

Code of Conduct

Policy Statement

The Southern Alberta Art Gallery (SAAG) strives to create a creative environment for all persons to appreciate and engage with contemporary art. The SAAG fosters diverse and engaging programming to reach all levels of the community, while supporting artists who challenge boundaries and encourage learning through the empowerment of the arts.

Purpose

The SAAG endeavours to provide a safe, accessible and comfortable environment for all persons. In recognizing the varying communities that we serve, centrally located in downtown Lethbridge, we understand that accommodations must be made to ensure the equity of our space. Our code of conduct is in place to clarify how we uphold these standards.

Code of Conduct

1. The safety of all gallery visitors and staff is our utmost priority. We will provide available services and assistance to all persons, and connect gallery visitors with community resources when help is needed beyond our scope of practice.
2. Respect for persons must be demonstrated by all gallery visitors. Gallery staff have the right to address violations, which include but are not limited to aggressive behaviour and language, threats, violence, disregard for consent and personal space, or anything which infringes upon the safety of gallery visitors or staff, artworks or exhibitions. Gallery staff have the right to use their discretion to enforce consequences based upon the severity of the offence, by giving a warning or to have the offending person vacate the premises.
3. Respect for property must be demonstrated by all gallery visitors. SAAG's gallery facilities and resources (galleries, washrooms, common areas, the art library, Creativity Centre classroom and supplies, etc.) are to be treated with care and consideration. The artwork in the galleries must be interacted with in a way that maintains its integrity, in most cases this requires that persons do not touch the artwork.
4. Children 12 and under must be supervised by an adult at all times, with recognition of the maturity of older children and their capacity for independence allowing more freedom.
5. Patrons are responsible for their personal belongings at all times. The SAAG is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items.
6. Food and drink are not permitted within the exhibition spaces, or in any transitory exhibitions. All other spaces are welcome for safe and healthy consumption of sanctioned food and drink. Exceptions are made for water in sealed containers, and beverages in the exhibition spaces during opening receptions or designated SAAG events, at the discretion of SAAG staff.
7. The SAAG often serves alcohol at licensed social events. The consumption of alcohol on site outside of these sanctioned times is prohibited. Misuse of alcohol beyond the scope of license requirements may result in immediate removal from the premises and/or other consequences. The consumption or possession of any drugs is not allowed on site; use of drugs or possession of drugs may result in immediate removal from the premises and/or other consequences.
8. Smoking and vaping is restricted to designated areas outside.
9. Service animals are allowed within the gallery and throughout our facility, however other animals are not permitted on the premises.
10. Natural materials such as fur, hair and plant material are only permitted in the gallery with permission and coordination of gallery staff, for the protection of artworks and exhibitions.

