

Mountain Artists Guild Gallery Standards for 2-Dimensional Art

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Document Owner: Gallery Committee Chair

The Guild requires that art work be in “gallery condition”. These gallery standards are intended to define what is acceptable as “gallery condition”; however, they do not cover every possibility. Artists are continually finding new ways to mount or display their work. The Guild reserves the right to reject art work that is not in gallery condition or would result in high risk of damage to hang or display due to weight or inadequate structure. The guild also has the authority to reject any work that may be interpreted as offensive to the community we serve.

- No wet paintings will be accepted.
- Frames, mats, and glass must be in gallery condition. Frames must not have chips or scratches, must not be separating at corners, and art must be securely fastened in the frame. Mats and glass must be clean and free of marks and specks of dirt. Acid-free mats are recommended. It is recommended that glass be clear, since matte glass can distort the image. For large work consider using acrylic rather than glass to reduce weight of art work.
- The back of artwork must have a professional appearance. It is recommended that framed artwork have a dustcover on the back unless the artist believes a dust cover would compromise the artwork, the type of framing does not allow a dustcover, or it can be easily damaged by the hardware necessary for the frame. Acid-free paper or acid-free mat board is recommended. There should be no visible tape.
- For framed paintings/photographs, picture wire must be securely attached and strong enough to hold the work. It is recommended wire be attached to the frame 1/3 of the way down the frame and must hang 2” minimum below the top of the frame. We recommend D-ring be used for securing wire to the frame. No saw tooth hardware is permitted on original paintings or photographs.
- Unframed paintings or photographs on canvas must be gallery wrapped, with the finished edge painted, with a minimum of 1” to canvas edge.
- Nude images must have prior approval of the Gallery Committee Chair. Nude images that could be interpreted as pornographic will be rejected. The Gallery Committee Chair may designate several committee members to assist in making the determination of whether to accept the image.

For any questions about what will be accepted by the Guild, contact gallery@mountainartistsguild.org

Resources and additional guidance are also available on the website:

- Proper Framing of Oils and Acrylics by Julie Fonner
- Proper Framing of Pastels by Lyn Delano
- Proper Framing of Watercolors