

Wagga Wagga City Council

WAGGA WAGGA ART GALLERY EXHIBITION POLICY

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RESPONSIBLE MANAGER	Manager Community Services		
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTORATE	Community		
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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Wagga Wagga Art Gallery was first established in 1975 and is a cultural facility of Wagga Wagga City Council. Its programs are also supported by Arts NSW, the Australia Council for the Arts and other funding bodies. The Gallery's mission is to promote a rich and vibrant culture, by providing a visual arts environment that inspires and informs local and global communities.

Wagga Wagga Art Gallery facilitates and promotes a thriving regional arts community through inspired programming, providing opportunities for a diverse range of creative expression, and maintaining cultural heritage in the Gallery's collections.

The Exhibitions Policy formalises the general principles under which the Gallery's annual schedule of exhibitions and public engagement programs is to be developed and delivered to the wider audiences of the Riverina region.

1.1 Policy Objectives

This policy determines the parameters and guidelines for the development and delivery of Wagga Wagga Art Gallery's annual schedule of exhibitions and public engagement programs.

1.2 Scope of Policy

This policy applies only to the development and delivery of exhibitions for the exhibition spaces within Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, including the Main Gallery, Margaret Carnegie Gallery National Art Glass Gallery, Links Gallery and E3 art space; and to the development and delivery of public engagement programs associated with the exhibitions in these spaces.

1.3 Definitions

E3 art space	This term refers to the community gallery exhibition space located at the north-east corner of the Civic Centre building.
Education Program	Education programs are targeted programs designed specifically for audiences from education institutions, including primary, secondary and tertiary education.
Exhibition	This term refers to the professionally curated display of artworks within a dedicated gallery space.
Links Gallery	This term refers to the community gallery exhibition space on the ground floor of Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, adjacent to the Main Gallery and located within the Civic Centre building.
Main Gallery	This term refers to the ground floor exhibition space of Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, located within the Civic Centre building (excluding the community gallery space designated as the Links Gallery).
Margaret Carnegie Gallery	This term refers to the first floor exhibition space of Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, located within the Civic Centre building.
National Art Glass Gallery	This term refers to the entirety of the stand-alone two-storey building of this designation located within the Civic Centre precinct, adjacent to the main building of the Civic Centre and to the Civic Theatre.
Public Program	Public programs are the main ways in which museums and galleries communicate with their public. Public programs include exhibitions; interpretive activities such as tours, talks, workshops or demonstrations; education programs; outreach and community programs; open days; performances and theatre; conferences and seminars.

1.4 Legislative Context

- NSW Local Government Act 1993
- Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998
- Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000

1.5 Related Documents

- WWCC Collection Management Policy
- WWCC Community Strategic Plan (2011-2021)
- WWCC Delivery Program
- WWCC Operational Plan
- WWCC Revenue and Pricing Policy
- Museums Australia Inc. Code of Ethics for Art, History and Science Museums (1999)
- National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries (2008)

1.6 Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of all Wagga Wagga Art Gallery staff members to abide by the content of this policy.

1.1 Reporting Requirements

Service and program levels will be reported through annual reporting processes in alignment with WWCC Delivery Program and WWCC Operational Plan.

1.8 Approval Arrangements

Approval arrangements for the development and delivery of the exhibitions program will be undertaken through WWCC organisational structural approval processes.

1.9 Review Procedures

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Gallery Manager in consultation with the Manager of Community Services.

PART 2: CONTENT

2.1 General Principles

In accordance with Principle B2 of the National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries (“The museum presents its most significant items, stories and themes through engaging exhibitions and programs”), Wagga Wagga Art Gallery is committed to presenting an integrated program of exhibitions, events and activities that expands audience engagement across diverse community sectors. The Gallery will maintain an exceptional standard of professionalism and expertise in the development and presentation of innovative exhibitions and programs.

The Gallery’s exhibition schedule will focus on five areas of primary strategic focus:

- **Glass:** Building on its status as home of Australia’s largest collection of art glass, the Gallery will continue to curate and present exhibitions showcasing the country’s most influential and innovative glass artists, and promoting the unique capacities of the artform.
- **Print:** Developing the Gallery’s print collection as a key resource, the Gallery will continue to curate and present exhibitions that promote printmaking and works on paper, exploring cross-disciplinary potential and showcasing emerging and established innovators.
- **New Media:** Recognising the potential of new media and experimental artforms for the development of audiences across diverse community sectors, including socially isolated and disadvantaged groups, the Gallery will develop and implement projects and exhibitions that promote and reinforce regional innovation in new and emerging media.
- **Indigenous arts and culture:** The Gallery will continue to develop its successful engagement with regional Indigenous artists and audiences, through the implementation of exhibitions and community professional and cultural development programs, working in collaboration with regional stakeholders to support the reclamation of Indigenous heritage in the Riverina region.
- **Artists and audiences with disability:** The Gallery will develop and implement a unique program of exhibitions and professional development programs, in collaboration with regional community groups and stakeholders, to promote accessibility and engagement with visual arts and culture for regional artists and audiences with disability.

In conjunction with these areas of primary strategic focus, the Gallery will continue to develop and host exhibitions and programs that display local, regional and national practice across all areas and media of art and design, fostering wide-ranging conversations with contemporary culture in the local context.

In order to further foster and develop a rich a vibrant regional culture, the Gallery will continue to provide the community with access to public exhibition space in the Links Gallery and the E3 art space. The purpose of these community exhibition spaces is to encourage, stimulate and promote local cultural activities through an active and diverse exhibition program.

2.2 Exhibition Programs

2.2.1 Main Gallery

The Main Gallery will not be reserved for specific artforms or exhibition types. Exhibitions within this space will be programmed to incorporate a mix of incoming touring exhibitions, exhibitions curated from the Gallery collections, and exhibitions curated by Gallery staff from sources other than the Gallery collections.

Priority will be given to exhibitions that align with the areas of primary strategic focus other than glass: printmaking and works on paper; new media and contemporary art practice; Indigenous arts and culture; and exhibitions engaging with artists and audiences with disability.

2.2.2 National Art Glass Gallery

The National Art Glass Gallery will display artworks from the National Art Glass Collection, regularly refreshed and rotated as a rolling permanent exhibition, on the first level of the building.

The National Art Glass Gallery will host four temporary exhibitions each year, each of three months' duration, on the ground floor of the building. One of these exhibitions will be dedicated to works from the National Art Glass Collection; and one exhibition every two years will be reserved for the National Student Art Glass Prize. The remaining exhibitions will be reserved for solo or group exhibitions of work by Australian studio glass artists.

Exhibitions in the National Art Glass Gallery will be selected from proposals submitted on an ongoing basis according to one or more of the following criteria:

- the works are indicative of contemporary Australian studio glass production
- the works present an excellent example of the broad variety of techniques being applied and developed by Australian studio glass artists today
- the education, exhibition experience and collection status of the artist/s
- the work demonstrates the progression within Australian studio glass since 1972 from a purely decorative art form to the present day commitment to fine art concepts

2.2.3 Margaret Carnegie Gallery

The Margaret Carnegie Gallery will not be reserved for specific artforms or exhibition types. Exhibitions within this space will be programmed to incorporate a mix of incoming touring exhibitions, exhibitions curated from the Gallery collections, and exhibitions curated by Gallery staff from sources other than the Gallery collections.

Priority will be given to exhibitions that align with the areas of primary strategic focus other than glass: printmaking and works on paper; new media and contemporary art practice; Indigenous arts and culture; and exhibitions engaging with artists and audiences with disability.

2.2.4 Links Gallery

The Links Gallery will be available for hire for exhibitions for a period nominated by Wagga Wagga Art Gallery. The period of hire will be inclusive of installation and de-installation of exhibitions.

The Gallery will call for exhibition proposals in the Links Gallery on an annual basis. Proposals will be assessed on six key factors:

- artistic merit;
- a coherent theme or body of work;
- well-developed concepts;
- a realistic and achievable exhibition plan;
- content appropriate to exhibit in a public gallery; and
- relevance or significance to a regional audience.

Exhibitions in the Links Gallery may be presented by:

- artists who currently live and/or work in, or originate from, the Riverina region who have not exhibited in the Links Gallery in a solo show or a small group show (of three or less) within the past calendar year;
- curators who currently live and/or work in, or originate from the Riverina region;
- Riverina-based tertiary institutions and community education providers; and
- Riverina-based incorporated bodies and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

2.2.5 E3 art space

The E3 art space will be available for hire for exhibitions for a period of up to four weeks nominated by the applicant. The period of hire will be inclusive of installation and de-installation of exhibitions.

The Gallery will call for exhibition proposals in the E3 art space on an annual basis. Proposals will be assessed on six key factors:

- artistic merit;
- a coherent theme or body of work;
- well-developed concepts;
- a realistic and achievable exhibition plan;
- content appropriate to exhibit in a public gallery; and
- relevance or significance to a regional audience.

Exhibitions in the E3 art space may be presented by:

- artists who currently live and/or work in, or originate from, the Riverina region who have not exhibited in the Links Gallery or the E3 art space in a solo show or a small group show (of three or less) within the past calendar year;
- curators who currently live and/or work in, or originate from the Riverina region;
- Riverina-based tertiary institutions and community education providers; and
- Riverina-based incorporated bodies and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

2.3 Education and Public Programs

Wagga Wagga Art Gallery is committed to making its permanent collections and temporary and travelling exhibitions accessible to a wide range of audiences throughout the Riverina region. The Gallery will maintain an interesting and diverse range of education and public programs, in order to promote and develop communication between the Gallery and its audiences.

Wagga Wagga Art Gallery will provide education and public programs including but not limited to the following:

- tours of exhibitions and the Gallery' for education and community groups, guided by trained staff and volunteers upon request
- tours of the Gallery's collections for education and community groups, guided by trained staff upon request
- public lectures, seminars and exhibition tours by artists, curators and writers in the field of visual and creative arts, designed to add value to exhibitions and audience experience

- workshops exploring visual arts activities for education and community groups led by artists and trained staff, designed to develop and maintain engagement with culture and creative practice
- public workshops exploring visual arts activities for children and adults led by artists and trained staff, designed to develop and maintain engagement with culture and creative practice
- cross-disciplinary performances developing engagement with contemporary arts practice across all fields of the visual and creative arts

2.4 Fees and Charges

2.4.1 Entry

In accordance with the Wagga Wagga City Council Revenue and Pricing Policy, no fees will be charged by Wagga Wagga Art Gallery for entry to any of the Gallery's exhibitions or exhibition spaces. Exhibitors will not be permitted to charge an entrance fee to exhibitions held in either the Links Gallery or the E3 art space.

Visitors to any of the Gallery's exhibitions or exhibition spaces are encouraged to contribute to ongoing maintenance and development of the Gallery's collections through voluntary donations. Boxes for the secure deposit of such donations are located at the main Gallery entrances, and all income generated in this way supports the Gallery's acquisition of artworks. The Gallery is endorsed by the Australian Tax Office as a Deductible Gift Recipient: accordingly, any donation of \$2.00 or more may be claimed as a tax deduction.

2.4.2 Program Fees, Hire Fees and Commission

Wagga Wagga Art Gallery will charge fees for the provision of education and public programs, and for the hire of the Links Gallery and the E3 art space, in accordance with the Wagga Wagga City Council Revenue and Pricing Policy.

Artists exhibiting in any of the exhibition spaces may choose to have some or all works on display available for sale, or none. In accordance with the Wagga Wagga City Council Revenue and Pricing Policy, the Gallery will charge a commission on the retail value of all artworks sold during the period of their being displayed in any of the exhibition spaces, with the exception of artworks in exhibitions in the Links Gallery or the E3 art space from the following organisations:

- Riverina-based tertiary institutions and community education providers; and
- Riverina-based incorporated bodies and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).