

## **Tallahassee Watercolor Society By-Laws**

*As amended in October 2017*

*Recreated from paper records and memory in electronic format November 2021*

### **TaWS By-Laws**

#### **ARTICLE I. NAME**

**Section 1.** The name of the organization will be the TALLAHASSEE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY (TaWS).

#### **ARTICLE II. PURPOSE**

**Section 1.** The mission of the Tallahassee Watercolor Society (TaWS) is to promote the fine art of watercolor painting in Tallahassee and its surrounding communities. We aim to foster interaction among artists, to promote art in the schools, and to enrich the local community. This will be accomplished through exhibitions, critiques, educational classes and workshops, displaying art in public places and exposing artists to current methods and materials.

**Section 2.** The Society aims to foster artistic competition by sponsoring at least one juried watercolor exhibit annually for the states of Florida, Georgia and Alabama known as the Tri-State Exhibition. This exhibit shall be juried by a member of the American Watercolor Society or the National Watercolor Society. In addition, the Society would expect to hold a juried competition annually for members only. The Member's Exhibition shall be juried by a qualified individual, not a member of TaWS.

**Section 2.** Any TaWS member who attempts to influence, intimidate and/or harass a judge, exhibitor board member or exhibition committee member can be banned from the current show and from future entry into a TaWS exhibition by vote of the Board.

#### **ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

**Section 1.** Membership is open to artists and other persons who are 18 years of age or older from Florida, Georgia and Alabama, who work in water based medium and pay annual dues.

**Section 2.** Annual dues shall be in the amount determined by the Board of Directors. Membership dues are payable January 1 and must be paid by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Nonpayment of dues terminates the membership. Delinquent members will not qualify for any member's exhibition. Unpaid members shall be dropped from the membership rolls on April 1<sup>st</sup> losing all status and privileges. Former members may rejoin at any time. However in order to reinstate Signature status, all back dues must be paid.

**Section 3.** Individuals who have been members in good standing for a minimum of one year can retain their membership status and all privileges thereof in the event that they relocate their residence out of the tri-state area of Florida, Georgia and Alabama.

**Section 4.** Membership categories:

A. "Patron Membership" is an individual/organization that has given monetary support to the TaWS organization. This category has no voting rights and its' tenure is at the discretion of the Board of TaWS. An "Associate Membership" is an individual/organization that has supported the TaWS organization with non-monetary gifts, i.e., merchandise, in-kind advertising/services, relationships, etc. This category has no voting rights and its' tenure is at the discretion of the Board of TaWS.

**Section 5.** Signature Membership

**a.** In order to become a Signature Member one must:

1. Be in good standing with association dues and or debt paid in full.

2. Have earned a total of three (3) points awarded by the following system: one (1) point per show for acceptance into the Tri-State Exhibition and half (1/2) point per show for acceptance into the Members' Exhibition. At least two (2) points must come from Tri-State acceptances.

b. Having one qualified for Signature Membership the above subsection (1) shall apply.

c. Signature Members are authorized to use "TaWS" after their signature. No other category is so authorized.

### **Section 6. Life Membership**

a. Any person who has served as a President of Tallahassee Watercolor Society two (2) years or longer will be given Life Membership in TaWS.

b. Life Membership shall be awarded to all those who have served as President for two (2) years or longer, retrospectively.

**Section 6.** Upon dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or a 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.

## **ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

### **Section 1./**

President: to conduct meetings, appoint chairpersons of committees and attend to the general business of the Society.

Vice President: to conduct meetings in the President's absence and serve as chairperson for the program committee.

Secretary: to record minutes of meetings, to handle general correspondence, and to serve a chairman of the publicity committee.

Treasurer: to conduct the financial affairs of the Society and to make regular reports to the membership.

**Section 1.1.** The term of office for each officer shall be one (1) year. An officer shall be eligible for re-election. However, the president shall not be elected to more than two (2) consecutive one-year terms.

**Section 2.** The Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) voting members. They shall include the elected officers and the one most recent past president, membership chairperson and Tri-State chairperson(s).

**Section 3.** The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members; one shall be a current Board member and two chosen from the membership. The Committee shall be appointed by the President in February and shall report the slate of officers to the members in March through the Newsletter and the general meeting in that month. The new officers will be elected at the April general meeting and installed at the May Annual Meeting. Election shall be by a majority of the members present.

**Section 4.** Chairpersons of the Tallahassee Watercolor Society's workshop committee will be allowed to participate in the workshops free of charge. There shall be no more than two chairpersons serving on the workshop committee at one time.

## **ARTICLE V. MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** The general meetings will be established by the Board of Directors and the Calenda of Events will be published in the Fall Newsletter. The calendar year will be from September through May.

**Section 2.** The Board of Directors will hold meetings as determined by the Board members.

**ARTICLE VI. BY-LAWS**

By-Laws may be changed as needed. Proposed changes must first be approved by a majority vote of Board Members. The proposed amendments must then be presented in written form 7 days before any General Meeting to the general membership. The By-Laws may be amended at any General Meeting by a majority vote of those present following notification via e-blast, newsletter or by letter.

Last revised by membership vote in October 2017.