

Visual Arts Association Bylaws 2020

The revised Bylaws 2020 replace prior Bylaws of 2015, 1999, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2013, and addendums A&B and 2014.

Article I Name of the Organization

The name of the organization shall be Visual Arts Association of the Villages

Article II Purpose of the Organization

The Association is a non-profit organization that fosters and encourages artistic talent and appreciation of fine art. The association shall work with other organizations having similar ideals and purposes through classes, shows and community involvement.

Article III Membership

Membership in the Association is open to all residents of The Villages upon completion of an application and payment of annual dues. The fiscal year is September 1st through August 31st. Dues shall be set annually by the Executive Board, payable in September and must be current to participate in Association membership activities.

- Membership carries full voting rights for (1) vote. Membership shall not be transferable or assignable.
- A member "in good standing" is defined as one who is current with their dues and is in compliance with the bylaws. Any applicant's membership will be subject to approval by the Executive Board.
- Any applicant who has engaged in malicious or unbecoming conduct towards another member/members (either in person, through electronic, or digital means) may be refused membership by a 2/3 majority vote of the members present of the Executive Board. Anyone refused membership under these conditions shall have dues (paid with application) refunded.
- Membership is subject to the compliance of these bylaws and may be revoked by a 2/3 majority vote of the members present of the Executive Board.

If an officer is removed from his/her office, the officer shall also terminate his/her membership. An officer may be removed from office for cause at any time by a 2/3 majority vote of the members present of the Executive Board.

Article IV Executive Board

Executive Board shall consist of the Elected Officers, Officers appointed by the president, and Active Past Presidents.

Elected Officers— shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each elected officer shall serve a term of 2 years or until a successor is elected and may succeed him or herself only once. They may be re-elected after an absence of one year.

Appointed Officers – There are 6 other members of the Executive Board, to be appointed by the President, and shall serve one-year terms.

Active Past Presidents *automatically become members of the Executive Board.*

The Executive Board shall manage the entire general affairs of The Association.

The Executive Board shall meet prior to each monthly meeting. The President may request other meetings as necessary.

A quorum of 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Board members present shall be necessary for any items that require a vote. The president does not vote unless there is a tie.

Article V Advisory Board

Advisory Board – When called upon by the Executive Board, a Board of Advisors may be appointed by the Executive Board to assist with artistic, financial and community concerns. Members of the Advisory Board may be selected from educational, municipal business and community organizations and from Visual Arts Association Members. All Advisory Board members shall be approved by the Executive Board.

Article VI Election of Officers

Election of Officers -

All elected officers shall be full time residents of The Villages, Florida.

A Nominating Committee, of 4 persons shall be appointed by the President, 5 months prior to the election.

The slate of nominees will be presented at the April General Meeting where nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

The final slate will be voted on at the May meeting. If the position has more than one candidate, there will be a paper ballot for that position. If there is only one candidate for the position, a voice vote will be accepted. The newly elected officers will begin their terms in September.

In the event an elected officer is unable to complete the term of office, the President may appoint, with the approval of 2/3 majority of the members present of the Executive Board, a replacement for the balance of the year.

Article VII Officers Job Description

President – Shall preside over all regular and special meetings of the Executive Board and the meetings of the general membership; appoint committee chairpersons and committees as specified in the Bylaws.

When an action requires a vote and there is a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

Vice-President- Shall preside in the absence of the President; and shall replace the President in case the President vacates the chair; shall serve as liaison with other arts organizations in the region.

Secretary – Shall record minutes of all proceedings at meetings of the Executive Board to include all motions and voting results. Minutes are the Legal Record of the meetings of an Organization.

The secretary is custodian of all VAA Board Approved documents.

Treasurer – Shall receive and disburse all monies with checks, maintaining appropriate and accurate records of all financial transactions of the General Fund and the Scholarship fund. Submit a monthly treasurer's report at each monthly **Executive** Board Meeting. Assist with the Executive Board approved audit on an annual basis or in the event the Treasurer is not able to complete the term of office.

Article VIII Committees

All Committee Chairpersons shall be Appointed or replaced by the President and/or the Executive Board. The membership will be asked if anyone is interested in these positions. The Chairperson shall report to the President and Executive Board.

Programs_ The Chairperson is responsible, along with a committee, for planning scheduled programs such as demonstrations, lectures, films, etc. for each monthly meeting. They will work with the Rec Center as regards to the needs of the program. All proposed programs shall be reviewed by the Executive Board at the monthly board meetings.

Hospitality _The Chairperson is responsible, along with the committee, for refreshments at monthly meetings & major functions of the Association. He or she may have a committee as large as necessary.

Membership – The Chairperson is responsible for the collection of Association Dues, maintains a membership list for the Association, and submits monies collected to the Treasurer. The Membership Chair is responsible for coordinating the printing of the Membership Manual each year.

Publicity – The Chairperson is responsible for publications, radio and television coverage for the Association Activities. This person will work with all the Committee Chairpersons to publicize their events.

Exhibits and Show Chairpersons _These positions will coordinate these events according to the rules as shown on the Web Site.

Scholarship – The Chairperson is responsible for the Scholarship Program, an on-going activity to support graduating high school students who seek a career in the arts. The Chairperson is authorized to solicit and manage funds from various sources and events, and to coordinate the school resources and other qualified individuals to select the best qualified and deserving of VAA Scholarship support. All transactions under this activity will be reported to the VAA treasurer.

Article IX Meetings

Meetings – Membership Meetings are held monthly, September through June, unless otherwise announced. Time and Location to be published in the monthly newsletter. There is a social time, meet & greet, prior to the monthly program.

The Executive Board meets prior to the regular monthly meetings, and/or at any time it becomes necessary.

Article X

Bylaw Amendments

Amendments_ These Bylaws may be amended by written notification to the membership 30 days prior to a general membership vote. Such amendments shall require a 2/3 majority vote of the members in attendance.

**Article XI
Dissolution**

Dissolution – The Visual Arts Association shall continue until the event of dissolution by its members, at which time the entire assets of The Association, together with any and all accumulations thereto, shall be distributed in accordance with the 2/3 majority vote of the then membership present to either a succeeding organization or distributed to charitable organizations.

**Article XII
Art Shows and Exhibits**

Art Shows – Art Shows are one day events for the artist to display and/or sell their original Artwork.

Art Exhibits – Exhibits are judged exhibits and recognition is awarded for winners in these Exhibits.

Details and Rules regarding the Art Shows and the Art Exhibits are on the VAA Web Site www.visualartsassociation.com

**Article XIII
Solicitations**

Solicitations – No member may use the Visual Arts Association Name in solicitations for contributions, discount, or displays, without the written approval of the Executive Board. Member misrepresentation can result in expulsion from The Association.

**Article XIV
Governance Policy**

The Visual Arts Association is proud of its traditions, success and reputation within the local art community. It believes that fairness, honesty and the respect be reflected in all its activities, and the Recreation Departments Code of Conduct be the guideline for all business and interactions by its members. This organization's Parliamentary authority is to follow Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

**Article XV
Ratification**

Ratification - These Bylaws of The Visual Arts Association are hereby adopted by certified members in the regular meeting this

Date:

Signed: (By-laws Committee and Association Officers)

President: Barbara Justice

Vice-President: Catherine Sullivan

Secretary: Marilyn Wright

Treasurer: Billie Edwards

Past-President: Nan Kohr

Amendments

In accordance with Article IX Amendments, the following Amendments were presented to the membership of the VAA, voted on and accepted by the officers and Executive Board of the VAA on the dates shown:

Amendment 1 – Articles I & III accepted on August 23, 2004

Amendment 2 – Articles XI accepted on April 19, 2006

Amendment 3 – Articles III & XI accepted on February 15, 2008

Amendment 4 – Articles IV, VI, VII & VIII accepted on November 15, 2013

Amendment 5 – Articles IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, XII, XIII, & XIV accepted October 17, 2014

Amendment 6 – All Articles, updated and accepted on October 16, 2015

Amendment 7 -- All Articles updated and accepted on February 7, 2020