



Reconciliation Wall Exhibition Policy

Policy summary	
Status	Current as at May 2016.
Purpose	This document sets out the Parliament’s Policy for Reconciliation Wall exhibitions. The purpose of the policy is to enable the Parliament to better engage with, and promote Aboriginal artists in New South Wales, via exhibitions of high quality Aboriginal art. The Reconciliation Wall is part of the Parliament's commitment to reconciliation with Aboriginal people. The Parliament is committed to an environment that is welcoming, respectful and non-discriminatory for Aboriginal people.
Scope	This document applies to all persons who wish to exhibit on the Parliament of NSW’s Reconciliation Wall.
Availability	This document is available on the Parliament’s intranet and website.
Policy owner	The Usher of the Black Rod, Legislative Council, is responsible for the administration and review of this policy.
Related policies	This document should be read in conjunction with the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fountain Court Exhibition Policy • Exhibition Guidelines • Car Park Access and Parking Regulations • Loading Dock Booking Form • Room and Venue Use Policy.
Review process	This document will be reviewed once every parliament.
Approval date	 David Blunt Clerk of the Parliaments  Mark Webb Executive Manager  Ronda Miller Clerk of the Legislative Assembly



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Parliament of New South Wales Reconciliation Wall Exhibition Policy

1.0 Statement of acknowledgment

- 1.1 The Parliament of New South Wales is located on the traditional lands of the Gadigal people of the Eora nations. The Parliament recognises the Gadigal people as the traditional owners and ongoing custodians of the lands upon which the Parliament is situated.

2.0 Purpose

- 2.1 This document sets out the Parliament's Policy for Reconciliation Wall exhibitions. The purpose of the policy is to enable the Parliament to better engage with and promote Aboriginal artists in New South Wales, via exhibitions of high quality Aboriginal art.
- 2.2 The Reconciliation Wall is part of the Parliament's commitment to reconciliation with Aboriginal people. It was inaugurated on 31 March 1998 by the Presiding Officers with an exhibition of paintings from the Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Cooperative.
- 2.3 The Parliament is committed to an environment that is welcoming, respectful and non-discriminatory for Aboriginal people.

3.0 Scope

- 3.1 This policy applies to all persons who wish to exhibit on the Parliament's Reconciliation Wall.
- 3.2 This policy should be read in conjunction with the Exhibition Guidelines.

4.0 Definitions

Aboriginal artwork means artwork created by artists of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent. It includes a broad range of mediums and materials and may include (but is not limited to) paintings, illustrations, works on paper, photography, sculpture, fabrics and digital works.



Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander means a person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent who identifies as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and who is recognised as such by the community in which they live.¹

Exhibition Coordinator means is the representative of the organisation, community group, individual artist or assembly of artists responsible for liaising with the Parliament in regard to the exhibition.

Reconciliation Wall is the western wall of the Fountain Court in NSW Parliament House which can be used for artistic exhibitions.

Exhibitor means the individual artist, organisation, community group or assembly of artists who have booked the Reconciliation Wall for an exhibition.

Parliament means the Parliament of New South Wales.

Parliamentary artworks means artworks owned by the Parliament of New South Wales.

Parliamentary Host means the Member of Parliament who is sponsoring the exhibition.

Presiding Officers means the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

5.0 Policy

- 5.1 The Parliament's exhibition space, referred to as the Fountain Court, joins the heritage front of the building to the modern offices behind. The exhibition walls are available for non-political exhibitions of a high curatorial and artistic standard.
- 5.2 The Reconciliation Wall in the Fountain Court is principally reserved for the exhibition of works by Aboriginal artists from New South Wales.
- 5.3 The Presiding Officers may approach established individual artists, institutions, galleries and co-operatives to organise and curate exhibitions on the Reconciliation Wall.

¹ This definition is based on the definition of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander identity that has been adopted by the Commonwealth of Australia for administrative purposes. For further information see <http://www.alrc.gov.au/publications/36-kinship-and-identity/legal-definitions-aboriginality>.



Parliament of New South Wales Policy Series

- 5.4** Individual artists, institutions, galleries and co-operatives may apply to the Presiding Officers to display an exhibition on the Reconciliation Wall.
- 5.5** An exhibition must have some connection to either the Parliament or communities within the state.
- 5.6** Applications to use the exhibition space are invited from the following types of organisations:
- a)** Aboriginal organisations, including artist groups and collectives
 - b)** NSW Government departments or public authorities
 - c)** NSW local government bodies
 - d)** Australian Government departments or public authorities
 - e)** Charitable or not-for-profit organisations.
- 5.7** Applications by groups of New South Wales' artists in which each artist is equally represented in the exhibition are also acceptable.
- 5.8** The Reconciliation Wall will also be used from time to time to exhibit the Parliament's own Aboriginal art collection which includes the winners of the Parliament of New South Wales Aboriginal Art Prize which have been acquired by the Parliament.

Exhibition requirements

- 5.9** All exhibitions are subject to the following requirements:
- a)** artwork submitted for display will be subject to approval of the Presiding Officers of the Parliament. Artwork should be in keeping with the profile of the parliamentary setting and be appropriate for general viewing
 - b)** funding will not be given to exhibitors. An exhibition cannot seek funding from the Parliament except those organised and curated by the Parliament and approved by the Presiding Officers
 - c)** the minimum exhibition period is one month with the option to extend. The dates of an exhibition are at the discretion of the Presiding Officers. Exhibitions will usually be installed on the first Monday of the month and removed on the final Friday unless alternative arrangements have been made through the Office of the Usher of the Black Rod
 - d)** exhibitions of state wide significance may be in place for longer than a month at the discretion of the Presiding Officers
 - e)** an exhibition cannot appear to be directly attempting to contribute to a current political debate.



Reconciliation Wall features and venue access

5.10 General information about the Reconciliation Wall features and venue access information is contained in the Exhibition Guidelines.

Booking and approval process

5.11 Individual artists, institutions, galleries and co-operatives seeking to exhibit on the Reconciliation Wall must complete an application form and provide examples of the work to be displayed. Artwork submitted for display will be subject to approval from the Presiding Officers.

5.12 The Presiding Officers, or a member of Parliament such as a local member, or a member with an interest in the organisation, must support the exhibition and act as the Parliamentary Host.

5.13 No member may act as the host for more than one exhibition in a calendar year.

5.14 Once a member has agreed to host the exhibition, the Exhibition Coordinator should lodge an application to the Usher of the Black Rod. An application form is available on the Parliament's website.

The approval of applications for exhibiting in the Fountain Court is a competitive process. Applications will be ranked according to the following criteria:

- a) Artistic merit
- b) Synergy with other major events in the period of the proposed exhibition
- c) Reflects themes of the people or places of New South Wales
- d) Complements or contributes to other community access and engagement activities undertaken by the New South Wales Parliament.

5.15 The Presiding Officers are responsible for approving all Reconciliation Wall Exhibitions.

5.16 If approval is provided, the exhibition coordinator will be forwarded an agreement. Associated activities, including related work, advertising and promotion may not commence until the agreement has been signed by the Exhibition Coordinator and the Presiding Officers (or their representative).



5.17 Further information about the booking and application process is contained in 3.3 of the Exhibition Guidelines.

Selling items

5.18 Exhibitors must not sell items in the Fountain Court. Artworks cannot have prices displayed on or next to them.

Advertising and publicity

5.19 The Parliament is, in consultation with the organisers of the exhibition, permitted to film or photograph the exhibition for use in documents limited to circulation within the Parliament and display on the Parliamentary website for the purposes of highlighting or promoting the exhibition and associated events, providing suitable acknowledgement is given to any artist whose work/s are published or reproduced in such media.

5.20 Exhibitors must seek approval from the Office of the Black Rod for any wording on invitations, advertising or promotional material for the exhibition that refers to the Parliament of New South Wales or to a Member of Parliament.

5.21 Advertising and publicity and associated costs related to the exhibition are the responsibility of the exhibitor.

5.22 A notice about the exhibition will be placed on the Parliament's website and exhibitions are mentioned in the Parliament's internal news resource and in social media.

5.23 No logos for political parties shall appear in any promotional material or banners used for the exhibition.

5.24 Photography and video within Parliament House are restricted for control over copyright material, to protect the 'image' of Parliament and out of respect for the privacy of members and the public. Exhibitors may take photographs or video of their exhibition on the following conditions:

- a) that the exhibition is photographed or filmed for archival purposes only
- b) media outlets may photograph or film the exhibition only with the prior written permission of the Presiding Officers. Approved photography or filming must focus on the exhibition and must not capture members of Parliament or any public in the Fountain Court and must not impede access or block thoroughfares.



- Media outlets must follow any directions issued by Parliamentary Officers or the NSW Police Force Special Constables
- c) images posted to social media must focus on the exhibition and must not include images of Members of Parliament or the public
 - d) Parliamentary artworks are not to be photographed or filmed.

Exhibition openings

- 5.25 Exhibition openings can be held in the Fountain Court exhibition area.
- 5.26 An exhibition opening in the Fountain court must be approved by the Presiding Officers. Initial inquiries should be made to the Usher of the Black Rod. A separate booking form must be completed for use of the Fountain Court for a function.
- 5.27 Other venues in Parliament House can also be booked for exhibition openings. For further information about room bookings, catering and venue costs please see the Room and Venue Use Policy.

6.0 Grievance mechanisms/sanctions

- 6.1 The Parliament's Grievance Policy will be used in relation to any staff disputes under this policy. External user grievances should be directed to the Usher of the Black Rod.

7.0 Accountabilities

- 7.1 The Presiding Officers are responsible for the approval of applications for Reconciliation Wall exhibitions.
- 7.2 The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, the Clerk of the Parliaments and the Executive Manager, Department of Parliamentary Services are jointly responsible for approving and assuring compliance with the Guidelines and the accompanying Policy, as well as ensuring that corporate policies support the proper and safe use of the Fountain Court and Reconciliation Wall for exhibitions.
- 7.3 The Office of the Black Rod is responsible for the implementation of the Policy and for ensuring that the requirements for use of the Reconciliation Wall are followed. The Office of the Black Rod is responsible for reviewing this Policy and regularly evaluating guidelines and procedures to ensure relevance and usability.



- 7.4 Exhibition coordinators are responsible for ensuring the requirements prescribed by the Guidelines and Policy that apply to users of the Fountain Court and Reconciliation Wall are followed. Exhibition coordinators are also required to complete an Agreement and abide by the conditions specified therein.

8.0 Work health and safety and risk management

- 8.1 The Parliament's site safety rules must be followed. Any additional conditions must also be abided by provided those conditions are communicated in writing. See the Exhibition Guidelines for further information.

9.0 Related policies, legislation, guidelines and forms

- 9.1 This policy should be read in conjunction with the Reconciliation Wall Application Form, the Fountain Court Exhibition Policy, the Fountain Court Exhibition Application Form and the Exhibition Guidelines.
- 9.2 Reference should also be made to work health and safety and risk management policies and guidelines on the use of the Parliament's loading dock and car park.

10.0 Policy review

- 10.1 This Policy will be reviewed at a minimum of once every Parliament to confirm and ensure that it continues to provide for the most appropriate and practical use of the Fountain Court Exhibition space and in particular the Reconciliation Wall.
- 10.2 The Policy Review Steering Committee (PRSC) will consider any suggested policy modifications and make recommendations to the Clerks and Executive Manager.

11.0 Further information

Further questions about this document should be directed to the Office of the Black Rod.

12.0 Document control

Version Number	Date of Issue	Author	Description of Change
2.0	May 2016	Alex Stedman	Revised policy
2.1	24 May 2016	Steven Reynolds	Minor amendments to revised policy