

Great Ponds Gallery
at the Lakeville Public Library
Lakeville, MA 02347
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The Great Ponds Gallery is located in the community meeting room of the Lakeville Public Library. As a twenty-first century library, the Lakeville Public Library is more than just books; it is a community meeting and cultural center. The Great Ponds Gallery's purpose is to provide a venue for the exhibition of the original works of local and regional artists as well as personal collections of interest to the community.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Great Ponds Gallery is to provide visitors with a sense of pleasure, pride and discovery, leading to a greater cultural awareness of our community, primarily through the exhibition of works by local and regional artists.

GALLERY OPERATIONS

The Great Ponds Gallery is operated by the Gallery Arts Committee, under the auspices and at the sole discretion of the Board of Library Trustees. The Gallery Arts Committee is responsible for reviewing and determining acceptance of artwork and collections and assigning the dates for exhibitions. The Gallery Arts Committee shall consist of five members appointed by the Board of Library Trustees, and shall include at least one representative from that board and one representative of the Lakeville Arts Council. Meetings shall be posted and shall be open to the public unless in executive session.

The Great Ponds Gallery has installed a professional hanging system and is able to display various sizes of framed or matted art and textiles, as well as small 3-dimensional artworks in acrylic wall-mounted cases. The Great Ponds Gallery welcomes artists of all levels of experience, working in all types of media. The gallery does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion or sexual orientation. Preference may be shown to local artists. While we do not discriminate on the basis of age, two months are set aside for the work of children and students: October for the work done by the participants in the Lakeville Library Children's Room's summer event and March for an exhibit of work from area high school students. Individual children and students may apply to be included in those exhibits.

Exhibits are scheduled for one or two months. Installation is determined for each exhibit depending on the availability of the gallery space (which is also a community meeting room), the artist, and the Gallery Arts Committee representative.

EXHIBIT ACCEPTANCE (Judgment of value/content)

Since the Great Ponds Gallery also serves as a public meeting room, the needs and sensibilities of all who use the space must be taken into consideration. The Great Ponds Gallery maintains the right to reject any artwork or collection due to content, size or logistical concerns, and/or perceived aesthetic concerns including religious or political statements and socially controversial subjects. It is understood, however, that the appreciation of the benefits received from art are subjective and individual. Every effort will be made to accept and display original works of art without acceptance being unduly tied to traditional or stereotypical notions of aesthetic beauty.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The Gallery Arts Committee reviews artwork and collections to be exhibited in the Great Ponds Gallery. To apply for consideration, an "Application to Exhibit Original Art" must be submitted, along with several images of currently available artwork and an image list (title, size, medium, etc.). All artwork must be entirely original. Those wishing to display a personal collection must submit an "Application to Display a Personal Collection". The Gallery Arts Committee will review applications and assign exhibit dates to those accepted. Exhibits may be assigned many months in advance.

The Great Ponds Gallery is located in a public building. No security guard is present. Any artist or collector who applies to the Great Ponds Gallery agrees, by filling out the application, to the waiver:

I understand and agree that the Gallery Arts Committee, the Lakeville Public Library and its Board of Trustees and the Town of Lakeville accept no responsibility for the theft or damage of any property or for any personal injury and that I represent all persons submitting work or assisting in hanging or removal of this exhibit in the Great Ponds Gallery at the Lakeville Public Library.

BASIC RULES

- All guidelines and regulations for the community meeting room apply (<http://www.lakevillelibrary.org/meetingroompolicies.asp>).
- All exhibits must be located within the gallery; any exhibits or performances to be held elsewhere in the library building or grounds will require special permission from the Library Director.
- Installation or public viewing of exhibits may not interfere with library business or scheduled meetings/events taking place in the community meeting room.
- All exhibits and receptions shall be open to the public. No entrance fee may be charged to visit any gallery exhibit and no viewings or receptions may be private.
- The artist and/or sponsoring group is responsible for the installation and removal of his/her own work, with the guidance of the Gallery Arts Committee. All exhibits must be safely mounted on the wall or in display cases, using the gallery's display system. Only with the approval of a Gallery Arts Committee representative, may artwork or collection items be displayed openly on tables, easels, podiums or the floor.
- The artist and/or sponsoring group may choose to host an optional reception. All receptions **MUST** be coordinated with the Gallery Arts Committee Representative. Receptions must be free and open to the public.
- Exhibits will be publicized on the Library's website and may be further publicized by the Gallery Arts Committee at its discretion.
- Library staff personnel are not responsible for installation, staffing or security of gallery exhibits.

SALES (See Community Meeting Room Guidelines)

Artists may designate their own original exhibited works as being for sale under the following conditions: No sale stickers or price tags are to be visible on the exhibited works or their labels. A contact sheet may be made available to visitors on the entry table. No artwork may leave the gallery, due to sale or any other reason, before the end of the exhibit.

No items from personal collections may be listed for sale in any manner or removed during the exhibit.

Artists are not charged a fee to exhibit their works, but are requested and expected to contribute 10% of any sale made through exposure in the Great Ponds Gallery to the Lakeville Public Library. The Great Ponds Gallery is non-profit and is not supported by tax dollars. Contributions are used for supplies and upkeep of the gallery. Contributions are on the honor system. Any artist believed to be out of compliance with this expectation may be denied the privilege of exhibiting in the gallery in the future.