

Five Standards for Art at the Minnesota Capitol

- **Art at the MN Capitol should create a Minnesota Capitol Experience that engages the viewer, fosters delight & promotes understanding.**
- **Art at the Minnesota Capitol Building shall tell Minnesota's stories: its land, its people, its work, its culture.**
- **All art at the Minnesota Capitol should be evaluated on its ability to add to the viewers understanding of our diverse, robust state story.**
- **New art installations and programs should build upon the allegorical and decorative art, the interior character and furnishings. Historical Art must have interpretive material to create the context and relevance to our contemporary lives and the loves of our ancestors.**
- **Art at the Minnesota Capitol must avoid becoming a hodge-podge jumble of stuff - individual works that do not collaborate with existing elements to create a strong clear story.**
 - The Minnesota Capitol, one of our nation's premier monumental buildings of the American Renaissance style sets a very high bar with its purposeful interior architectural focus that places the public at the center of all activity. That public is encouraged by Art and Space to see beyond their everyday lives to the larger ideas that create society & culture.
 - For example – To place the governor portraits again in the main public corridors would not meet this standard. Their well-developed placement in newly designated areas, could meet this standard.

These standards were developed after sitting in public meetings across the State, listening to our diverse stories at Sub-committee meetings, feed-back from Minnesotans I have met at presentations on the MN Capitol and the approximately 4,000 responses from the internet based questionnaires received by the Sub-Committee on Art.

Minnesotans are a fair people, most of whom believe that all members of the community are part of our future politically and economically. They are also invested emotionally in the State Capitol. It is a great source of pride and everyone I have met expects it shall so remain.

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by Ted Lentz, AIA –Member – the Subcommittee on Art at the Minnesota Capitol of the Minnesota Capitol Preservation Commission –

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