



**Goulburn Regional Art Gallery:
Exhibitions, Acquisitions, Education
& Public Programs Policy**

POLICY OBJECTIVE

To establish guidelines and criteria in regard to Exhibitions, Acquisitions and Education/Public Programs for the Goulburn Regional Art Gallery.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY STATEMENT

Goulburn Regional Art Gallery is the major visual art and cultural resource for the region of the Southern Tablelands and Southern Highlands. It is one of a network of Regional galleries in Australia that serve to promote and recognise the vital role that Regional art practice has in expressing the cultural identity of the Nation, and to bring art from around the Nation and internationally to Regional communities.

The arts are an integral part of the community's cultural identity. Artists are interpreters of culture through their artistic practice, sometimes using their work to question, comment and provide diverse representations of communities, regions and beyond.

Goulburn Regional Art Gallery encourages cultural expression of all kinds through its exhibitions, public programs and acquisitions.

Definitions:

Art refers to all forms of art, including Public Art, made using any materials, techniques, and or/practices, including but not limited to visual art, performance art and sound art.

Artist refers to any person/s who makes art as defined above.

The **Goulburn Region** refers broadly to the Region within the radius of approximately 120 kilometres from Goulburn, including the ACT.

Regional artists describes artists living in the Goulburn Region.

Professionally curated exhibitions are displays of art works that have been selected according to a particular theme or present a body of work by particular artist/s by a curator, including but not limited to the Gallery's professional staff. Guest curators and curators associated with travelling exhibitions may be engaged throughout the artistic program. Exhibitions can also evolve from meetings, residencies or curatorial seminars involving participating artists working with the curator.

EXHIBITIONS

The Gallery will present an annual program of temporary exhibitions covering the broad range of artistic media and conceptual investigation with an emphasis on contemporary work.

The annual exhibition program will be divided between professionally curated exhibitions occupying a total of at least nine months of the year and community-based/Regional or student exhibitions if feasible, with a specific Young Artist category in the Goulburn Art Award which is held every two years.

- a. **Professionally curated exhibitions** will be developed and selected on the basis of artistic and educational value and will not usually include works for sale through the Gallery. Within this category will be:
 - i) **Regional Exhibitions** derived from the Goulburn Region. These will be primarily group exhibitions based specifically or broadly on a relevant theme, and may also include one person (solo) exhibitions either presenting a recent body of work by a regional artist or

surveying the work of a regional artist who has achieved significant recognition within and beyond the Region.

- ii) Non-regional Exhibitions including travelling exhibitions and exhibitions curated by this Gallery of the works of artists from outside the region. Such exhibitions will be selected on the basis of their national significance and/or their particular relevance and/or significance to the Region.
- iii) Permanent Collection – the Gallery program aims to incorporate display of the Permanent Collection. Selections of key works will be presented at intervals, within its program where appropriate, during the year.

b. **Community Based/Student Exhibitions.** With the exception of works by students, these may be fundraising exhibitions with works available for sale with the Gallery receiving a 33.3% commission (including GST) on sales. These will include:

- i) Goulburn Art Award open to artists of the region (within 120kms of Goulburn)
- ii) Exhibitions by local art groups. The Gallery will be involved in the selection of works and will be responsible for the installation of the exhibitions
- iii) Student Exhibitions. Works from these exhibitions will not be for sale; the exhibitions may include:
 - An exhibition of regional school students work where appropriate.
 - Exhibition of works by people who identify as having a disability
 - Occasional Exhibitions generated from the community.

These may be displayed in spaces outside the Gallery, such as the Civic Centre foyer.

Artists' fees for professional exhibitions

Recognising the professional role of arts practitioners and the non-commercial status of the Gallery's professional exhibitions, the Gallery will pay exhibition fees to artists involved in its professionally curated exhibitions; the Gallery will endeavour to ensure that exhibition fees reflect standards set by national arts bodies, such as the National Association for Visual Artists (NAVA). This fee will not be applicable to:

- a) Exhibitions toured by other galleries except as part of an exhibition fee payable to the gallery touring the exhibition,
- b) Student and/or community based exhibitions
- c) Exhibitions from the Permanent Collection

Touring of the Gallery's exhibitions

In order to promote the cultural image of the Gallery and the Region, the Gallery will, where appropriate, tour exhibitions to galleries outside the Region. These exhibitions will be primarily those curated by the Gallery, but may also be professional exhibitions for which the Gallery has been invited to be the tour organiser; the latter touring exhibitions will tour under the name of the Goulburn Regional Art Gallery

ACQUISITIONS

The Permanent Collection consists of art works acquired by the Goulburn Regional Art Gallery since it opened in 1982; art works had been acquired prior to 1982 by the former Goulburn City Council; and art works acquired by the former Mulwaree Shire Council. The Collection's art works are catalogued; assessed, insured and stored in the permanent collection store situated within the Gallery. Some art works from the permanent collection are displayed in facilities owned and operated by Council including the Civic Centre and Community Centre, and are also, where appropriate, on temporary, long-term or permanent loan to approved organisations in the Region.

Recognising its role as a Regional Gallery, the Gallery will acquire art works for the permanent collection through the following methods:

- Straight donation
- Donation via the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program
- Bequest (if negotiated and approved by the Gallery staff prior to probate)
- Acquisition of a work commissioned by the Gallery
- Purchase
- Temporary or long-term loan

Acquisitions of art works include but are not limited to, paintings, prints, drawings, sculpture, photographs, conceptual works, performance, audio visual works, public art works, contemporary media, craft, decorative arts and assemblage that meet one the following criteria:

- a. Significant works by artists of the Region
- b. Significant works by artists who have a relationship to the Region, including artists who were born in, resided and/or worked in the Region
- c. Significant art works made for exhibitions curated by the Gallery
- d. Art works which will provide a significant artistic and educational resource for the Region, including significant works by nationally and/or internationally recognised artists which reflect contemporary art practices. These works may be by artists from within or from outside the Region.

Works will only be acquired if they are of museum quality and can be suitably stored and cared for in a stable environment.

The delegation for raising, selecting, approving and receiving the acquisition of artworks into the permanent collection sits with the Gallery Director and Gallery team.

EDUCATION / PUBLIC PROGRAMS

The Gallery will serve as a visual art educational resource centre for the Region, providing public access to exhibitions, Permanent Collection, educational activities and research information and material.

It will maintain close liaison with educational institutions, community groups and individuals to determine and meet their art educational needs, which may include workshops and professional development seminars.

With each professional exhibition, the Gallery will provide a program of education including:

- Written information in the form of a pamphlet, catalogue, labels, text panels, information published online, audio or video
- Talks by professional Gallery staff for visiting school and tertiary education groups and other groups
- Where possible, seminars/discussion/sessions/floor talks/Master classes with exhibiting artists and/or lectures by relevant curators, artists, academics and writers
- Where relevant, forums for discussion about exhibition themes

Workshop programs

The Gallery will organise art-based workshop programs that aim to develop skills, artistic interest and creative thinking. These include:

- Workshops for people with diverse learning needs, including school students
- Holiday and after-school workshops for young people
- Workshops for visiting school groups to complement their experience of the current exhibition
- Workshops for school students to equip them with skills to create works of art

- Workshops for primary school teachers to develop their art, art historical and/or interpretive communication skills
- Workshops for adults.

In order to promote the role of Regional artists, the Gallery will involve appropriate regional artists in its education program on a fee-for-service basis, particularly in its workshop programs.

Cultural diversity programs

Recognising the growing cultural diversity of the Region, the Gallery will consult with relevant groups and individuals to develop suitable projects that reflect cultural diversity and to promote cultural awareness and understanding.

Outreach program

Recognising its role as a regional educational resource, the Gallery:

- Has established an outreach program for rural and isolated primary schools in the region who have access issues. This program will focus on works currently on exhibition in the gallery and/or selected from the Permanent Collection, but may also include works borrowed specifically for the program.
- In partnership with Goulburn Public School and the Department of Education operates the Schools as Community Centres program – outreach for young children and their families.
- Delivers Public Art in towns and villages in the region.
- Provides advice and, where appropriate, assistance to regional communities on areas like exhibition presentation and development and facilitating arts-based workshops.
- Provides arts activities for young people for community festivals and events as required.

The Goulburn Regional Art Gallery’s budget for exhibitions, acquisitions, education and public programs will be set as part of the annual Operational Plan process. The delivery of exhibition outcomes is part-funded by Create NSW.

Exhibitions, acquisitions, education and public programs are included as part of the strategic plan and the Forward Plan.

Version	Council Meeting Date	Resolution	Adoption Date	Effective From
1	16 April 2013	13/136	7 June 2013	7 June 2013
2	6 April 2017	17/192	6 June 2017	7 July 2017
3	2 August 2022	2022/261	2 August 2022	30 August 2022
All policies can be reviewed or revoked by resolution of Council at anytime.				

DIRECTORATE: Corporate & Community Services

BUSINESS UNIT: Marketing Events and Culture