



TOWN OF BURLINGTON



BURLINGTON
Public Library
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Display Case, Art Gallery, and Bulletin Board Policy

1. A third-party organization or individual may apply to have pieces of artwork or informational postings (together, “Content”) displayed in/on the Burlington Public Library’s (the “Library”) front display case, rear art gallery, and/or bulletin boards (together, the “Galleries”).
2. Whether the application is approved or denied is in the sole discretion of the Library Director (the “Director”) and/or his/her designee, who may do so for any reason or for no reason at all.
3. The choice of what Content to display in the Galleries, including the approval or denial of the application noted above, is government speech to which the Free Speech Clause of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution does not apply.
4. By permitting a third party to display his/her Content in/on the Galleries, the Library does not intend, nor has it ever intended, for the Galleries to serve as forums for free expression by the public. Accordingly, neither this Policy, the Library’s choice of what Content to display, nor the manner in which the Library makes such choice should be interpreted as designating the Galleries as public forums. To the contrary, any Content displayed in/on the Galleries is an expression of the Library’s official sentiment(s); the Library is speaking for itself.
5. No event held on Library property, Town property, or elsewhere that accompanies the display of Content in/on the Galleries shall have any effect on the Library’s intent as set forth in Sections 3 and 4 above.
6. To apply for Content to be displayed in/on the Galleries, applicants must complete the attached application and submit it to the Director or his/her designee. Incomplete applications will be denied.
7. If the Director approves an application, he/she or his/her designee will notify the applicant of the same and send the applicant a release for his/her signature, a date and time for the applicant to place his/her Content in/on the Galleries, and an approximate date and time for the Content to be removed. Applicants who do not sign the release will not be permitted to display their Content in/on the Galleries.



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8. Applicants are solely responsible for transporting to and displaying their Content in/on the Galleries in a manner that is both safe and does not interfere with Library operations.
9. Applicants may be required to pay for security, custodial, labor, or other costs incurred by the Library in displaying their Content.
10. The Library will deny applications to display Content that contains, among other things, the following: true threats, incitements to imminent lawless conduct, statements that were found by a court of law to be defamatory, sexually explicit content made to appeal to prurient interests, and content that violates any local, state, or federal law or regulation.
11. Writings indicating the price of any Content is prohibited from being displayed with it in/on the Galleries.

The Board of Trustees reserves the right to amend this policy, and to rule on situations not specifically covered herein. The Board of Trustees and the Library Director shall review this policy as needed.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Display, Exhibit, and Bulletin Board Policy)

DATE

Chairman _____

Vice-Chairman _____

Reviewed February 13, 2025