/2017
2	Review	Amendments	Council	9/12/2020
3	Review	Updated	Council	24/01/2024