

# CONSTITUTION of THE WATERCOLOR AND GRAPHIC ARTS SOCIETY OF MOBILE 2013

## ARTICLE I

### NAME

This organization shall be known as "The Watercolor and Graphic Arts Society of Mobile".

## ARTICLE II

### OBJECT

The object of this Society is to create more interest in the media of watercolor and graphic arts, and to promote finer watercolor and graphic arts exhibitions by Alabama artists.

## ARTICLE III

### GOALS

Said organization is organized exclusively for educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

## ARTICLE IV

### MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The membership shall be limited to active members. Honorary membership may be bestowed at the discretion of the membership.

Section 2. Only artists working in watercolor and graphic arts shall be eligible for membership.

## ARTICLE V

### OFFICERS AND METHOD OF ELECTING

Section 1. The officers of this Society shall consist of a president, first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

Section 2. Officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting in the spring. A majority of votes cast shall constitute an election.

## ARTICLE VI

### DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION

Upon dissolution of the organization of the Watercolor and Graphic Arts Society of Mobile, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the country in which the principal office is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as such, Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

## ARTICLE VII

### MEETINGS

There shall be an annual meeting in the spring of each year and such other meetings as the president, or two members of the board deem necessary.

## ARTICLE VIII

### AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of those members present and voting, due notice of the proposed amendment(s) having been given at a previous meeting, or at a meeting called for that purpose - notice having been sent to all members.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Membership in this Society shall be limited to active and honorary members.

Section 2. To be eligible for membership a person must be living in Mobile or vicinity at time of invitation and must be duly invited as a guest exhibitor at the Exhibition.

Section 3. Names of candidates shall be submitted in writing by two members in good standing to the Secretary eight weeks preceding the Exhibition.

Section 4. The Secretary will inform the candidates of the criteria for nomination to, and selection for, membership.

Section 5. Criteria for nomination to, and selection for, membership shall be:

1. Professional interest, as demonstrated by a one-page résumé of professional experiences mailed to the Secretary. The Secretary will distribute the resume to the active membership either before or at the reception for the Exhibition.
2. Technical ability in Aqua Media and/or Graphics, as demonstrated by two works submitted for the Exhibition. Artwork so submitted must comply with the current exhibition rules.

Section 6. A majority of the members of the Society present and voting at the reception for the Exhibition will select new members by secret ballot.

Section 7. A three-person Selection Committee, to be named by the Society President from those members not making nominations, will meet at the reception for the Nonjury Exhibition and distribute, collect, and tally the ballots from the members present and voting. The Committee will inform the President of the results in writing, who in turn will inform the Secretary, the new members, and the entire membership.

Section 8. It is an honor to be nominated, accepted, and to serve as a member of the Society. The Society will promote the highest professional and ethical standards in member artists and Society-sponsored exhibitions. Fraudulent, misrepresented, or unprofessional work will not be tolerated by the Society. Members who violate these standards may have work removed from Society exhibitions, be barred from entering Society exhibitions, or be removed from the Society, as determined by the Board.

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **ANNUAL DUES**

Section 1. Annual dues shall be reviewed yearly at the annual meeting and may be raised up to 25% for the following year with a 2/3 vote of the members present. Any amount above the 25% will require prior notice to Members, and the vote will be taken at the next meeting. Two thirds (2/3) of the members present will carry the vote. The fiscal year of the Society shall be from June 1<sup>st</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup>. Dues must be paid for the current year for a member to be eligible to show with the Society.

Section 2. Any member delinquent for two years shall be automatically dropped from the roster on due notice.

Section 3. A member who has been dropped for non-payment of dues may be reinstated by paying two years of back dues, as well as dues for the current year.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **NOMINATION, ELECTION, TERM OF OFFICE**

Section 1. Officers: All officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting. A majority of votes cast shall constitute an election.

Section 2. A Nominating Committee of three shall be appointed by the president, from the membership, one month prior to the annual meeting. This Committee shall present names of suitable candidates for office at the annual meeting.

Section 3. Any active member is eligible to hold an office provided he/she is in good standing.

Section 4. No member shall be eligible to hold more than one office or serve in the same office more than two consecutive terms of one year each, unless approved by a majority of the membership present at the election meeting.

Section 5. Vacancies occurring in office shall be filled by appointment by the president, and an officer so appointed shall serve until the end of the unexpired term.

## ARTICLE IV

### DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The president shall preside at meetings of the Society and of the Board. He/she shall, with the secretary, sign all written contracts and obligations of the Society and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the board. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee.

Section 2. First vice-president shall, in absence of the president, perform all duties of the presiding officer; and upon the resignation or removal of the president, the first vice-president shall become president, and shall hold office until the next annual meeting. The first vice-president shall be chairman of the committee for selection of the judge, or judges. Other members of this committee are the president and second vice-president.

Section 3. Second vice-president shall, in the absence of president and first vice-president, perform all duties of the president. He/She shall be chairman of exhibitions and the hanging committee.

Section 4. Secretary shall keep a roster of the Society, a clear record of all its business, shall notify members of their election, issue notices of meetings of the Society, and such other notices as may be necessary. The secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society and discharge such other duties as may be assigned him/her by the Board.

Section 5. The treasurer shall sign all checks and present a financial report at the annual meeting and at such other times as the Board may require, and collect dues and keep a record of them.

Section 6. The Secretary and the treasurer shall, respectively, have power, with the approval of the Board, to employ, at the expense of the Society, such clerical aid as may be necessary in the discharge of their duties.

Section 7. The Board shall consist of the elected officers and chairmen of the committees.

Section 8. The Board shall develop the policy of the Society's annual exhibitions, subject to the general provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws. It may adjust or modify this policy to meet the changing conditions of the exhibition field and the needs of the Society. It may institute Improvements to strengthen the quality and authority of its annual exhibitions. It may appoint a special committee from among its members and advise with other members of the Society not on the Board, to study and develop the exhibition procedure.

Section 9. The Board shall have general charge of the affairs, funds, and property of the Society. It shall be its duty to carry out the objects and purposes thereof, and to this end it may exercise all the powers of the Society, subject to the Constitution and By-Laws, and take such action as the Society may take at its business meetings, provided it shall not incur obligations exceeding one-half of the amount in the treasury without expressed sanction of the Society. The Board shall meet at such times as may be necessary for the transaction of business of the Society, and upon the call of the President or the request of two of its members. The minutes of their proceedings shall be kept in the same book with the general minutes of the Society.

## ARTICLE V

### COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees shall consist of Finance, Publicity, Gallery, and Properties, if necessary.

Section 2. The president shall from time to time appoint such special committees as may be necessary for a special duty. Among these committees shall be the Nominating Committee. An Auditing Committee consisting of three members, not holding office shall be appointed to audit the accounts of the treasurer and report at the annual meeting.

## ARTICLE VI

### ANNUAL EXHIBITIONS

Section 1. At least two exhibitions will be held annually, one of which will be juried. No picture shall be removed during exhibitions.

Section 2. Rules of the exhibitions shall be made by the Board and sent to all members.

Section 3. Only paid-up members shall be eligible to exhibit.

Section 4. Exhibit Rules and Definitions of Media:

- *Aqua Media* shall consist of watercolor, acrylic, casein, gouache, egg tempera, water-soluble crayon and pencil. Such must be on paper, or on paper mounted on board. No collage material other than original aqua media on paper executed by the artist shall be allowed. Pastel may be used, but water media must dominate.

- *Graphics* shall consist of
  1. Printmaking: Intaglio, lithography, screen prints, relief prints, and monoprints
  2. Drawing: Charcoal, pen and ink, graphite, ink wash, charcoal wash, scratch board, conté crayon, colored pencil
  3. Pastel painting
- *Diptychs or triptychs* are not allowed unless in a common frame
- *Originality*: Original work only
  1. No class work, copies, digital images, or commercial prints  
The artwork may not be a copy or likeness of another's work (i.e., painting, drawing, digital image, or print) or a published source.
  2. Photographs or other reference resources may be used only with appropriate authorization, or if demonstrated that the source is in the public domain and is not copyrighted.
- *Altered Reproductions*: All work must be done on a blank substrate. Altered reproductions, aka "paint-overs" are not allowed. These include, but are not limited to:
  1. Work done over giclées, prints, photos, or any other non-original substrate
  2. Computer (digitally generated) work, in part or in whole
- *Timeliness*: Entries must have been executed within the past two years and not exhibited in WGAS shows before.
- *Framing*: All work must be properly framed for hanging, under glass or Plexiglas. Extremely ornate frames, mats or liners of distracting textures or colors, or that which otherwise does not conform to these rules may be cause for removal from the exhibition at the judge's discretion.

Section 5. Violation of Exhibition Rules: Any artwork deemed not conforming to these rules may be denied entry into the exhibition or cause for removal by the Exhibition Committee or the Judge at their discretion. Any awards later determined to violate these rules may also be rescinded by the Exhibition Committee or the Board.

## ARTICLE VII

### QUORUM

Section 1. Active members present at a scheduled meeting for the purpose of conducting business shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. A majority shall constitute a quorum at Board meetings.

## ARTICLE VIII

"Roberts Rules of Order, Revised," shall be the authority of this society.

## ARTICLE IX

### ORDER Of BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Reading and approval of Minutes
4. Reports of Officers
5. Reports of Standing Committees
6. Reports of Special Committees
7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

## ARTICLE X

### AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided notice of the proposed amendment(s) shall have been submitted to the membership in writing at least two weeks prior to the meeting.