

# Member Status Levels

Effective June 13, 2016



SOCIETY OF WESTERN  
CANADIAN ARTISTS



# MEMBER STATUS LEVELS with the SOCIETY OF WESTERN CANADIAN ARTISTS

## Member Status Levels in the Society

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There are four member status levels in the Society of Western Canadian Artists. These are:

### **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LEVEL**

*Non-Juried.* Entry level. May submit work for critiques and participate in workshops. Has voting privileges at member meetings. May volunteer for most positions.

### **EXHIBITING STATUS LEVEL**

*Juried.* Member is an emerging artist whose work could be accepted in shows or exhibitions. Members may enter SWCA competitions. May volunteer for most positions.

Active volunteerism in SWCA required at this status level in order to advance to the Associate status level.

### **ASSOCIATE STATUS LEVEL**

*Juried.* Member consistently shows an above-average proficiency in their work. Shows good understanding of composition and technique, and is developing some artistic continuity in their work (ie. theme, style). Has developed a CV and artist bio. Beginning to receive ongoing recognition for their work from peers, professionals and/or public. Required to attend the next available Juror's Workshop after achieving status and, when called upon, to jury members into Exhibiting or Associate levels. May have opportunity to present critiques. May volunteer for ALL positions.

Active volunteerism in at least one SWCA Committee is required at the Associate status level in order to advance to the Signature status level.

### **SIGNATURE STATUS LEVEL**

*Juried.* Member shows a high quality of artistic ability and his/her work should be of a professional standard and receive acknowledgement of professional status. Shows excellent understanding of composition and medium technique, and has developed a definitive personal style that is recognizable. Receiving significant recognition for their work from peers, professionals and/or public. When called upon, is responsible to jury members into Exhibiting, Associate and Signature status levels. May have opportunities to present workshops to members and be paid by SWCA. May volunteer for ALL positions.

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**Levels of status reflect increasing artistic competence. A member must apply for and proceed through each status level, regardless of artistic qualifications or merit. A member cannot skip a status level. To apply for higher status levels, please review the following guidelines.**

## Application for Status Change Process

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The jury process is available in an onsite format or an online format. A jury will be held at least once a year or as needed. Instructions and jury dates will be provided by the Standards Committee.

### Submissions for EXHIBITING status level

Member must submit five (5) pieces of artwork completed within the past four (4) years.

### Submissions for ASSOCIATE status level

Member must submit a curriculum vitae (CV), biography and six (6) pieces of artwork completed within the past three (3) years, plus a record of volunteerism in SWCA.

### Submissions for SIGNATURE status level

For an ONSITE jury process, a member must submit a curriculum vitae (CV), biography, artist statement and six (6) pieces of artwork completed within the past two (2) years, plus a record of Committee volunteerism in SWCA.

For the ONLINE jury process only (when available), a member must submit six (6) pieces of artwork, two (2) of which will also require an onsite jury process. In addition, the member must also include four (4) additional digital portfolio pieces that will not be juried but will be used to indicate continuity of style. A curriculum vitae (CV), biography, and artist statement are also to be submitted online, plus a record of Committee volunteerism in SWCA.

It is recommended that members use the ONSITE jurying process to attain Signature status level because digital photos will often not fully represent your artwork.

## Criteria for Artwork Submissions

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### FRAMING AND MATERIALS FOR ONSITE JURYING

Artwork submissions may be framed or unframed. Please review *Framing and Material Standards* in *Exhibition Standards*. Framing is encouraged for best presentation, but if the work is not framed or not on stretched canvas, it must be accompanied by some form of support so that it can stand upright (e.g., with a mat, or clipped to foam core or masonite board).

### REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE SUBMISSIONS

Only high resolution digital jpeg images will be accepted (approximately 2 to 5 MB in size). Images must be in focus, front facing with no distortion, and cropped to the edge of the artwork. The Standards Committee or the jury may determine that, in the best interest of an applicant, the jury process should be best done onsite.



## **MEDIUM**

Artwork submissions in your application may be in all one medium or in a variety of mediums.

## **ORIGINALITY AND COPYRIGHT**

Submissions must be original works and cannot have been executed with assistance, such as in a workshop or class. They cannot have been copied or plagiarized from images, photographs or artwork created by someone else. Infringement of copyright is unlawful and strictly forbidden.

## **Curriculum Vitae (CV)**

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When applying for Associate and Signature status level change, a CV should be included with your application form. The information in the CV could include such information as:

*Name (required)*

*Address (required)*

*Phone (required)*

*Email (required if you wish notification through email)*

*Education / Workshops*

*Scholarships / Awards*

*Selected Shows / Exhibitions*

*Art-related Experience*

*Donations / Collections*

*Publications*

*Memberships*

## **Biography**

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When applying for Associate and Signature status level, a biography should be included with your application form. For the purpose of this application, a biography is defined as a short document about the member's artistic journey in life.

## **Artist Statement**

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When applying for Signature status level, an Artist Statement should be included with your application form. An Artist Statement usually accompanies a show or body of work that follows a consistent theme or style. It is a short document that explains the artist's reasons for creating the work they have presented.

## **Evaluation and Scoring**

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An increasing artistic level of competency and consistency of style will be expected for each status level. A scale of 1 point (poor) to 11 points (outstanding) will be used to create a subtotal score for each painting. The subtotal scores are then added to create a final total score.



## EXHIBITING

To attain Exhibiting status level, the final total score calculated from the subtotal scores of all for five paintings must total 100 points or more.

## ASSOCIATE

To attain Associate status level, the final score calculated from the subtotal scores for all six (6) paintings must total 220 points or more. The combined jurors' average score for an individual painting may not score below 30 points. The average score for all six pieces must be 37 points or higher.

## SIGNATURE

To attain Signature status level, a minimum SCORE of 30 points is required for each painting, the final score calculated from the subtotal scores for all six (6) paintings must total 270 points or more. The combined jurors' average score for an individual painting may not score below 30 points. The average score for all six pieces must be 45 points or higher.

## Notification

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The jury's decision is final. You will be notified of the decision by mail or email. Scoring details can be obtained by contacting the Standards Committee.

If you do not achieve the status you applied for, we encourage you to try again. For feedback or help, you are invited to bring your paintings to scheduled critiques, or to attend workshops.

## Jurors' Workshops

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To ensure consistency in the jurying process, once the member attains Associate status level, he/she is **required** to attend the next available Juror's Workshop. The member must take the workshop before they will be asked to participate in a jury. Jury involvement is not an option in the Associate and Signature status levels, and members in these two levels are expected to participate if and when called upon.

