

FAQs on NUS Public Art Policy

For other queries, please contact **Karen Lim**, email: karenlim@nus.edu.sg, Secretariat, Public Art Committee.

A.	Documenting Public Art in the NUS Public Art Registry
A.1	Q: Where can the public art policy documents be found? A: The documents are found in the Risk Compliance section of the NUS Staff Portal.
A.2	Q: How can departments and units conduct a valuation or condition check? A: Departments and units can reach out to the PAC Secretariat for a list of valuers and conservators. Please refer to Section E. Valuation of Public Art.
A.3	Q: Should departments and units include photos of the artwork in the forms? A: Please attach photos if possible.
A.4	Q: What is the deadline for departments and units to submit Annex 5? A: Annex 5 should be submitted once the commissioned work of public art is completed and installed. Note that all artwork-related finances are borne by the department or unit that initiates the commissioning, donation, or loan of the work.
B.	Definition of Public Art
B1.	Q: Definition of Public Art for inclusion into the Registry A: *Do note that the definition used is narrow and for administrative purpose only so as to determine items that is to be included as part of the Registry's record which carries a burden of long term maintenance and financial accountability. It does not reflect the more vigorous curatorial or academic discussions on the definition of Public Art. Items not listed in the Registry, including student projects, will continue to be considered in the PAC's public communications relating to public art.
B.2	Q: Are all works of art placed in a public space to be considered? A: No. Public art refers to site-specific works of art conceptualised and commissioned for permanent installation in a specific location.
B.3	Q: Does public art include art that is on loan, say from a private collection? A: Yes. For items borrowed for display for two years or more.
B.4	Q: Would artwork intended for short-term display be considered? A: If an item is being planned for display only for a period of less than two years, it need not be included into the Registry.
C	Commissioning of Public Art
C.1	Q: Is it compulsory to consider public artwork in capital projects? A: No, it is not compulsory. However, from previous experiences, the users of the building would request for artworks after the building is completed especially for its public areas like foyers and atriums. Consideration of public art opportunities ideally occurs when projects are in the initial planning stage where renovation or major development on capital projects are considered. Identifying major opportunities at an

	early stage allows for financial planning and the possibility of good public art outcomes.
C.2	Q: Can public art on campus art be green and sustainable? A: Wherever artistic elements are introduced in the spirit of creative collaborations; this can be considered under the integrated art approach.
D.	Costs of Public Art
D.1	Q: Will commissioning and maintaining artwork be very expensive? A: If the integrated art approach is taken, costs of materials is already considered as architectural materials and no additional maintenance costs of the work are incurred beyond the normal maintenance and cleaning costs of a building.
D.2	Q: Who is responsible for insuring and maintaining the artwork? A: The department or unit that commissioned or received the loan or donation of the artwork is responsible for it. The NUS Public Art Policy was instituted to ensure that records of public art remain in the system, so that departments and units continue to look after these works. Doing so will mitigate bad publicity from having works in poor condition on public display.
D.3	Q: How do departments and units insure artwork? A: NUS has a campus-wide infrastructure insurance policy. Public art at NUS must be insured as it is University asset or as loans, an obligation to the lender. Please approach OFN to discuss insurance matters with the brokers, including the possibility of group insurance for public art pieces.
E.	Valuation of Public Art
E.1	Q: How can departments conduct a valuation of works under its care public art? A: For commissions and purchases, cost associated or incurred will determine their value (refer to OFN guidelines). For older artworks with no available payment records, valuers may be engaged to conduct valuation.
E.2	Q: How does artwork valuation fit into the SAP system, which includes a run-down/use-by date? A: When art assets are placed into the SAP system (i.e. value \$3,000 or higher), these are classed differently from other assets that depreciate. For more information on SAP class and depreciation, please approach OFN.
F.	Maintenance of Public Art
F.1	Q: How should artwork be maintained? A: Each artwork may require its own maintenance plan (from routine cleaning to treatment). Ideally, the maintenance plan is determined at the completion of a commission or purchase with advice from artist and a professional conservator. For older artworks without a maintenance plan, advice is to be sought from a conservator to create a maintenance plan.