



Mattawoman Creek Art Center

Framing Standards



This document establishes and communicates requirements for the presentation of two-dimensional artwork for display in exhibitions at MCAC.

The frame is as much a part of the presentation as the piece of artwork.

All pieces, regardless of framing type, must contain a securely attached hanging wire strong enough to support the artwork. Fasteners holding the hanging wire must be securely embedded in the frame and static (do not move). Sawtooth frame hangers are not acceptable.

A standard type frame is the most common way to surround a piece of artwork, but a suitable alternative may be used such as the following:

- a. A mounted canvas that wraps around all sides and is fastened in the back with the sides painted or otherwise used as part of the art.
- b. Wood lath (thin wood) strips may be securely fastened (nailed or screwed) to the canvas frame to hide the stapled canvas. The lath must be finished (painted, stained, varnished, etc.).
- c. A panel (hardboard, canvas board, wood, Masonite, plywood, etc.), if not placed in a standard frame, must be attached to a support cradle on the back, edging the piece. The edging must be finished (painted, stained, varnished, etc.).

Fragile pieces such as soft pastels, watercolor, graphite, charcoal, and photographs on paper, must be placed in a frame with glass or acrylic glazing for protection of the artwork.

Frames must be in serviceable condition:

- no loose corners, no split wood sides
- strong enough to hold the artwork and glazing, if applicable, when hung.

Framing and matting must be clean and not scratched or marred.

Two-dimensional artwork not submitted in accordance with the above standards will be disqualified from exhibition. Applicable paid fees will not be returned.

Variation from the above standards may be possible on a case-by-case basis, but **must be approved** by the Artists Advisory Committee **in advance** of any scheduled showing.

These standards are set by the Mattawoman Creek Art Center Artist Advisory Committee.

Questions may be directed to the Artist Advisory Committee chair by contacting the Art Center:

MattawomanArt@aol.com or 301-743-5159.