I. INTRODUCTION

The University acquires and manages a wide variety of Works of Art and collections. These are intended to enhance the academic and life-long learning experiences of students, faculty, staff and the general public. These objects bring University and community audiences together through shared experiences with art and possess the potential to educate, enlighten and inspire.

The University’s art holdings will generally be considered as belonging to one of two categories: 1) artwork of general interest, valued primarily as ornaments for the University’s buildings and grounds; or 2) those artworks deemed to be of sufficient artistic, scholarly, or financial value to justify inclusion in the formal University Art Collections.

II. POLICY

A. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for the University’s decision-making authority and stewardship responsibility related to the acceptance, procurement, creation, display, maintenance, security, storage and disposal of Works of Art and collections.

B. SCOPE

This Policy pertains to all University-owned artistic items, in any location, including outdoors (e.g. sculptures, landscape features), building exteriors, indoor public spaces and common use areas. This Policy extends to individual offices and departmental dedicated space where University-owned artistic property is displayed, stored or desired. This Policy also extends to donated and loaned artistic items from other sources (including museums, private collection, etc.) intended for use and display in public or private areas on University property.
C. **ACCEPTANCE AND DISPLAY POLICY**

“The University will generally accept Works of Art, objects, or collections upon the approval of the Chancellor or the Chancellor’s designee, with the input and advice of appropriate University stakeholders. The University will accept, manage and maintain those Works of Art, objects and collections pursuant to guidelines and procedures to be established by the University Art Collections Committee.”

III. **PROCEDURES**

A. **ACQUISITION PROCESS**

The acquisition of Works of Art will be subject to an approval process that considers factors similar to those evaluated in the capital construction and renovation projects process. The appropriate University departments and stakeholders to be involved in the analysis regarding individual pieces or collections may include:

- Facilities – physical security, maintenance (including utilities), cleaning
- Financial Affairs – business and financial matters
- Risk Management and University Counsel – insurance, liability
- University Advancement – donor relations, fund-raising
- University Architect – Building and Grounds liaison, land usage
- University Communications – public relations, marketing messaging
- University Curator – University Art Collections, Myhren Gallery Director
- Other offices or individuals, as determined by the Chancellor or the Chancellor’s designee

Those departments and stakeholders shall report to the Chancellor the results of their evaluation and recommend any appropriate actions that should be taken related to the acquisition.

B. **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Under direction of the University Curator, the Art Collections Committee shall assist the University in the development and management of the University’s art collection. The committee will also serve as an advisory group to University senior leadership team and various functional departments on topics related to Works of Art. The committee shall be comprised of DU stakeholders and external professionals from the local and regional art community.
C.  WORKS OF ART GUIDELINES

The Arts Collection Committee will develop guidelines and recommendations for University leadership and responsible departments regarding the acquisition, maintenance, display and other management of the University Art Collections. Those guidelines should consider:

- Cost-Benefit Considerations
- Inventory and Control
- Care of Collections
- Disposition of De-accessioned Items
- Inclusiveness and diversity
- Topics of interest (temporary exhibits input from student groups)
- Educational dimensions (coordination with Faculty Senate)
- Consistency with the University’s educational mission
- Other appropriate factors that are unique to the particular Works of Art, as determined by the Committee or responsible University administrators

IV.  DEFINITIONS

Works of Art – Original and unique creations in visual media produced by or under the control of practitioners generally recognized by their peers and critics as professional artists, accessible to the public including, but not limited to:

- Two-dimensional media such as graphics, calligraphy-drawing, painting, photography, collage, and printmaking, including both portable and permanently installed work (such as murals)
- Three-dimensional, sculptural media including work in relief, in the round, assemblages, constructions, and landscape environments
- Crafts and folk arts in clay, fiber, textiles, glass, wood, metal, stone, masonry, mosaics, and plastic
- Building and landscape features such as grates, lights, floors, and seating in unique or limited editions produced under the control of an artist
- Electronic media and neon works such as film, video, photo projections, and computer-generated artworks produced under the control of the artist