

WESTERN COLORADO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

NAME: The name of this organization will be Western Colorado Watercolor Society. This name shall be registered with State of Colorado. A registration fee shall be paid to maintain a non-profit corporate name. Western Colorado Watercolor Society will use WCWS as their logo.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the society will be to offer the watercolor artist a support group, encourage and nurture the novice artist, to provide programs for all to reach their full potential; to devise ways to bring fine art to the public, while maintaining high standards for the society, and to promote art in the community at large.

STRUCTURE: The society will hold meetings as the governing board designates and/or is desired by the membership. Each meeting will consist of a business meeting and a program consisting of a demonstration, lecture, slide presentation, video or critique of members' work by a guest artist. The society can sponsor paint-outs or workshops with various teachers. Members can be offered reduced price but classes will be open to others on space available basis.

MEMBERSHIP: Types of membership offered shall be active, signature, life, honorary, contributing and patron memberships. Membership in the Society will be available to any person who meets the criteria prescribed for one or more classes of membership and who pays the designated annual dues.

ACTIVE: An active member is an artist or other interested person who has joined the Society, paying the designated dues, with payments remaining current. They shall have full voting privileges and be eligible to serve on the Board of Directors.

SIGNATURE: Signature members are artists who have had artistic work accepted in at least three (3) juried WCWS National Exhibitions within a ten (10) year period. After attaining Signature status, a member who has allowed a lapse in annual dues will be given notification by the Membership chairman. If dues aren't made current within eighteen (18) months, their signature status is rescinded. To reinstate, all past dues must be paid.

MASTER SIGNATURE: Artists who have had their work accepted in at least ten (10) juried WCWS National Exhibitions and pay their annual dues. If dues aren't kept current, their signature status will be rescinded – to be reinstated, all past dues will be paid before status again given.

LIFE MEMBER: Each Signature member shall have the privilege of choosing to become a Life member. Life members will pay special one-time dues and pay no further dues thereafter. They retain signature status and privileges.

HONORARY: Honorary membership for life may be granted by the Board of Directors to anyone who has made significant contribution to WCWS. An Honorary member has all the privileges of their status as either Active or Signature membership. They will no longer be assessed yearly dues.

CONTRIBUTING: Any person interested in the promotion of watercolor and of WCWS and who has paid the designated amount for such status will be a contributing member. They can not vote or serve on the Board of Directors.

PATRON: any individual or corporate patron who has supported WCWS or the Society's functions with one hundred dollars (\$100.) or more shall be noted as a Patron member and acknowledged as such in that year's Exhibition catalog. They may not have voting privileges or serve on the Board of Directors.

DUES: Dues shall be payable to Western Colorado Watercolor Society upon acceptance into the Society. They shall be renewed each year on July 1 to keep membership status current. Dues are payable by full fiscal year only. Dues paid April – June (that is after the national show) include the following fiscal year. Any member who has allowed a lapse in dues may reapply for membership. The board of directors shall have the authority to increase or reduce dues as circumstances may require.

GOVERNING BODY: The governing body of the society shall be the Board of Directors. The board shall exercise all governing powers in accordance with the Society's by-laws. It shall have the authority to adopt, amend or modify such standard rules and regulations as it deems necessary for the appropriate management of the Society, not inconsistent with the By-Laws.

OFFICERS: Officers will consist of President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The elected officers will serve for two year terms and may not be elected more than three (3) times unless there is a lapse of at least two years before being elected again.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The executive board shall consist of all elected officers, appointed Chairpersons of Standing Committees and up to 3 members at large.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The slate of officers will be presented at one membership meeting with nominations taken from the floor. They will then be elected at the next membership meeting. The Nominating committee will consist of three members appointed by the President, with the President serving as one member.

WESTERN COLORADO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: OFFICERS

Section I PRESIDENT

The President is the Chief Executive Officer of the Society and Chairman of the Board of Directors. The President will provide leadership and act with the authority prescribed in the By-laws when directing the affairs of the Society. He/She shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees, have the authority to call meetings of the general membership and Board of Directors; preside over all meetings and appoint their agenda, and create committees as he/she deems necessary for the management of the society. The President will review the reports at the end of each fiscal year and appoint an Auditing committee at the end of each Treasurer's term of office.

Section II VICE PRESIDENT

Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in his or her absence. Shall act as the President's first assistant in all activities and have such powers and duties as the Board of Directors and President give him/her. Serve as Program and special event Chairperson, contact people for programs, and get their bios and photos of work to be used in the newsletter. He/she will serve as ex-officio member of the exhibition committee and help as needed.

Section III SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

The second Vice President shall assume all duties of the Vice President in the event of his/her absence. He/she shall assist the President and Board of Directors at their discretion. He/she will serve as the Workshop Chairperson and Juror Selection Chairperson with input from other board members. He/she will serve as overseer of wwsociety.net website and keep it current or work with other members or webmaster to do so and also monitor the website's email account, answering or forwarding emails as deemed necessary.

He/she will serve as ex-officio member on the exhibition committee.

Section IV SECRETARY

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and the general membership meetings. Minutes will be published in the next newsletter. The Secretary will handle correspondence as required by the Board and/or officers.

Section V TREASURER

The Treasurer shall have custody of all Society funds and maintain accurate and timely accounts of the Society's financial affairs and transactions. He/She shall deposit all monies and pay all debts and other obligations by check. No disbursements for WCWS business in excess of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.) shall be made except by order of the President or the Board of Directors unless it is an annual expense. The Treasurer shall prepare the financial records and have them available for Board and General Membership meetings. He/She shall have such powers as the President and Board of Directors shall assign him. The treasurer will also monitor our website email that pertain to the business of the Treasury and take care of transferring monies to WCWS bank account received through PayPal.

ARTICLE ii BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section I Members of Board

The Board of Directors shall consist of the immediate past President, the current elected officers and committee chairpersons of appointed committees. They will have such powers and duties as the President will assign them. Other members may be appointed by the President to also serve.

ARTICLE III: STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS & MEMBERS

Section I PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Vice President will serve as Program Chairperson, along with any committee members they appoint, shall have the responsibility of organizing all programs, demonstrations, critiques, lectures etc. for the general membership meetings and plan any special program opportunities under the guidance of the Board.

Section II MEMBERSHIP

The President will appoint a Membership chairperson who will accept all Membership applications and keep accurate and updated records. They shall keep Signature and Master Signature records. The Chair will keep the roster current on the website and work with the treasurer to insure all dues have been paid by listed members. Notify by mail each year for dues for current year and when Members' dues have become overdue, after the second notice or 3 months past date of renewal, delinquent members will be removed from the roster. Second notices can be sent by email. They will work with the newsletter editor to keep mailing list current. They will see that the newsletter is placed on the website.

Section VI NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter Editor shall act as Editor of the Society's newsletter and compile the publication's current items for publication. There will be a newsletter sent 7 to 10 days prior to the next meeting. The Editor will also send out notices and updates in between newsletters as requested. The Newsletter Editor will work with the Membership chairperson to keep mailing lists current.

consist of the immediate past President and up to four (4) other members of the Board of Directors. They shall act in an advisory capacity to the Officers of the Society and will have such powers and duties as the President will assign them.

Section III EXHIBITION

The President and Vice President shall appoint Chairpersons for each annual exhibition held by the Society. The Chairperson (and Co Chair if one) of the National Exhibition will serve on the Board of Directors and report to them.

Member Show Chairmen will report but not be members of the board unless serving in another capacity. The Chairperson of each exhibit will head a committee to plan and execute each step required in presenting the show. They will report to the Board of Director. Exhibition chair/co-chair will be paid as determined by the board.

Section IV PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Chairperson will be in charge of all Society news releases. Their committee will be responsible for notifying media of forthcoming WCWS events and will promote the Society. The committee should consist of members from different cities that can promote our events in their own areas.

Section V HISTORIAN

The Historian shall be responsible for keeping an accurate visual and written history of WCWS. It is his/her duty to make note of all Society events, awards and accomplishments. It is his/her duty to keep a file of Society newsletters. Newsletters posted on website are considered filed; however if older newsletters are deleted; then Historian should retain a copy of those.

Section VII HOSPITALITY

It shall be the duty of the Hospitality Chairperson to oversee all hospitality needs, select a hospitality chairperson and committee for each event. They will be in charge of arranging for and serving refreshments, having table decorations or whatever is called for at all meetings, shows and special affairs

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS OF THE ORGANIZATION

Section I GENERAL MEETINGS

General membership meetings shall be held scheduled by the Board of Directors. The location, date and time of the meetings will also be determined by the Board.

A quorum for general meetings shall be ten (10) voting members in attendance. A majority of qualified voting members present shall determine any action, motion or business brought to a vote.

Section II BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Board of Directors meetings will be called by the President as deemed necessary to conduct the business of the Society. A quorum will be 2/3 of the board members. A majority of Board members shall determine any action, motion or business brought to a vote by the members of WCWS.

ARTICLE V: EXHIBITIONS

Section I WCWS NATIONAL EXHIBITION (ROCKIES WEST NATIONAL)

a. The Society will hold one (1) National Juried Exhibition annually. This will be a juried exhibition, held at such location, on such date, and at such time as the Board of Directors may prescribe. No person designed to act as Juror may enter any artistic work for competition in the exhibition.

b. Fees: The Society shall charge a fee for any entry in the National Exhibition. Such fees shall be set by the Board of Directors. Eligible members shall benefit from reduced entry fees.

c. Awards: The Board of Directors shall determine the number and type of awards to be given in each exhibition.

d. Show Rules: The Board of Directors shall determine the requirements for the National show and direct the Show Chairperson what will be on the prospectus.

Section II OTHER EXHIBITIONS

The Board of Directors will determine what and how many shows will be held in addition to the National Show. The General Show Rules will apply to all shows unless otherwise stated in a particular show's prospectus. The Show Chair and committee can determine what fees and awards will be given and then report to the Board for approval.

ARTICLE VI: AMENDING THE BY-LAWS

The WCWS By-Laws may be amended or repealed at any General Membership Meeting of the Society, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Members present, providing a quorum is in attendance and that a written notice of the proposed amendments or repeals have been published in the newsletter and all members have had access to read them. At such General meeting, a voting member may vote by written proxy.

WESTERN COLORADO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY SHOW RULES

Western Colorado Watercolor Society will hold an annual National Exhibition which will count toward Signature membership. Other shows sponsored by WCWS will be to showcase our local membership but not count toward Signature status. Show rules posted here will apply for all shows unless otherwise stated on the Prospectus of the show being entered. All requirements listed on a show prospectus must be adhered to.

Entries for the National show will be by E-mail or online through WCWS website. Images are to be 1200 pixels on the longer side with 300 dpi. Work changed from entry image will be disqualified. After registration, no changes will be allowed including titles and prices. All artwork will be handled with utmost care; however, the society will not insure or be responsible for loss or damage. Each artist is advised to have his or her own insurance coverage. If sponsoring facility covers insurance, this will be duly noted in the prospectus.

All accepted paintings will hang for the duration of the show and must be picked up during the time set at the end of the show. A fine of \$10.00 per day will be levied for late pick-up unless artist has made previous arrangements for show committee to keep their paintings.

WCWS members will support the show by helping the show committee when requested. Some jobs include fund raising, publicity, take in, hanging, reception, sitting the show, and take down, The National Show also requires unpacking and repacking and shipping work. The National Show Chairperson/s will supervise.

Paintings must be for sale. WCWS can charge commission as well as the place of venue. Check on prospectus when pricing your paintings. Artwork sold will stay the duration of the show except in unusual circumstances. (Example: Buyer is from out of town). President in conjunction with the show committee will make that determination

All work must be original work by the artist, no reproductions, computer generated work, no class work, no copies and no using photos out of magazines or other copy- righted material. Artists should be prepared to show that the resource material is used only to spark an idea or help in expressing their own concept.

PAINTING ELIGIBILITY

All work must be water media. Accepted media are transparent watercolor, gouache, acrylic or inks that are water soluble while working. (As long as the artwork is rendered with a watercolor look and framed the same.) Accepted papers include all watercolor paper, rice papers, Yupo, illustration or watercolor board, watercolor canvas sheets (not stretched on stretcher bars.) Again must be matted and framed under glass with the look of watercolor.

Collage papers can be integrated only if artist uses white or off white papers and any color on them must be painted by the artist. Artwork must retain look of watercolor. If handmade paper is used, it will be light neutral and then painted by the artist, retaining the look of watercolor.

Work will have been executed within the last three years and not shown in previous WCWS shows. Work must be matted (White or neutral outer mats recommended) and securely framed under glass or Plexiglas unless prospectus specifies otherwise.

Any paintings larger than 54 united inches must have Plexiglas coverage. (United inches is height plus width – example: 24' x 30'=54'). Paintings must be wired for hanging. NO SAWTOOTH HANGERS! Size of paintings may be limited depending on space available. Decision will be made by the show committee and noted on the prospectus for that exhibition.

JURORS: Jurors for the National Show will be nationally known Artists and will be chosen for their ability to not only jury the show and for awards but also for their expertise in giving a Workshop. A workshop will be given in conjunction with our National Exhibition each year. Jurors for other shows will be chosen not only for their expertise but for their fairness especially if they are regional artists. WCWS may offer other workshops during the year with these jurors or other qualified artists.

Sales in the National show: If a painting sells and must be shipped – the container, the painting was received in, will be used to ship to the buyer. The artist selling will be responsible for shipping cost and redeeming the cost of their prepaid shipping label. WCWS will handle the shipping from the gallery. For paintings that were hand delivered and must be shipped; the local artist will be responsible to pack and ship to the buyer.

AWARDS: Recognition will be given with medallions or ribbons. Cash and Merchandise awards will be determined by the show committees with approval from the Board of Directors. These can be solicited from local businesses and various manufacturers, art firms, art supply catalog companies etc. Art Patrons will also be sought to give awards or purchase paintings.