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| bylaws |  |

# THE MARTIN ARTISANS GUILD, INC.

# BY-LAWS

The Martin Artisans Guild is a duly incorporated, not-for-profit organization incorporated in the State of Florida.

**BY-LAWS**

Adopted February 2, 2020, amended May 11, 2020, amended May 25, 2021, amended July 15, 2021, amended September 9, 2021, amended December 9, 2021, amended October 29, 2022, amended December 8, 2022

Amended February 10, 2023,

Amended May 11, 2023,

Amended August 10, 2023,

Amended September 14, 2023,

Amended November 9, 2023

# ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this organization shall be Martin Artisans Guild, Incorporated (the “Guild”).

# ARTICLE II PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization is to serve the art interests in the community, to bring artists together at frequent intervals and provide education to the community, thereby exemplifying the highest standards in the exhibition of works of art in Martin County, to nurture the production of Fine Art, increase community awareness of local artists, facilitate development and create exhibition opportunities for our members.

**Objectives**

* To promote Martin County, Florida as a center of art through the Open Studio Tour, Palm Room Art Gallery and community outreach
* To provide arts exposure and education for the Martin County community
* To develop a sense of shared community and support among artists
* To foster the concept that success for one artist benefits all artists
* To present Artists' Open Studios as a venue for purchasing art
* To help elevate and educate member artists with workshops and assistance in technology, and writing skills for entries into juried exhibits in order to enhance their professional development.

# ARTICLE III MEMBERS

Section 1. Qualifications

1. The artist members of this organization shall:
	1. Be engaged professionally in the visual arts and have training and competence in the visual arts.
	2. Must reside in Martin County, or have or share a studio in Martin County, or teach art in Martin County at least 6 months of the year.
	3. Be juried into the Guild by the Membership Jurying Committee.
	4. All members must have basic computer skills, since our business activities are all done by computer.
2. Agree to the principles of the Guild.
3. The Board of Directors may, by unanimous vote, admit to membership an exceptionally qualified talent. This artist may be brought to the attention of the Board by a board member with support material and/or information.
4. The Membership Jurying Committee is composed of the Membership Chair, one artist member of the Guild who is not a Board member, and one non-member who has art expertise. The members of the Membership Jurying Committee will remain anonymous to the general membership.
5. To be considered an “artist” for the purposes of Guild membership, the applicant must create a body of high quality, original, unique, one-of-a-kind works, either 2D or 3D, suitable for gallery display.
6. All members are required to participate in at least one exhibit per year. Members who do not meet this requirement will not be eligible to renew their membership.
7. Members who do not contribute at least 10 volunteer hours per year (or pay the Opt-Out Fee) will not be eligible to renew their membership.

Section 2. Classifications

Section 2. Classifications

The classifications of members shall be: Professional, Emerging Professional, Sustaining Professonal Member, Sustaining Emerging Member, Student Member and Friend of the Guild. All members must have an interest in and subscribe to the objectives of the Martin Artisans Guild and the qualifications and requirements of membership in the Guild. Members, based on their classification, shall have the following rights and responsibilities.

A. Professional Member (working artist)

1. Must have a professional website, Facebook page/social media presence.
2. Art resume must include professional-level juried fine art exhibitions.
3. Work must exhibit a clear understanding of the principles and techniques of excellence in their chosen medium.
4. Shall participate actively and serve on Committees.
5. Shall pay Application Fee and dues.
6. May vote, hold office, and exhibit in any exhibit.
7. Is eligible to exhibit in The Palm Room Gallery & Artisans Boutique.
8. May be required to be a member of the Arts Council and/or the Elliott Museum.

B. Emerging Professional Artist

1. Does not meet requirements of Professional Artist.

2. Clearly demonstrates ongoing and regular efforts to further his/her professional career, such as attending classes and workshops, membership in other art organizations, etc.

3. Shall serve on committees.

4. Shall pay Application Fee and dues.

5. May vote and exhibit in designated exhibitions.

1. There will be no more than 25% of the total membership accepted as Emerging Professional Artists.
2. Student Member
3. Is a student under age 21
4. Is nominated by a member of the Guild
5. Is accepted by the Board of Directors
6. Is not required to pay any dues or fees.
7. Is eligible to exhibit in the “Summer Salon” each year
8. May not vote, hold office or exhibit except in the case of a designated exhibit.
9. With permission of the sponsoring member, may exhibit at sponsoring member’s studio during the Martin County Open Studio Tour.
10. May assist with Committee duties as assigned by a Committee Chair.

D. Friends of the Guild (non-artist)

1. Shall contribute to the financial support of the organization.

2. May not vote (except if a member of the Board of Directors), hold office or exhibit.

3. May be a member of the Board of Directors.

1. Levels of Friends memberships:
	1. Friend of the Guild - $50/yr
	2. Contributor to the Guild - $100/yr
	3. Sponsor of the Guild - $200/yr
	4. Patron of the Guild - $500/yr
	5. Benefactor of the Guild - $1,000/yr

Section 3. Good Standing

A member in good standing is one whose current dues are paid and who complies with the provisions set forth in these bylaws.

Section 4. Resignation, Removal and Reinstatement

1. Resignation

Any member whose dues are not in arrears may resign in good standing.

1. Removal
2. Membership will be terminated on April 1 for non-payment of dues.
3. Membership may be terminated at any time by the Board of Directors for failure to comply with requirements such as entry rules and deadlines, etc.  There will be two warnings prior to termination upon the third failure to comply.
4. Reinstatement

A past member must apply as a new member.

# ARTICLE IV

**OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 1. Officers

1. The officers shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
2. Officers shall be elected by the membership at the Annual Membership Meeting.
3. Officers may hold more than one position.
4. An elected Officer should take over one of the more demanding roles within the Guild.
5. Officers may not serve for more than four years.

Section 2. Board of Directors

1. The Board of Directors shall include the Officers listed above and other appointed members of the Guild and may include interested non-members or Friends of the Guild.
2. For a member to be eligible for the Board, they must be serving as a Committee Chair or other demanding position in order to have a good understanding of the operations of the Guild.
3. Board members are not required to be members of the organization but should have an interest in the purpose and objectives of the organization and in the arts community.
4. Officers shall appoint other members of the Board.

# ARTICLE V

# MEETINGS

Section 1. Communication

Electronic communication shall be allowed.

Section 2. Annual Meetings

1. There shall be a Membership Meeting held annually in March.
2. The purpose of the meeting shall be to receive reports and transact business which may properly come before the membership and to elect officers for the coming year if there are vacancies.

Section 3. Monthly Meetings

1. Monthly meetings of the Guild will be conducted by the President.
2. Agenda and programs for the monthly meeting will be arranged by the Programming Committee and the Officers.

Section 4. Meetings of the Board of Directors and Officers

1. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be called by the President or any Board member.
2. The Board of Directors shall meet prior to and following each annual membership meeting and at the call of the President.
3. The Board of Directors may conduct business by any means currently available including electronically. Minutes of such business shall be taken.
4. Officers and Committee Chairs shall meet monthly.

**ARTICLE VI**

**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

Section 1. Elections

A. Elections will be held at the Annual Membership Meeting.

1. Nominations may be made from the floor.
2. Members may (and are expected to) volunteer as nominees.
3. Nominees must have given prior consent, before the Membership Meeting.
4. Voting will take place at the meeting by members present.

# ARTICLE VII

**FEES, DUES AND FINANCE**

Section 1. Application Fee

1. Application fee is due and payable with the application.
2. Application fee is the same amount for all membership categories where dues are required.
3. New member dues for the first year are due and payable upon notification of acceptance.

Section 2. Dues

1. Dues are due and payable on April 1 for all renewing members.
2. Dues are delinquent May 1st of the same year.
3. Membership shall be terminated on May 1 for non-payment of dues.
4. All fees and dues will be determined by the Board of Directors.

# ARTICLE VIII

# COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees

1. There shall be the following Committees: Marketing, Membership, MCOST, Volunteer, Fundraising, Exhibits, Events, and Distribution. The Board of Directors may add, change or remove Committees as it deems necessary and appropriate at any time.
2. The chairs of these committees shall be confirmed by the Board of Directors.
3. The committee members shall be appointed by the Committee Chair or may volunteer. The Committee Chair reserves the right to decide which members should be on their committee.
4. Chairs of Committees and all other appointees may be removed or replaced by the Board of Directors without cause.

Section 2. All Committees

1. The Committee Chairs shall notify the President of all meetings and provide the President with a record of any official action taken.
2. Committees may conduct business by any means currently available.
3. A committee report shall be submitted to the Secretary prior to each Officers’ Meeting and the Annual Meeting. Committee Chairs may be asked to attend the Officers’ Meeting.
4. Additional Committees may be appointed by the President.

# ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS

Section 1. Amendments

These by-laws shall be amended at any timeby the Board of Directors by a majority of members present and voting. Members may propose amendments prior to the Annual Meeting. These proposed amendments shall be published to the members prior to the Annual Meeting and voted on at the Meeting. Publication of the proposed amendment may be by any means currently available, including electronically.

# ARTICLE XV TAX-EXEMPT STATUS

1. The Martin Artisans Guild, Inc. is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
2. Martin Artisans Guild, Inc. shall not promote any fundraising which violates Federal, State or local tax law that pertains to tax exempt organizations or interpretations thereof.
3. To protect tax exempt status Martin Artisans Guild, Inc. shall not engage in political activities of any kind nor contribute funds to other organizations or persons except in connection with exhibitions, awards, programs and/or meetings.

**ARTICLE XVI**

**DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION**

If the Martin Artisans Guild is dissolved, all outstanding debts shall be paid and any remaining funds shall be donated to The Arts Foundation for Martin County.