Elisabeth C. Miller Library Art Exhibit Policy

The Miller Library is housed at the Center for Urban Horticulture, which is part of the University of Washington Botanic Gardens. The library emphasizes horticulture, botany, plant ecology, and garden design. We serve students, faculty and staff of the University and other regional schools, professional horticulturists and garden designers, and especially the public. Exhibiting art allows us to celebrate local artists who share our love of plants, gardens and nature. Art can be both educational and inspiring, drawing the community into the library throughout the year.

ACCEPTANCE PROCESS
Contact Information:
hortlib@uw.edu
We schedule exhibits about a year in advance.

Email us color scans or copies showing examples of your art. If you have a website featuring your work, please include the relevant link. You may also arrange to bring samples of your work to the library during our open hours.

If we decide the artwork is suitable we will contact you for an appointment to discuss scheduling, reception, and display options. We will need a short biographical statement, an exhibit summary, and a digital photo of a sample piece for the e-newsletter three months in advance. Send the statement and high-resolution photo to hortlib@uw.edu. If you need to cancel for any reason please let the library staff know as soon as possible. Exhibits generally run for a month, but the schedule is flexible to accommodate Library events or artist limitations.

SUBJECT/SCOPE OF ART
The library exhibits artwork with an explicit connection to horticulture or botany, such as depictions of plants or gardens, or works of art utilizing plant-based materials. All pieces are subject to Library staff approval.

DISPLAY SPACES
The following spaces in the library are available for displaying art:
1. the lobby display cases, four narrow cabinets: lockable cases with glass doors
2. on top of the low file cabinet in the library entry
3. on top of four low book stacks, limited to 50% of the horizontal space to preserve library sight lines and work surfaces
4. on the end of high book stacks, eight spaces, depending on size of art
5. on the wall across from the reference desk and on the back west wall, replacing the permanent art.
6. No new holes may be made to hang art

The library has limited supplies for hanging art on the book stacks and small easels for stack tops. You are responsible for any additional hardware, hanging the art, and taking it down. All work must be labeled, including prices on all work that is for sale. The library is open to the public during set-up, so please work quietly. People want to know about you and your work, so
do provide an artist statement. There is no limit to length, but please keep it reasonable and readable!

The library strives for scientific accuracy. If labels include misspelled or inaccurate plant names, library staff will ask the artist to correct those labels.

OPENING RECEPTION/REVIEW PARTY
Receptions are primarily the artist’s responsibility and are encouraged, but not required. If you want a reception, set the date at the planning meeting. Library staff must be present during receptions, which are usually on Thursdays between 5-7 p.m. You may use the Library’s Program Room as a space for organizing and setting up artwork. We often move two tables into the library to set out appetizers and beverages. If you plan to serve alcohol (only wine or beer are permitted), please give us a minimum of four weeks notice, and we will obtain a banquet permit. Please note that we can only publicize as public events those openings where no alcohol is served. Our kitchen is limited, with neither stove nor oven. Easy-to-serve hors d’oeuvres are encouraged. We have some linens you may use, or you may bring your own. We have small serving plates and utensils as well as napkins and plates. We recommend bringing 2-3 bottles of a beverage of your choice, such as juice or sparkling water.

MARKETING/PUBLICITY
The Library will announce the exhibit in the Miller Library Leaflet and website, UW Botanic Gardens E-Flora, and elsewhere as appropriate. You are welcome to advertise beyond these publications, but we please allow us to proofread any prospective press release or mailing. Please send to hortlib@uw.edu. You may produce and print a flyer or postcard but please allow us to check it for accuracy first.

SELLING ART
We strongly prefer that some of the work be available for purchase. If a piece is for sale, note the price on the label with the title. If all pieces have the same price, that information may be inserted into the Artist bio/exhibit introduction sheet. The Library does not automatically take a percentage of your sales, but a 25% donation is suggested and appreciated. Any donation made is matched by the Miller Foundation Challenge grant. Library staff will collect payments for sold pieces, and hold the checks and cash for you to collect. It is helpful to provide us with an inventory of the art to help keep track of any purchases.

LEGAL AGREEMENT/INSURANCE
The Library and the UW Botanic Gardens cannot be held responsible for theft or damage of your work, so an agreement must be signed before any artwork is installed. The Library is staffed during all open hours and is locked when closed. If requested by the artist, the Library will secure insurance through UW’s Risk Management’s office up to a $25,000 value. Beyond that amount we will negotiate the payment of the premium with the artist. If a claim is made the artist will be responsible for the $250 per incident deductible. In order to purchase insurance, an inventory of each piece with the value determined by the artist, is required a week before the exhibit opens. If a claim is made, the artist must provide justification of the stated value.
Check List

☐ Email or deliver a few samples of art work to be considered for exhibition

☐ Once accepted, schedule meeting to discuss sales, publicity, reception and the space

☐ Three months before the show, on __________________________, email hortlib@uw.edu:
  o digital image of representative art work
  o exhibit title
  o very short exhibit summary and bio

☐ If postcard or flyer will be produced, obtain staff approval before printing

☐ If artist reception is scheduled and if alcohol will be served, notify the library at least four weeks prior on __________________________

☐ If insurance is requested, one week prior on ______________ email hortlib@uw.edu an inventory of art work with value (required for insurance, even if art work will not be for sale)

☐ Day of setup, print a few copies of the full exhibit summary and biographical statement (suggested length: 2-4 paragraphs)

☐ Day of reception, if occurring, allow at least one hour for set-up and clean up.

☐ Within four weeks after the exhibit ends, please send a check for 25% donation of total sales made out to “UW-Miller Library Fund.” Please round to the nearest $5.