

XVIII. Displays and Exhibits Policy

As an educational and cultural institution, the Mercer Public Library welcomes exhibits of interest and information to the community. Displays of art, handiwork, historical material, nature study, or other material deemed of general interest may be exhibited.

The Director shall accept or reject material based on availability and suitability for general audiences. Display or exhibit of materials does not necessarily indicate the Library's endorsement of the issues or events promoted by the collection of material. Exhibits cannot in any way disrupt the normal operation of the Library, and the Library reserves the right to reject any part of an exhibit or to change the manner of the display if it is deemed necessary.

The Library will not censor or remove a display because certain members of the community may disagree with its content. Members of the public who object to the content of an exhibit may complete and sign the "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials or Exhibits" form (Appendix F), which will be forwarded to the Library Director and judged according to the policies established by the Library.

The Library assumes no responsibility for the preservation or protection, and no liability for possible damage or theft of any item displayed or exhibited. All items placed in the Library are there at the owner's risk. A release must be signed by the exhibitor before any items can be displayed in the library (Appendix G).

Any work displayed as part of the Library's Artist in Residence program or other temporary exhibit may include a statement indicating the work is for sale or list a sale price. However, the Library shall not handle any transactions. Any patron wishing to purchase a work exhibited during the Artist in Residence display will be given the artist's contact information to discuss a sale. If the artist sells a piece on display, the Library may request that the work remain on display during the planned exhibit time if possible or that another piece be displayed during the remaining time. If a substitution is made, an updated Displays and Exhibits Release must be submitted to the Library Director.

Related Policies:

Appendix F. Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials or Exhibits

Appendix G. Displays and Exhibit Release

Displays and Exhibits policy amended and approved by the Library Board of Trustees – July 14, 2025.

G. Displays and Exhibits Release

Mercer Public Library

I, the undersigned, agree to lend the following works of art or other material to the Library for exhibits purposes only. I have read the policy information and understand that insurance for exhibited works is recommended. I hereby hold the Mercer Public Library harmless and release said Library from responsibility for loss, damage, or destruction to these materials while they are on the Library property.

Description of materials loaned:

Signature _____ **Date:** _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone/Email: _____

Mercer Public Library – 2648W Margaret St., Mercer, WI 54547 – (715)476-2366

Form received by: _____ **Date:** _____