

CONSTITUTION

of WOMEN PAINTERS OF WASHINGTON

The club was organized October 6, 1930 by Founders Helen Bebb, Lily Norling Hardwick, Dorothy Dolph Jensen, Anna B. Stone, Elizabeth Warhanik and Myra Albert Wiggins. Twenty-five artists were asked to be charter members.

ARTICLE I: Name

Women Painters of Washington

ARTICLE II: Mission Statement

Women Painters of Washington empowers professional women artists to create, exhibit, and market their work while fostering art appreciation within their communities and beyond.

ARTICLE III: Membership

Section 1: Classification:

- A. Full Members
- B. Life Members: The founders were the first Life Members. The honor of Life Membership is now given in recognition of outstanding service to the organization. Requirements for consideration: a minimum of 10 years membership; nomination by another member; review of qualifications by the Life Membership Committee; approval by the Board of WPW. There is no limit on the number of members nominated in each year; however, the member(s) selected for this honor are at the discretion of the Board as recommended by the Life Membership Committee. The Life Membership Committee will make their recommendation to the Board in January. Upon the Board's decision, the Life Membership Chairman will send formal notification to the selected member. The new Life Member will be introduced at the Spring Luncheon and awarded a Life Member Certificate. Annual membership dues and committee service are optional for Life Members.
- C. Honorary Members: Honorary Membership may be given to a person rendering special services to the cause of art. They pay no dues unless they become Full Members. They may attend all meetings but have no vote or exhibiting privileges.
- D. Associate Members: Associate Membership may be allowed to members moving out of state and to former members not wishing Full (exhibiting) Membership reinstatement.

Section 2: Eligibility to Full Membership

For election to membership, a prospective member must access the WPW website, complete and submit the digital application to the New Member Committee for review and approval. The applicant must be a woman artist of professional standing residing in the state of Washington. Each artist accepted must meet the criteria described in the online application. The New Membership Committee will make the final choices regarding membership after carefully considering and screening the qualifications of the artist and the quality of the work submitted.

Section 3: Limitations:

- A. Membership in this organization will be unlimited.

- B. An applicant for membership, even though she has the qualifying credentials, may apply only once a year for membership in Women Painters of Washington.

ARTICLE IV: Officers and Their Duties

Section 1: Officers will be President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Exhibitions Chair, and Gallery Manager.

Section 2: Duties of Officers:

- A. The President will preside at all meetings of the Executive Board, at all meetings of Women Painters of Washington, and at all special meetings. She will be ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.
- B. The position of Vice President is established to perform all duties of the President should it become necessary due to death, illness or resignation. In the case of the resignation or the death of the President, the Vice President will be responsible for finding replacement volunteers for chair positions that become open throughout the year.
- C. The Recording Secretary will keep the minutes and records of each meeting of the Women Painters of Washington. The Secretary will send a copy of the minutes to the President for her information prior to the meeting date.
- D. The Treasurer will have charge of funds for Women Painters of Washington and be chairperson of the Finance Committee. She will keep accounts of all monies received and expended. She will submit a budget for the fiscal year at the February meeting for Board review and approval.
- E. The Exhibitions Chair will guide the committee that secures venues for member exhibitions, assigns show chairs, oversees and guides these projects, provides guidance in juror selection and liaison between show chairs and venues. She will regularly report to the president and the board the current activities of her committee.
- F. The Gallery Manager will guide the committee that manages the gallery and its exhibits, coordinating gallery events and selecting gallery show themes and chairs and providing oversight for the hanging and wall repair committees and building liaison appointee. She will regularly report to the president and the board the current activities of her committee.

Section 3: There will be an Executive Board consisting of the Officers and Chairpersons of the following committees: Eastern Washington Division, New Membership, Programs, Publicity, and Yearbook.

- A. The Executive Board will meet monthly from September through June to consider all current items of business and make recommendations to present to the membership at the next regular meeting for acceptance or rejection.
- B. One-half plus one member constitutes a quorum of the Executive Board.

Section 4: Election of Officers:

- A. Officers will be elected annually at the April meeting, taking office in May.

B. The Nominating Committee is appointed 60 days in advance.

BYLAWS

Article I: Place and Time of Meetings

Section 1: Place: Seattle Art Museum, homes of members or any satisfactory location.

Section 2: Time: Once a month from September through May.

Section 3: Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting is in April at which time written reports will be receivable and filed from all committees. The operating year is from June 1 to May 31.

Article II: Committees

Committees are chosen by the President. No one will be named on a committee without the person's consent.

Section 1: Exhibitions: Five Full Members, two who have worked on the committee before, preferably the previous year.

Section 2: Publicity: to cover press, radio, television and newsletters.

Section 3: Social: At least three Full Members with the Social Chairperson.

Section 4: The New Membership Committee is composed of 9-11 members who individually represent a variety of mediums and styles in their own work, collectively reflective of the artistic diversity within our organization. The committee examines the membership applications, resumes, digital images and websites submitted by the applying artists and make the final choices for acceptance based on the qualifications defined in the membership section of the Constitution.

Section 5: Programs: The Programs Chair and the elected Officers.

Section 6: Finance: Treasurer and two members appointed by the Executive Board. The duties of the committee will be:

- A) To prepare a budget for the year
- B) To submit to the organization, for approval, any extra contemplated expenditures

Section 7: Historian: Her responsibility is to keep track of secretarial records membership files, yearbooks, historical clippings, catalogs, and all information in regard to Women Painters of Washington and its members.

Section 8: Advisory Committee:

- A) Constitution
- B) Professional Policies

Section 9: Nominating: The Nominating Committee is comprised of one member appointed by the President, one by the Executive Board and one by the organization. These will be named 60 days before the election of officers. The Nominating Committee selects one candidate for each office. The Nominating Committee gives its report at the time of the election and nominations may be made from the floor, but in case only one candidate is nominated for each office, the secretary will be instructed to cast the electoral ballot for the entire slate. Members of the Nominating Committee are not barred from becoming nominees for office.

Section 10: Yearbook: The Yearbook Committee will make a roster of the membership, seeing that addresses and telephone numbers are correct; list all officers and committee chairpersons and the program of the year's activities.

Section 11: Such other committees as the President will see fit to appoint.

Article III: Dues

Section 1: The dues will be payable in September, and the amount will be voted on by recommendation of the Executive Board at April meetings.

Section 2: New Members pay an initiation fee. They will pay annual Full Membership dues in September of the year they join and every year thereafter, with the option to choose Associate Membership instead after their first year. They may enter any exhibition or gallery show during their first year even before paying September dues.

Section 3: After the first year, Full Membership dues must be paid in order to exhibit.

Section 4: Dues must be paid before the end of September. If a Member's dues are unpaid by October 15, an invoice and letter of explanation with options for retaining membership will be sent to the Member.

If dues remain unpaid by December 30, the Member will be notified that membership has been rescinded.

Section 5: Associate Members will pay 2/3 of Full Member dues.

Section 6: At the discretion of the Membership Chair and with approval from the Executive Board, individual Full or Associate Membership dues may be waived in part or in full because of hardship.

Article IV: Reinstatement

Former Members who desire Associate or Full Membership reinstatement will notify the Board of their request and may be required to pay the accrued difference in dues. The Board will make individual decisions on a case-by-case basis.

Article V: Quorum

A quorum will consist of twenty (20) Full Members.

Article VI: Exhibitions

Section 1: Work submitted for exhibitions must be:

- A) Recent (3 years)
- B) Of professional quality as to presentation and use of media
- C) Not done under instruction
- D) Within size limitations set: subject to gallery space available

Section 2: Three-dimensional work will be shown when possible.

Section 3: The organization is not responsible for loss or damage to any artwork being transported to or during an exhibition or while being stored by any member of the organization. The organization will endeavor to use the upmost care during any exhibitions.

Section 4: Members are responsible for removal of their work at the close of exhibitions.

Section 5: In order to exhibit members must be in good standing, having:

- A) paid up annual dues;
- B) attended two of the following in the year prior to exhibit deadline: monthly general meetings, board meetings, or artists' receptions at Gallery or outside juried shows; and
- C) served on a committee or as a volunteer every other year.

These requirements are optional for Life Members. New members are eligible to enter the first show after their acceptance without fulfilling the above requirements.

Section 6: Regularly scheduled WPW Gallery exhibits are generally not juried. Entries for juried and non-juried exhibits must comply with the individual show prospectus as the leading document. All WPW exhibits occurring outside of the WPW Gallery will be juried with the exception of small "neighborhood shows" (see section 12). There are usually two juried shows per year in offsite locations outside of the Seattle city limits.

- A) Members will submit the number of jpeg images specified in the prospectus (usually a min. of 2 max of 3) The content of the show will be chosen by the juror from a digital album of these images. The Annual Membership Show will include one painting from each member who has submitted more than one image (max. 3).
- B) Total number of paintings may be determined by the size of the venue and the gallery owner, which means entries will then be considered on a first-come, first-served basis.
- C) The juror will choose the award winners in person after the show is installed. Most award monies for juried exhibits are provided by the Yvonne Twining Humber Funds.

Section 7: There will be one Annual Membership Show per year. It will be the goal of the Annual Membership Show to present an exhibition of professional quality, which reflects the diversity of our group. Entries must comply with the show prospectus.

- 1. The Annual Membership Show will be open to all members in good standing (see Section 5). Total number of entries accepted by the Show Committee for submission to the juror may be limited by the size of the venue.
- 2. The show will be juried by an outside juror for content and awards. The juror will be instructed to choose one painting from each artist who has submitted more than one painting.
- 3. Work shown in previous WPW juried shows may not be submitted.

Section 8: The Exhibitions Chairperson will instruct the jury (or juror) that the rules of the organization be carried out. No other member may be present when the jury meets.

Section 9: The Exhibitions Committee has final decision regarding placement and hanging of artwork for each show unless prior arrangements have been made by gallery owner.

Section 10: A 20% commission will be collected from all sales of WPW work at venues charging 0% commission. A 10% commission will be collected on all sales completed after a WPW show closes but that were a result of the work's appearance in a show.

Section 11: Venues and jurors will be chosen and secured by the Exhibitions Chair/Committee and presented to the Board for the coming year.

Section 12. Neighborhood shows by definition usually involve 5-10 artists showing in their own "neighborhood" in a public venue frequented by a local community (i.e. library, medical center, recreation center, coffee shop etc.) These are organized by the artists involved and branded as "Women Painters of Washington." These shows are not juried but may be curated by the hosting venue or the artist who is chairing the show.

Article VII: Contracts

Whenever WPW enters into a legal agreement or contract, the President or Treasurer must sign the paperwork, with prior approval of the Board.

Latest Revisions: 2023