



Artist of the Month Program

Superior Public Library proudly supports artists of all ages and abilities! One of our most popular opportunities for artists is our Artist-of-the-Month program.

Each month a featured artist is invited to display their artwork in our two display spaces. These spaces are located in high-traffic areas of the library, giving featured artists the chance to promote their work and to share what they've been working on with the rest of the community!

In order to be considered for an Artist-of-the-Month opportunity, please complete the following application and return it to the library.

These highly-coveted spots are typically scheduled a year in advance, but due to scheduling changes, sometimes artists are needed at the last minute. Please indicate on your application if you are able to set up on short notice (typically a week or less).

If you have questions about Artist-of-the-Month, or any other artistic opportunities at Superior Public Library, please contact Leslie Mehle (mehlel@superiorlibrary.org or 715-394-8860).



Superior
Public Library

Artist of the Month Application & Agreement

Artist Name -----

Best way to contact
(email preferred) -----

Phone/email -----

Please describe the
art being displayed: -----

Please circle your preferred month(s): January February March April May June July
 August September October November December

Due to scheduling changes, sometimes the display spaces are available on short notice. Would you be interested in being contacted if there is a cancellation? YES NO

Artist Bio to be
included with -----
the display -----
(optional):-----

Is your art available for sale? If so, please describe where/how it can be purchased: -----

Please sign below to acknowledge the following:

- Superior Public Library offers two display spaces for featured artists to display their work. I understand that in order to be considered, I am required to display my work in both display spaces.
- I understand that all art must fit within the confines of the provided art display spaces.
- I must be available at the beginning of my scheduled month to set up, and at the end of my scheduled month to take down my display. Setup and takedown must take place during regular library hours. (Mon-Thurs 10am-7pm, Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-3pm)
- I understand that the library can provide a limited number of supplies to assist in display setup (a black dropcloth, a limited number of display stands). All other supplies must be provided by the artist.
- I understand that the Library Director reserves the right to determine what work is appropriate for each space.
- I understand that submitting an application for Artist of the Month is not confirmation of acceptance. I will be contacted by the library for scheduling if my application is approved.
- I have read and understood the attached Art Policy.

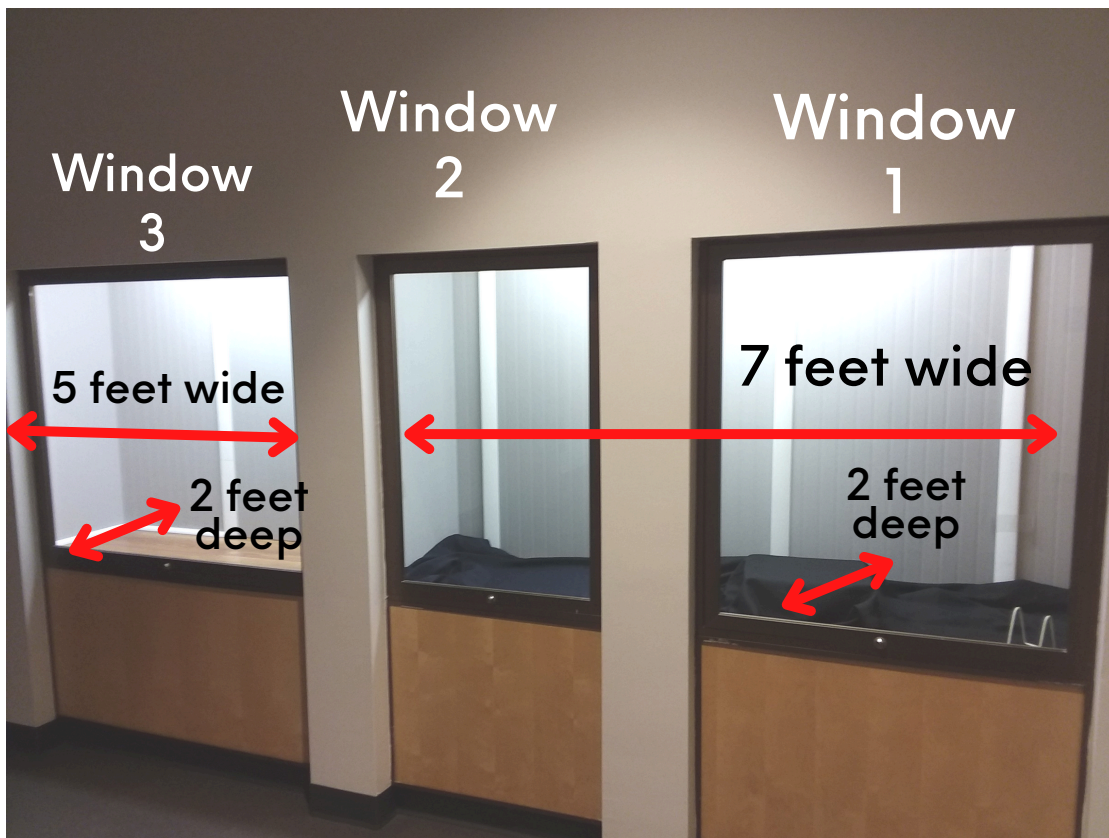
Artist Signature _____

Date signed _____

Artist-of-the-Month Display Locations

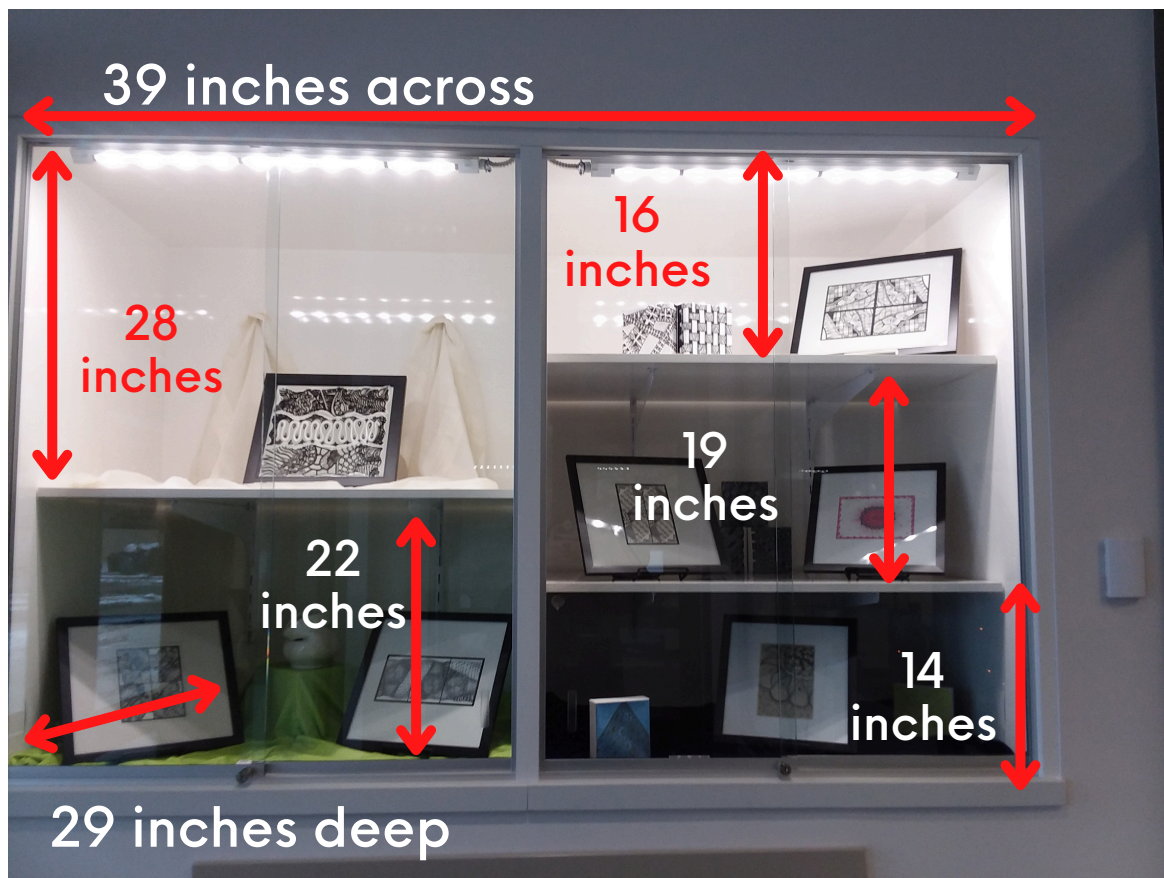
Old Lobby display window

- This display window is located in our old lobby, near the library meeting room, classroom, and restrooms.
- The front display windows do not open. There's a door behind the display (accessible through the Classroom) that allows artists to set up displays from the back.
- Dimensions (please see photo below for clarification):
 - Windows 1 & 2 (closest to the front of the building) dimensions are 7 feet wide by 2 feet deep
 - Window 3 (closest to meeting room) dimensions are 5 feet wide by 2 feet deep



Vestibule Display Window

- This display window is located in front entrance.
- The Vestibule Display windows are accessible via sliding glass doors that are kept locked while the displays are in use.
- The shelves are not adjustable.
- Dimensions: Each window is 28 inches deep (front to back) and 39 inches wide (across). Please see photo below for clarification.
 - Right side:
 - Lowest level is 14 inches tall
 - Middle Level is 19 inches tall
 - Top level is 16 inches tall
 - Left side:
 - Lower level is 22 inches tall
 - Top Level is 28 inches tall



Superior Public Library Art Policy

Superior Public Library Mission

- The Superior Public Library helps people in northern Wisconsin achieve personal and community growth by encouraging young readers, inspiring imagination at all ages, and connecting citizens with one another and the broader world.

Goals for the Policy

- The Superior Public Library Art Policy provides a framework for the growth and development of displays and collections in support of the library's mission. It is the library's goal to present our diverse community with artwork and displays that reflect a wide range of views, expressions, opinions and interests. Specific displays may include items that may be unorthodox or unpopular with the majority or controversial in nature. The library's display of these items does not constitute endorsement of their content but rather makes available its expression. Superior Public Library adheres to the principles of intellectual freedom, adopted by the American Library Association, as expressed in the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read and Freedom to View Statements.

Art Program Mission

- Superior Public Library is dedicated to enriching the library experience of its patrons by:
 - Enhancing community appreciation of the arts.
 - Presenting a variety of works by artists as well as exhibitions of an educational and/or historical significance.
 - Providing opportunities for library visitors to encounter original artwork and increase their visual literacy.
 - Helping local and regional artists to expand their public exposure while remaining open to artists working on a national or international level.

Temporary Displays

- Exhibits should complement the mission of the Superior Public Library. The library reserves the right to use its display areas at any time for its own display needs.
- The Adult Services Librarian under the direction of the Library Director is responsible for selecting temporary displays based on the library's needs and appropriateness to the display space available. Applications are evaluated on a rolling basis.

Temporary Displays (continued)

- Superior Public Library offers several locations for exhibiting art:
 - Display showcase in the Meeting Room commons area
 - Display showcase in the entrance vestibule
 - The possibility for site-specific and event-specific displays throughout the library, such as the annual "Love Your Local Artist" event
- Exhibits vary in duration depending on the space involved and local demand. We remind potential artists that many members of the public, including children and families, use Superior Public Library; the Library Director reserves the right to determine what work is appropriate for each space.
- Proposals are accepted throughout the year. Display space is often booked out a year or more in advance. The Adult Services Librarian may use his or her discretion to address the library's scheduling needs. Decisions made by the Library Director are final.

Criteria for Selection

- General criteria for selecting library displays are listed below. An item need not meet all of the criteria in order to be acceptable.
 - Artistic merit
 - Contemporary significance, popular interest or permanent value
 - Prominence, authority and/or competence of artist
 - Attention of critics and reviewers
 - Potential for public interest
 - Timeliness of material
 - Relation to existing collections and exhibitions
 - Statement of challenging, original or alternative point of view
 - Authenticity of historical, regional or social setting

Policy for Gifts of Artwork

- The Library Board under guidance of its Policy and Bylaws Committee and the Library Director will consider prospective gifts and/or purchases of artwork in order to determine the appropriateness for inclusion in the Superior Public Library collection.
- Work will be considered based on the following criteria:
 - Artwork acquired by the Superior Public Library should be of sufficiently high artistic merit to warrant inclusion in the library collection. This generally requires that the works be unique pieces created by artists of established reputation or recognized potential.
 - Artwork should be compatible with the character of the library.
 - Artwork must be durable, sound, non-hazardous, and maintainable in terms of the nature of the materials.

Policy for Gifts of Artwork (continued)

- An exception to this could be made in the case of works that are specifically time-based or of a temporary nature when it is understood that their installation would be of limited duration.
- The Library Board and the Library Director will consider all artwork offered as a gift to Superior Public Library. In addition to the criteria above, the Board will take into account the significance of artwork as it relates to the library's presence within the community.
- Superior Public Library will provide recognition to all individuals, groups and/or corporations who donate services, financial support or gifts of art to the Library. Appropriate recognition will be determined through consultation with the donor and will generally be consistent with the recognition given to library donors. Display of accepted artwork is at the discretion of the Superior Public Library. There is no obligation for display.

De-Acquisition of Artwork

- The Superior Public Library will strive to retain all works accepted as gifts, but does retain the right to de-acquisition any items if it is seen to be in the best interest of the library.

Request for Removal of Artwork

- The library welcomes citizens' expressions of opinion concerning artwork displayed at the library. Requests to remove materials will be considered within the context of the policies set forth in this document. Anyone who wishes to request that a specific item be reconsidered for inclusion in the collection of materials is asked to complete and sign the Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials Form, available at the Library Service Desk. The form will be forwarded to the Library Director, who will consider the request in a timely fashion. The questioned material will be reviewed, in its entirety, and once a decision has been made regarding the retention or removal of the material, a letter will be sent to the person, explaining the decision. If the person indicates dissatisfaction with the resolution, he/she may appeal to the Library Board. The Board will reconsider the decision based on whether or not the particular title conforms to the Board-approved Art Policy, as outlined above.

This policy was approved by the Library Board on 2/13/19.