

**SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE
DISTRICT 522
BOARD POLICY MANUAL**

**POLICY
STATEMENT**

POLICY ISSUE Artistic Expression

POLICY CODE 5013

DATE ADOPTED October 18, 1995

DATE(S) REVIEWED November 2010

DATE(S) AMENDED _____

Southwestern Illinois College recognizes that faculty and students engaged in the creation and presentation of works of the visual and the performing arts are engaged in pursuing the mission of the college as much as are those who teach, write, and study in other academic disciplines. Works of the visual and performing arts are important both in their own right and because they can enhance our experience and understanding of social institutions and the human condition. Artistic expression in the classroom, studio, workshop, and on stage therefore merits the same assurance of academic freedom that is accorded to other teaching and scholarly activities. Consequently, only educational and artistic criteria are used by all who participate in the selection and presentation of artistic works at Southwestern Illinois College.

Southwestern Illinois College sanctions the principle of institutional neutrality and thus does not endorse specific artistic presentations, nor do the presentations necessarily represent the College. Correspondingly, those who present artistic work at Southwestern Illinois College should not represent themselves or their work as speaking for the College.

The Southwestern Illinois College Arts Faculty are committed to the proposition that the creation and exhibition of original works of art are integral parts of a student's education and training. Exercising their experience, expertise and professional judgment, the Arts Faculty base their selection of works to be exhibited or presented solely upon educational and artistic merit. The criteria used during the decision-making process include the principles and elements of design, sound craftsmanship, presentation, originality, and quality of content. Works of art exhibited or presented at Southwestern Illinois College under the aegis of the Instruction Division must be sanctioned by the appropriate Arts Faculty.

NOTE: The first two paragraphs of this policy statement are adapted from the 1990 A.A.U.P./A.C.E./A.G.B.U.C. statement on "Academic Freedom and Artistic Expression"