



# Art @ the Library

'An opportunity to exhibit creative work on the Art Panel at Westland District Library'

## Project background:

Public libraries are community & cultural focal point. They are spaces where culture is celebrated, explored, shared, tested, revisited, examined, developed, reinterpreted, transformed and adapted. Westland District Library is delighted to be able to support the visual arts in the community by partnering with Westland Arts Incorporated on this project. This space will provide an opportunity to show people what you're up to creatively.

Westland Arts Incorporated (WAI) is a voluntary organisation formed in 2001 and our aims are:

- To develop, promote and coordinate arts activities and participation in the arts in Westland in order to encourage enjoyment of the arts in Westland District
- To develop and coordinate opportunities for arts education in Westland District in order to foster arts appreciation and excellence
- To develop, support and strengthen the arts sector in Westland District as a viable economic activity

This project is small, nimble and flexible enough to provide a space for interesting and innovative proposals. There are a lot of people doing a lot of unseen & interesting creative things in this area and this is a space to show locally.

## Information for Artists:

If your idea ticks one or more of these boxes- then you should apply!

- Artists or artwork with local links.
- Artwork that is made specifically for the Library space, or artwork that explores concepts related to libraries & communities.
- Beginning artists or artists new to the area.
- Artwork which gives the community opportunity to engage with new work, new ideas, non-traditional materials or otherwise innovative or interesting art practices,
- Artwork which is linked to local, national, or culturally significant events or activities.

Remember- an artist is anyone who works creatively. If you are interested, you are very probably eligible to apply. If you or your group are unsure about your proposal, get in touch to discuss it before you put together an application.

## Practicalities:

The exhibition will be open to the public during regular library opening hours only. Exhibition duration is 6-8 weeks on display, including installation and removal time. The display panel measures 1.2 x2.4m and is a light cream coloured cloth covered hardboard. There are no spotlights and the afternoon sun streams through the window on one side. Photos of previous exhibitions are on [www.westlib.co.nz](http://www.westlib.co.nz). Your display will need to 'work' in the space.

- Size, materials, content, safety, and any other practical considerations should be taken into account. Work can be fixed by dress pins, tacks or suspended.
- All the works on exhibit should remain in place for the duration of the exhibition. Any work removed must be replaced with an artwork of similar size and must not compromise the nature of the display.
- Sale of artwork is not one of the objectives of this programme. The price of artworks will not be displayed, and library staff are unable to take money for sales. On request, the library can provide the artist's contact details to members of the public, if the artist so wishes.
- There is no financial support available to artists as part of this programme. If an artist is applying for funding from elsewhere for this exhibition WAI are happy to help with letters of support or otherwise.
- Insurance & Damage, while all care will be taken during the time artwork is in the library WDL & WAI cannot take any responsibility for damage or theft of artwork. Artists can arrange their own insurance for artworks on display if they wish.
- Maintenance of Exhibition, it is the artist's responsibility to maintain the exhibition while on display. Library staff will contact the artist if the exhibition needs attention or if any damage to work is noted. Library staff will not undertake repairs of artworks.

The work will be displayed alongside an artist statement (a short biography and inspiration/background for the exhibition). There is an option to deliver an artists talk or workshop at the library.

Publicity, events & press releases will be organised jointly by the Westland District Library staff, Westland Arts Inc. and the artist on a case-by-case basis. The Library will take and upload general images of the exhibition to its webpage and may use these images on social media. Artists should discuss this with the Library when planning the exhibition.

## Selection process:

A small committee of library staff and Westland Arts Inc. members will review the applications. We aim to notify applicants no more than 2 weeks after the closing date for applications.

Selected artists are expected to display their work in a professional manner with a coherent theme. This will be discussed in greater detail at the time of application. It may be appropriate for artists to work with Westland Arts Inc. to develop or curate a professional display.

Occasionally artists or groups may be invited to exhibit.

## What's next?

Using the guidelines above complete the online [application form](#) and submit. Paper applications can be collected from and returned to Westland District Library.

If you have any questions or for more information email: [waiwestlandarts@gmail.com](mailto:waiwestlandarts@gmail.com)

Or contact: Kate Buckley 0212528361 or Janet Gawn 0274181304

