

Policies/Procedures for Displaying and Procuring Artwork for UUCR

Display of Artworks

The Art Committee (hereafter referred to as “the Committee”) functions as the church’s gatekeeper for ensuring that certain church furnishing, particularly artworks, are appropriate and do not detract from the spiritual experiences of members or from other community activities. The relevant section of the Committee charter (on the church website) stipulates that the Committee: “Serves as the focal point for creating and maintaining an esthetic environment that enhances the spiritual and community activities, which take place in the church building.”

While the Committee is uncomfortable with developing a concrete set of criteria for making such highly subjective decisions, it will exercise its best judgment on a case-by-case basis and may consult with other appropriate parties in approving the display of art in the church.

The Committee manages all art for display. Such management includes *where* the art is displayed and *when* the art is displayed, based on considerations such as the seasons, scheduled special events, and other available art works.

Artwork available for display may be the result of:

1. Contractual arrangements with exhibiting artists,
2. Artwork on loan from individuals or organizations,
3. Items procured through donations from individuals or organizations, and,
4. Items procured through purchases made by UUCR.

When artwork is not the property of UUCR, as in the first two cases above, it is to be understood by the owners that the church is not required to insure the item and is not liable for any damage or loss that may result from the display of the item. In the latter two cases, the artwork is UUCR property obtained through the procurement provisions outlined in the Section below – Procurement of Artworks.

For special events, such as artist’s exhibitions, the Committee will advise and assist exhibiting artists.

- As an advisor, the Committee will counsel the artist on church guidelines for displaying art (see Art Display Layout) and retains the right to reject any artwork deemed, in the opinion of the Committee, to be inappropriate for display at UUCR. Also, the Committee will require all exhibiting artists to sign a contract (see Contract for Sale of Artwork) before permission is granted to display any art.
- As an assistant, the Art Committee will provide support in the hanging and placement of art and in arrangements to host art receptions.

When the Committee withholds approval to display a particular work of art, it shall provide its rationale for non-approval to the appropriate party(s).

Procurement of Artworks

Artwork is procured for UUCR through donations, private or public funding, or UUCR funding. Currently, the Committee budget has no provision to procure works of art. A future question may be: should the Committee budget have a provision for the procurement of art items?

Funding issues aside:

Advice to Donors

In light of the preceding discussion, the Committee advises all potential donors of artwork of the following considerations:

1. The Committee is your point of contact for artwork display and procurement. The donor should like the artwork enough to own it. Then, if the [Art] Committee fails to approve the item for display, or the Board fails to accept or purchase the item, donors will still have the item for their own enjoyment.

If the church accepts an item for display, as outlined above, the Committee will manage the display of that item.