



GENERAL EXHIBITION SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

ELIGIBILITY

All members in good standing of the Vermont Watercolor Society (VWS) are eligible to submit original works of art for exhibition, including all open shows and those for jury consideration. Special exhibitions might showcase works by signature members or artists in a specific region, as well as feature works by members responding to designated themes or topics. All works of art must be available for sale, with the exception of rare retrospective exhibitions, other special exhibits, or gallery preference.

ORIGINAL WORKS OF ART

Only original works of art qualify for submission and inclusion in VWS exhibitions. Original works of art in watercolor excludes laser prints, computer generated art and giclee prints of such art.

ACCEPTABLE MEDIA & SURFACE

The Vermont Watercolor Society supports the medium of watercolor and embraces technological advancements that further watercolor expression. Acceptable water soluble media includes the following: watercolors (e.g. tubes, cakes, pencils, sticks, watercolor crayons), gouache or water-based ink along with the traditional use of non-water-soluble sketching media such as graphite, ink or charcoal. No more than 20% of non-water soluble material is allowed and must be used in conjunction with the acceptable water media.

The VWS excludes all other media that do not remain water soluble when dry, including water soluble oils, acrylics, casein, pastels, oils, computer generated art and photographs.

SURFACE

The VWS accepts original, two-dimensional artwork, created on any surface that can be presented to professional standard. Acceptable surfaces include, but are not limited to: paper (treated, synthetic, paper mounted on board, and natural paper), clay board, watercolor canvas or any other surface that supports the accepted water soluble media. Textured surfaces and collage (water-based, on or of paper) are acceptable if, in the latter case, all elements must be created by the artist in accepted water media (pre-printed materials such as magazine clippings, photographs, etc. are excluded).

FRAME

Works of art should be framed to highlight the artwork, and therefore, we suggest that frames be plain and simple, and professionally presented. Artworks must be protected by glass, plexiglass or finished with varnish and/or other protective coating or fixative. Frames must be sturdy, in excellent condition and must be of professional quality. They must have picture wire attached to the back from which to hang the painting.

The following are not acceptable for VWS shows: No saw tooth hangers or clip frames, no glass edges may be exposed, no table top frames, no damaged frames or frames that are disjointed at the corners, no duct tape, masking tape or other non-professional looking materials used on the back of frames, no sloppy construction as seen from front or back.

Mats: Single or top mat will be white or off-white and acid free. If an inner mat is used, it may be any color. Filets may be used.

We continually update our rules to ensure that we maintain the best balance between unity and the inclusion of new technological advances that further two dimensional watercolor expression, and meet the unique requests of our hosting venue.

SIZE

Generally, there are no size limitations. However, please see show specific requirements.

SPECIAL SHOW-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

On occasion, hosting gallery requirements and other circumstances may over-ride the above standards and guidelines. Please be sure to review the specific event and exhibition details on the web-site to determine the presence of any special show-specific requirements.

ENTRY SUBMISSION AND FEES

Entries will be submitted in digital form via an online entry program. A link to the online entry program will be posted on the VWS website for juried shows. **Digital entries must be in JPEG format with a resolution of 300 dpi. Image size should be no larger than 6 inches on the longest side.** The image must be oriented correctly, vertically or horizontally, and show only the image – not the frame or mat. No digital enhancement is allowed. **The JPEG file must include last name and the title of the painting** (i.e.: Smith-Vermont Sunset).

Juried exhibitions require a submission and/or entry fee. Any applicable entry fee will be payable to the VWS using the online entry program at the time of submission. All entries must be submitted no later than the listed deadline for each exhibition. Changes may not be made in submission after juried acceptance. Exhibits may allow more than one entry. Artists can submit up to the maximum number of entries allowed for the particular exhibit. The results of all juries will be posted on the website.

Be sure to review the prospectus for the specific event and exhibition details for any special show-specific requirements.

DIRECT METHOD

Some venues might require that paintings be delivered for jury or inclusion in a show using the direct, hands-on method. Delivery dates and times will be specified in the prospectus details for each exhibit. For work not juried in by the direct method, pick up dates and times will also be specified. These delivery and pick up dates **must** be strictly observed. Members are encouraged to coordinate with other regional members to rotate drop off and pick up duties. Contact the current Co-Directors of Exhibitions for any clarification. Do NOT contact the gallery.

EXHIBITION PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS

All paintings become subject to the procedures and regulations of the VWS Exhibition Prospectus upon receipt for exhibition at the specific venue or delivery site. No painting received for exhibition may be removed for any reason prior to the end of the exhibition. Paintings can be picked up only during the pick-up time frame after the end of the show.

LIABILITY

All artists whose work is selected or accepted for exhibition are responsible for the delivery and pick up of artwork within specified time frames and deadlines. Once artwork are received, the utmost care will be taken in handling them by VWS members, jurors and/or other exhibit representatives, and therefore, will not be responsible for damage or loss, whatever the cause. As such, all artists release VWS, jurors, galleries, and all other exhibit representatives from all liability with respect to loss or damage to the artist's works of art. It is suggested that artists should carry their own insurance, in proper limits. **Submitting a work of art to a VWS sponsored exhibit shall constitute an agreement on the part of the artist to comply fully with the conditions and terms set forth in the Prospectus.**

SALES

All works of art must be available for sale, with the exception of rare retrospective exhibitions, other special exhibits, or gallery preference. Most host galleries and venues take a commission on sales. The specific percentage will be announced in the details of events, and will be reduced from the artist's sale price. The artist will be paid for sold artwork (minus the commission rate) directly by the host gallery or by VWS.

SIGNATURE MEMBERSHIP

Any member artist can achieve "Signature Member" status after having successfully had 3 separate pieces of art accepted and shown in 3 different VWS juried exhibitions within a period of 5 years. Artwork accepted into open exhibitions does not contribute toward an artist's achievement of signature membership. Achieving Signature Membership offers the member the privilege of signing their paintings with the VWS acronym. A member retains their signature membership, once achieved, as long as they remain a current member in good standing. However, Signature Members are encouraged to continually produce new and original paintings, and regularly participate in shows.

AWARDS

The Board of Directors is working to develop and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with sponsoring partners. One outcome of these efforts is the growth in the number and size of awards to recognize distinguished works of art. In addition to sponsored awards, the Board is also accepting donations from members and raising funds to support a VWS award to recognize an exceptional painting in a juried exhibit.

JURY PROCESS (EXHIBITIONS/AWARDS)

The Co-Directors of Exhibitions or the host gallery representative will identify and designate individual(s) with expertise as watercolorists, artists, exhibitions, fine arts, or other relevant background to serve as jurors for the VWS juried exhibitions. These individuals will review all entries based on quality criteria, fulfillment of entry guidelines, and any limiting parameters (available space, quality of work submitted, etc.). They will select the best pieces of work and determine which works are successfully "juried in" to the VWS exhibition. Accepted works will be announced within a few days of the jury process. **All decisions of the juror are final.** By submitting entries, all artists agree to accept the juror's decision as final. Artists are encouraged to continually produce new and original paintings for every show entered.