

Art in Public Spaces

year-round | various locations

What is it?

Art in Public Spaces provides local businesses and organizations with fresh artwork on a rotating basis. Paintings, photography and other works by local artists are displayed where Kamloops citizens and tourists congregate — places such as health care and transportation centers, reception areas, restaurants, coffee shops and hotel lobbies. Like similar programs in Victoria and Kelowna, Art in Public Spaces makes the Kamloops community more vibrant, showcases our local talent, enhances cultural tourism, activates public spaces, creates economic development and even promotes health and healing.

How does it work?

The ideal display space is in a secure but high-traffic area such as a public hallway, front office or lobby. The KAC will visit the site and discuss gallery display options, the types of artwork the organization wishes to display, security and frequency of rotation and any hanging / display restrictions. If the space is suitable, the KAC will begin programming the space on a 3-month to one year rotating basis. There is no charge to the organization, but they must become a KAC corporate member (\$150) for insurance purposes.

A KAC representative will help to facilitate delivery and installation of artwork. Alongside the work, visible title cards detailing the artists' names, title of the work, medium and sale price will be displayed. The organization must agree to display prominent signage stating that the artwork is a part of the Kamloops Arts Council's Art in Public Spaces program. Where or if possible, a special ceremony or opening will be planned to launch the new display area, featuring performances by local entertainers, musicians or dancers as appropriate.

All artwork displayed is for sale unless otherwise arranged. 70% of proceeds go to the artist and 30% to the KAC. All sales go through the KAC office and administration.

What are the benefits?

Displaying artwork in our everyday environments has many benefits, including:

- *Aesthetic benefits & an enhanced community* – Artwork has the power to energize public spaces, transforming the places where we live, work, and play into welcoming, beautiful environments.
- *Economic development & tourism* – The arts are a proven method for economic and community development. Public displays of art increase tourism, provide a stronger sense of place, identity and pride, and promote liveability and investment. Public art is a symbol of a city's maturity.
- *Health & healing* - According to the *Wall Street Journal*: “because of a direct link between the content of images and the brain's reaction to pain, stress, and anxiety, hospitals are considering and choosing artworks based on the evidence and giving it a higher priority than merely decoration for sterile rooms and corridors.” Families of patients, too, report art in hospitals as being a calming, grounding and centering force in the midst of chaos.



How can I get involved?

To learn how Art in Public Spaces may work for your company, contact Leah Bojey, galleries coordinator, at kacgallerycoordinator@gmail.com or 250.372.7323.

Art in Public Spaces is supported by:

City of Kamloops Arts Commission