

Results of Consensus Polls on Possible Recommendations  
June 3, 2016

A	
1	<b>Selection process</b>
2	The Capitol Preservation Commission should embrace a vision of a more robust interpretive and exhibition program at the Minnesota State Capitol
3	Any art to be hung within the decorative painting borders of a corridor must be scaled to fit within those borders in a consistent way that does not unduly distract from the decorative painting.
4	Performing arts that can be effectively mounted in Capitol spaces without conflicting with the Capitol's primary mission should be welcomed.
5	Selection for honor via art in the Capitol should not be swayed by the politics or personalities of the day, but instead reflect stories that have stood the test of time. The passage of time and major selection tests must be passed for any event or person to be honored by inclusion in the art collection. (Policy specific to Commemorative Art)
6	Private fundraising ability shall not be a consideration in the selection of people or events to be honored in the Capitol or the type of commemoration (Policy specific to Commemorative Art)
7	Artists as well as established ones, especially given past bias in the selection of artists which gives some demographic groups more of a portfolio of accomplishment. (Even Cass Gilbert got his chance via a competition after having spent his career to that point primarily on homes and small buildings)
8	Parameters/guidelines/policies should be developed to give direction to experts in art selection and display
9	Q40. Since Minnesota has never had a shortage of very talented landscape artists, this is one area of art where some changeover in the art can be accomplished on a schedule while retaining diversity of subject matter and artist.
10	Priority for new art exhibits should be given to the new public space on the third floor.
11	Space for art from future generations must be preserved via policy so new permanent additions will be limited.
12	Other than the Governors' Portraits and some gap filling, busts, portraits or other honors of individuals should be limited via selection policies. Future art shall primarily emphasize collective historical experiences and achievements, not individuals. (Policy specific to Commemorative Art)
13	No art in the Capitol may promote a specific business or name brand product in the marketplace.
14	The current tradition of the use of the Capitol Grounds near the Veterans Building for war memorials should continue and no new war memorials shall be placed inside the Capitol. (Policy specific to Commemorative Art)

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15	All persons honored must be for their service to Minnesota specifically (not national leaders with little or no direct contribution to MN history). (Policy specific to Commemorative Art)
16	The specifics of the story to be told must guide the artist and historic accuracy shall be sought as much as possible if it is conveying a historic event.
17	New art should be in line with the tone of the building and place, honoring its historic significance.
18	New art shall be selected primarily to fill in "gaps" in the current collection as compared to the adopted vision. (permanent and rotating)
19	To the greatest extent possible, the restored Capitol should draw upon existing public holdings of art (including MHS) and other readily accessible sources to meet the principles, themes and topics
20	No more than one achievement per 20 year period, selected after 50 years have passed.
21	One history topic should be selected for every 20 year period to convey an event or force that changed MN history, its natural life, or the life of its people uniquely (vs national events). To gain the perspective of time and remove personal or political considerations, the focus of each period shall not be selected until at least 50 years have passed or at least 30 years in the case of Governors.
22	Art in the Capitol shall showcase the talents of Minnesota's high quality artists.
23	The entire Capitol collection should be reviewed to see if some fit better elsewhere in Capitol Complex.
24	MNHS should submit a proposal for an increased level of funding to accomplish more robust interpretation to be considered in the 2017 legislative session, with the support of the CPC.
25	The Cass Gilbert room should be curated by the Cass Gilbert Society.

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1	Themes
2	Cass Gilbert Room - feature stories of Minnesota design and innovation as a permanent value over time (after the opening celebration of Cass Gilbert).
3	Cass Gilbert should be appropriately and prominently recognized in a room to bear his name, with a limited display on his life and work.
4	The broad history of our state needs to go beyond 1905.
5	New art should have a connection to “what happens in the Capitol” or “because of the Capitol” or to the people and places of Minnesota. (should help visitors learn about Minnesota)
6	Major policy achievements should be told in a way that shows both ordinary Minnesotans and the role of government. For example: Missouri is proud that it was the first state to offer kindergarten to all children. It has a mural in its Capitol that shows the teacher who first advocated it in a classroom of the time surrounded by young children.
7	Whenever appropriate to the story being told, new art shall reflect the involvement of women, persons of color, persons of various ages, and other Minnesotans under-represented in the original and current collection.
8	Reflecting the diversity of the immigrants that have made MN home over time in a way that reflects that Minnesota is connected to all parts of our globe, without a narrow focus on one group or another.
9	New art added to Capitol should reflect themes or topics that would help tell “Minnesota Stories” not currently reflected in the Capitol, or that have distinguished Minnesota state government, important anniversaries, and other Minnesota themes, people, and work by Minnesotans
10	Convey the life of American Indians before the white people came and in the modern era.
11	New permanent art should be added that honors Minnesota's native peoples and their continuing presence in Minnesota.
12	The restored Minnesota Capitol should contain new (additional) permanent art that: Reflects Cass Gilbert’s vision that art be “educational and inspiring”· Genuinely reflects Minnesota’s story, from pre-settlement days to modern times· Honors Minnesota's native peoples and their continuing presence in Minnesota· Reflects Minnesota's diversity, past and present

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13	Whenever appropriate to the story being told, new art shall reflect the involvement of women, persons of color and other Minnesotans under-represented in the current collection. For the people to feel part of their government and its history, we heard in the public hearings that seeing themselves in the art is a way of welcome and inspiring engagement.
14	Art, especially in the historic corridors, should be realistic in nature and tell the story in a way that doesn't require extensive interpretation.
15	Citizen engagement should be conveyed visually. Some possible examples (not specific recommendations): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Women's suffrage. MN's leadership in granting women the right to vote in school board elections via a MN constitutional amendment in 1875. Voting over time.</li> <li>· Contacting a legislator (at a writing desk, at a computer, on an old phone, etc.).</li> <li>· Diverse people coming to the Capitol to rally and share priorities.</li> </ul>
16	Themes and topics could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Legislative history, including prominent members, landmark legislation, and other works that capture the history and events of the building.</li> <li>· Native history and pre-settlement days.</li> <li>· Contributions of Women.</li> <li>· Landscapes of Minnesota.</li> <li>· Minnesota's demographic evolution and the contributions of non-white Minnesotans.</li> <li>· Role and evolution of Minnesota commerce and industry.</li> </ul>
17	Just as Cass Gilbert placed landscapes in places of relaxation and refreshment (the House Retiring Room, the Governor and Court's small dining rooms), the new spaces for dining in the lower level and on the second floor should address the desire to have visitors see more views of Minnesota's varied landscapes.
18	Move from "Big Leader" stories to stories that tell of collective action by lots of contributors, including the public.
19	Major policy achievements should be told in a way that shows ordinary Minnesotans and role of government. (Ex. Missouri Kindergarten painting)
20	All art should tell a story.
21	Q24. An exhibit honoring the workers on the Capitol Restoration should be included as a temporary exhibit for the Opening.
22	Q37. To assure geographic balance in the various places Minnesotans live, consideration should be given to scenes from each congressional district.

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23	Q39. As the main reception room for honored guests from elsewhere in Minnesota and other parts of the world, consideration should be given to featuring landscapes of Minnesota in the anteroom to the Governor's reception room
24	There should be a Hall of MN achievement
25	Create a "memorial arch" which would be a short term (3 year) display in honor of a deceased leader.

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1	<b>Interpretation</b>
2	Native Americans portrayed in art which is displayed should include some sort of notation or description of the event that is historically accurate at each space a painting is displayed
3	The Capitol Preservation Commission should embrace a vision of a more robust interpretive and exhibition program at the Minnesota State Capitol
4	All Capitol art work should be accompanied by a more robust interpretive program that provides an opportunity for visitors that describes the art work, provides information on the artist, and places the art work in a historical context.
5	The interpretive program should:· Utilize a variety of media and techniques· Displays should be consistent with the Capitol's architecture· Enhance the educational experience· Be accessible
6	Ensure that art work depicting Native people, especially Dakota people, provides a full description of the historical events depicted in the art, the artistic interpretations, including native voices.
7	The evolution of MN history and significant events can be conveyed through the contextualized interpretation of the governor portraits and the times they served
8	For significant collections, such as Early Days in Minnesota History and the Civil War, designating specific spaces to focus on these collections (and perhaps others) would allow for more focused attention and interpretation than the current scattering of these pieces in different parts of the building.

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1	Types
2	All Minnesotans should feel more connected to our state after viewing the collection and the stories told.
3	A variety of interpretive media and techniques should be deployed to engage visitors with the Capitol's architecture, art, and stories.
4	Art at the State Capitol falls into three categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art that is a permanent part of the building's artistic program and is part of the permanent collection</li> <li>• Art that is a semi-permanent part of the building's artistic program that may rotate occasionally (every 3-5 years). This art is also part of the permanent collection.</li> <li>• Art that is temporary and on loan from other institutions or individuals.</li> </ul>
5	Visual art shall be classified as Permanent Capitol Art, Rotating State Art, and Temporary Art.
6	Additional permanent and changing exhibits on Minnesota themes should be mounted as funding permits.
7	Cast plaques are not a very engaging way to commemorate a person or event and should not be added. (Policy specific to Commemorative Art)
8	New art could include many mediums, including paint, photography, sculpture, pottery, or other visual art.
9	Permanent and semi-permanent art may be acquired over time, and include art that is: borrowed; donated; commissioned to the extent funding is available through legislative appropriations or donations
10	Temporary displays could include work by local artists, school children, public policy themed art, and constituent exhibits.
11	Topics selected should convey a MN policy change that shaped the state's future significantly, had a major impact on the lives of its citizens, or was a model for actions adopted by others throughout the nation.

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12	Consider ways art could be used to convey the interconnectedness and partnership required across the major bodies of government to make a change, starting from a citizen's perspective. Maybe an interactive experience?
13	Given limited space, there should be no more than one commemoration for a person or an event (not more than one inside the Capitol, nor one inside and one outside on the Capitol grounds). (Policy specific to Commemorative Art)