

Los Angeles Mission College
POLICY ON THE SELECTION OF PUBLIC ART
POLICY OVERVIEW

Art enhances the quality of life for all people and should be a part of the daily life of the students, faculty, and staff at Los Angeles Mission College. LAMC plays an important educational role in displaying engaging and challenging artwork of high quality, accompanied by an interpretive program to make the works accessible to the community we serve.

Public Art is permanent or long-term art in public spaces on campus. This policy addresses the review, acquisition, acceptance, siting, maintenance and deaccessioning of public art. All public art (excluding the college art gallery and temporary installations) must be reviewed by the Public Art Committee and approved by Facilities Planning Committee and College Council. Accepted public art becomes the management responsibility of the College and the District.

SELECTION OF PUBLIC ART

Definition

Public Art is considered to be permanent art in public spaces on campus, including all outdoor campus space and interior public spaces such as lobbies, social spaces, etc. It does not include works of art, photographs, etc. that faculty and staff place on view in their offices or that departments install in their offices and teaching spaces. Art is considered permanent if it is installed with no anticipated time limit or duration. This policy does not address student or faculty art installations with a defined time limit and which are covered by separate guidelines.

Process

Public Art is reviewed by the Public Art Committee (PAC). The PAC is advisory to Facilities Planning Committee and College Council. All proposed public art and its proposed site must be reviewed by the PAC and approved by the Facilities Planning Committee and College Council. The PAC receives input from all campus constituencies. Prior to recommending acceptance of a piece of public art, the PAC shall hold at least one public meeting which all interested members may attend for purposes of hearing about and offering comment on the proposed piece. Representatives of the primary user(s) of the space where the public art is to be sited must also be consulted.

LAMC welcomes temporary installations in public spaces organized by departments or individuals. There is no need for the PAC to monitor short exhibits (e.g., six weeks or less). Exhibits of the Art Gallery are also exempted from review by the PAC.

Acquiring Art

Public art is acquired through donations, solicitations, purchases, loans; and may include long term (e.g., over a period of months, years or with no end date specified) faculty or student installations. It should be recognized that the advocacy and selection of public art can be controversial and, at times, technically difficult. Public art selection must address such issues as: artistic quality, appropriateness, site context, public sensibility, durability, maintainability, safety and cost.

LAMC would be particularly pleased to have the opportunity to consider works by prominent alumni and faculty to celebrate their professional contribution to their discipline and the world of art. The major new campus facilities projects funded by Prop AA and Measure J may include an allocation of project funds for the acquisition, commission and/or integration of public art that will enhance the contribution of the new facility to the quality of campus life. Consideration must also be given to maintenance and the future maintenance of the art endowed.

THE PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

The Public Art Committee (PAC) is established to:

1. Review specific proposals for public art (excludes college art gallery and temporary installations) with the purpose of recommending to the Facilities Planning Committee and College Council for approval, suggestions for modification, or rejection of the public art, and its siting.
2. Clarify the need for public art on the campus and target specific siting opportunities, including both indoor and outdoor public spaces. This work builds on the campus master planning process.
3. Meet on an ad hoc basis as public art proposals require review, or to address other public art planning issues.
4. Make recommendations upon a vote of the majority of members convened.
5. Assure that all recommendations fit with the campus master plan design principles.

PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The PAC is made up of campus representatives who provide necessary judgmental and technical expertise. Members shall include:

- o _Dean of Academic Affairs, who shall serve as PAC Co-Chair
- o _Faculty or Administrative Representative for the building for which art is being considered
- o _Appropriate Vice President or designee
- o _Arts, Media, Humanities Department Chair
- o _Art Gallery Director or Art faculty member
- o _Student government representative
- o _Faculty member appointee (selected by the Academic Senate)
- o _Faculty member appointee (selected by the Faculty Guild)
- o _Classified staff appointee (selected by the Staff Guild)
- o _Facilities Designee

o _Community Member selected by College President

CRITERIA FOR ACCEPTANCE/REJECTION OF PUBLIC ART

The PAC will use the following criteria in considering gifts or purchases of public art:

1. Proposed art shall display a high level of artistic quality and craftsmanship that supports and enhances the College's academic and creative missions.
2. An appropriate site in campus public space shall be available.
3. Proposed art shall be structurally sound and present no environmental or safety hazard.
4. A funding source to cover all costs of acquisition, purchase, shipping, installation, wall-to-wall insurance, appraisal, and maintenance shall be determined prior to acceptance. If sufficient funding is not immediately available, this criterion may be waived in exceptional circumstances by the President.
5. The donor's clear title to donated art and authenticity of the work shall be confirmed prior to acceptance.

OWNERSHIP

Ownership and acquisition terms will be determined by the standard gift agreement between the District/College and the donor of the art. The College, with the approval of the PAC, reserves the right to sell or donate works of public art within the strict limits outlined in the Criteria for Deaccessioning.

CRITERIA FOR DEACCESSIONING:

1. The PAC may consider the deaccessioning of artwork for one or more of the following reasons:
 - a. The art is not, or is only rarely, on display because of lack of a suitable site.
 - b. The condition or security of the art cannot be reasonably guaranteed.
 - c. The art has been damaged or has deteriorated and repair is impractical or unfeasible.
 - d. The art endangers public safety.
 - e. In the case of site-specific artwork, the art's relationship to the site is altered because of changes to the site.

- f. The art has been determined to be incompatible within the context of the collection.
- g. The College, with the concurrence of the PAC, wishes to replace the art with art of more significance by the same artist.
- h. The art requires excessive maintenance or has faults of design or workmanship.

2. When a recommendation to deaccession the art has been made to the President by the PAC, the following steps must take place:

If the College wants to remove a work of art, and the removal cannot be done without substantial harm to the work, Civil Code section 987 requires that the College contact the original artist (or his/her representative, heirs, beneficiaries, etc.) in writing of the intent to deaccession the art. The artist has 90 days to either remove the art or to pay for its removal. If the art is removed at the expense of the artist (or his/her representative, heirs, etc.), the title to the art passes to that person. (Also, if a building is demolished-- along with the art that may be inside-- the artist has similar rights.) The obligation in Section 987 applies even where the College/District may "own" the work, since the artist still has reputational interests protected by statute.

b. To the extent the College is planning to sell, for cash, art that is no longer wanted, the sale should conform to the requirements of Education Code section 81450 et seq.

i. Education Code section 81450, provides for a public notice requirement (of posting in at least three public places in the District for not less than two weeks, or by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the District at least once weekly for at least two weeks) before a sale can occur. The Board can then sell the property to the highest responsible bidder, or reject all bids. The Board also has the ability to contract with a private auction firm. Per Education Code section 81452, if the College/District receives no bids (or if the Board, by unanimous vote, finds that the art does not exceed \$5,000 in value) then the art may be sold at a private sale without advertising.

ii. Alternatively, under Education Code section 81450.5, the District, without providing public notice as required in Ed Code section 81450.5, may exchange, sell for cash, or donate the art if: (a) the District determines that the property is not required for school purposes, should be disposed of for the purpose of replacement, or is unsatisfactory for school use, (b) the property is exchanged with, sold or donated to, a school District, community College District, or other public entity that has examined it, and (c) the receipt of the property by the other District or agency would not be inconsistent with any applicable District wide or school site technology plan of the recipient District.

Note: This policy was adapted from the LAVC POLICY ON THE SELECTION OF PUBLIC ART

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