

Memo

To: Montana State Library Commission

From: Jennie Stapp, State Librarian

Date: February 20, 2021

Re: Art donation to the Montana State Library

Staff recommends that the Commission accept a donation of original artwork from George Van of Kalispell. Mr. Van is a patron of the State Library's talking book services and wishes to donate [Confluence of Josephine and Grinnell Lakes](#) by Mark Ogle to the Library in appreciation for our services. He desires that this gift be retained permanently by the State Library and that it be displayed in a public place.

The artwork was painted in 2014. With the custom frame it measures 6' x 7'.

Staff sought advice from the Montana Historical Society about the requirements to accept such a gift. As a Commission, it is within your authority to do so. Staff are prepared to draft a donor agreement that articulates the terms of the donation.

Staff suggest three options for where to hang a painting of this size:

- 1) Immediately inside the State Library entrance from the lobby of the Justice Building;
- 2) On the wall in front of the stairs at the 6th Avenue entrance; or
- 3) In the lobby of the Justice Building.

The State Library has the authority to hang artwork within the State Library. If we wish to hang artwork in the lobby, we must seek permission from the Capitol Complex Art Committee.

If not provided by Mr. Van, the State Library would need to have the painting appraised for insurance purposes. The State Library may also wish to use funds from the State Library Trust to invest in proper lighting or other similar needs. Staff do not have an estimate of these costs at this time.

