



*Updated 5.30.23*

GIBBES MUSEUM OF ART

## Exhibitions Policy

REVIEWED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS SEPTEMBER 30, 2015  
UPDATED FOR STRATEGIC PLAN SEPTEMBER 15, 2018

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### Goals

The Gibbes Museum of Art aims to optimize our value by exhibiting the highest quality art that is transformative and intellectually complex. Our goal is to annually present an innovative series of special exhibitions and permanent collection installations of superior quality, variety, and scope. Exhibitions are designed as an experimental platform for engaging with art in new and exciting ways and challenging established interpretations. The program strives to promote creativity, introduce new art forms, provide perspective on larger community issues, encourage freedom of thought, and connect with the broadest possible audience. Our efforts are guided by four content themes established by the Gibbes 10-year Strategic Plan that touch Charleston while connecting the Gibbes to the wider world of artists and museums: (i) Conservation and the Environment, (ii) Social Justice, (iii) Health and Wellness, and (iv) Innovation.

### Scope:

The program includes thematic exhibitions and those featuring individual artists. The emphasis is American visual arts of the past and present and original research on the culture and artistic accomplishments of our region.

### Objectives:

- 1) To showcase the Gibbes permanent collection and promote understanding of its significance to the history of American art through:
  - a. Major thematic exhibitions that present new scholarship in the field of American art;
  - b. In-depth, focus exhibitions that pair objects from the permanent collection with significant loans from American art institutions.
- 2) To educate the greater Charleston community about the broader context of the American visual arts through:
  - a. Exhibitions of art collections that represent local patronage;

- b. Exhibitions featuring world-class works of art that have influenced American artists.
- 3) To advance significant Southern artists through:
- a. Bi-annual group exhibitions that present contemporary Southern artists in context of the broader visual arts field. Artists will be selected from the winners and finalists of the 1858 Prize for Contemporary Southern Art;
  - b. Exhibitions featuring an individual artist, either emerging or established, who: is included or identified for inclusion in the Gibbes permanent collection, has been named a winner or finalist of the 1858 Prize for Contemporary Southern Art, or has received national recognition for artistic creativity and skill;
  - c. In depth, scholarly exhibitions of individual established artists, living or deceased;
  - d. Introductory exhibitions featuring significant but overlooked regional artists.

Success will be evidenced by:

- a. Gaining national and international recognition for our exhibitions
  - b. Achieving recognition as a place for transformational community conversation
  - c. Reaching a younger demographic
  - d. Achieving diverse perspectives through exhibitions
  - e. Revolutionizing the way we experience art
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