

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY**

Subject

Temporary Art Program

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Purpose

To define and establish a policy for the selection, placement, care, and removal of art on property owned by the County of San Diego (“County”). This policy applies only to art that is placed or displayed on County property on a temporary basis. It does not apply to County owned property leased to third parties. This policy supports creative expression, celebrates different cultures, and helps connect with the community while keeping public areas safe, open, and welcoming for everyone.

Background

This policy will be referred to as the County's Temporary Art Program. The County’s Temporary Art Program was developed to encourage artistic expression, inspire a sense of civic pride, and integrate the arts into the community. This policy establishes artist and artwork selection criteria, presentation requirements, and artists’ responsibilities.

Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that:

The Temporary Art Program will bring temporary art installations to County public spaces. These artworks can be anything from sculptures and murals to interactive installations and performing arts. This artwork will be in place on a temporary basis only, from 30 days to one year, at the discretion of the County department where the artwork is to be displayed. If the artist wants to keep the art up longer, they must ask for more time and get approval. The County can ask for the art to be taken down early.

The goal of the program is to showcase the talents of artists, helping to build community pride, expand cultural awareness, and make the region look even more beautiful. By creating opportunities for people to interact with public art, the program aims to enhance everyone's experience with the County and strengthen the sense of community. It also hopes to inspire creative thinking and innovation in the arts, providing new opportunities and experiences for artists and residents alike. The program is dedicated to making the arts more available, fair, and open to everyone, supporting and sustaining the growth and vitality of San Diego County’s diverse arts and culture communities.

The program is open to both new and experienced artists, arts groups, and nonprofit organizations. Team projects and creative partnerships are welcome. All art must be original and not a copy someone else’s work without permission.

Procedure

1. Applicants must submit a description of the artwork or the artist’s ideas, pictures or drawings of the art, the size and location of the planned artwork, how it will be set up safely, how it will be taken down, how long it will be displayed, a budget showing the cost and how it will be paid for, and a plan for how the public might be involved (if any).

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2. A special panel will review each application. The panel will include a representative from the sponsoring department, a representative from Economic Development and Government Affairs, a representative from the Department of General Services, and a member from the Arts and Culture Commission.
 - a. The panel will evaluate the artwork for inclusion at County sites based on the following criteria.
 - i. Alignment with the County's values of integrity, equity, sustainability, access, and belonging as set forth in the County's Operational Plan
 - ii. Alignment with and the San Diego Arts and Culture Commission's mission and values.
 - iii. Suitability for a diverse audience and enhance the public's experience of the site.
 - iv. Artistic merit and ability to withstand the environmental conditions (outdoors, indoors with constant foot traffic, etc.) where it is displayed.
 - v. Should be appropriate in scale, media and context with its intended display location including but not limited to, safety, feasibility, and noninterference with the typical use of the site.
 - vi. Awareness of the community and its characteristics.
 - vii. Compliance with all applicable building codes and disability access requirements.
 - b. The Economic Development and Government Affairs (EDGA) shall review the selection committee's recommendations and make a final determination. If the artwork is approved for exhibition, the EDGA will notify the artist of such approval in writing. The artist may then contact the EDGA to schedule exhibition dates.
 - c. County Library is exempt from the special panel process and will adhere to its own established policies and procedures for the selection of art
3. If a project is approved, the artist must sign an agreement with the County of San Diego. This agreement will specify, among other things, the artist's responsibilities for costs, insurance, indemnification, placement and removal of the art. The artist will obtain the Department's written approval before issuing a press release or more than twenty invitations to view the artist's artwork.
4. The County may take photos of the artwork and share them with the public. The artist's name will be included when the work is shown as specified in the written agreement with the artist. After the project ends, the County may ask the artist to share feedback to help improve future programs.

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5. If an artist disagrees with the decision made by EDGA, they may submit a written appeal within 15 days of receiving the decision. The appeal must include the reasons for the disagreement and any additional information or documentation that supports the artist's case. The appeal will be reviewed by an independent panel consisting of members not involved in the initial review process. The panel will make a final decision within 30 days of receiving the appeal. This decision will be communicated to the artist in writing and is final.

Special Criteria for Temporary Art Program at the County Administration Center (“CAC”)

EDGA will manage regular requests for temporary artwork and exhibits at the CAC, in coordination with DGS. In addition, there will be an Art Competition to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of youth within the county. This competition aims to enhance the county's cultural landscape, promote community engagement, and provide a platform for students to showcase their work.

Responsible Departments

1. Economic Development and Government Affairs
2. Department of General Services

Attachments

[Loan Agreement Template](#)

Sunset Date

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 12-31-2032__.

References

Board Action [Click here & type chronological list of dates of all previous Board actions on this policy]