

# VIENNA ARTS SOCIETY MEMBERS HANDBOOK

REV. 12/7/2019

## ABOUT THE VIENNA ARTS SOCIETY (VAS)

Vienna Arts Society, Inc. began as a volunteer membership organization in 1969. It was incorporated in October 1975 as a nonprofit organization under the IRS regulation 501(c)(3).

The **VAS Art Center** is located at 243 Church Street, NW, Suite 100 LL, Vienna, VA 22180 (in the lower level of the Windover Professional Building). The Art Center displays original artwork that rotates regularly in themed shows. The Art Center also has a gift shop that displays small handmade items including jewelry, cards, textiles, ceramics, giclees, carvings, and sculptures. VAS charges a 25% commission on sales and sitting time is required when art is displayed at the art center or at other regular venues. Classes for children and adults, demonstrations, and workshops are offered at the Art Center. Artists, individuals, and community groups may rent the Art Center for meetings, shows, classes, exhibits, or special occasions. The Art Center's hours are Tuesday - Saturday, 10AM-4PM.

Please call (703) 319-3971 for more information, or email [artcenter@viennaartsociety.org](mailto:artcenter@viennaartsociety.org)

The VAS also maintains the **VAS Gallery**, an exhibit venue located at the Village Green Shopping Center, 513 Maple Avenue, W, Vienna, VA 22180 (at the intersection of Nutley Street and Maple Avenue). Members who hang original works of art in this venue are required to volunteer to sit in shifts as determined monthly by the gallery participants. Hours of operation are Tuesday - Saturday, 10AM-4PM. In general, shows are two months in length and participation requires signing up for three hours of sitting at the Gallery per month. In addition, artists dedicate a Sunday afternoon to help hang each Gallery exchange. After participating in four shows the artist may sign up to be a featured artist. Please contact Gallery Director Ruth Ensley ([rensleyart@verizon.net](mailto:rensleyart@verizon.net)) for show and sitting schedules as well as for further information.

### **Statement of Purpose**

The purposes of Vienna Arts Society (VAS) are to bring together area artists to share interests, enrich their own experiences in art, and make creative contributions to the

community. Members are encouraged to broaden their interests in all areas of art through workshops, demonstrations, lectures, and classes that are held at the VAS Art Center.

## **Meetings**

Monthly meetings and demos are held on the second Thursday of the month at the VAS Art Center. All meetings are open to members and the general public and include a demonstration and/or illustrated talk.

## **News Sources**

Current information on VAS activities can be found:

- on the VAS' website, [www.viennaartsociety.org](http://www.viennaartsociety.org)
- in weekly email newsletter to members
- in VAS Facebook postings at <https://www.facebook.com/viennaartsociety>

The Art Center Director can be reached at 703-319-3971 for additional information.

## **Membership Privileges**

- a place to share your passion for art
- personal enrichment of your art experience
- a chance to make creative contributions to the community
- free participation in the VAS Gallery, VAS Art Center, and Continuing Shows displays
- a gallery page on ViennaArtsSociety.org website
- reduced fees for judged and/or juried exhibitions
- free monthly demonstrations
- weekly online Mini-newsletters (E-Blasts)
- a quarterly newsletter
- a directory of members

## **Community Activities**

The Vienna Arts Society is committed to making positive contributions to the community. Some activities have included the "Take A Seat Vienna" painted benches project, hosting a Children's Printmaking Workshop at Patrick Henry Library; Vienna Business Association events; the American Legion; FCPS art awards and High School

scholarship; supporting local charities like CHO's (Community Helping Others) food drive and working with troops on the mend at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital.

## **Exhibitions and Shows**

Vienna Arts Society holds two judged shows each year, and may periodically hold juried shows.

**“Judged”** – all artworks entered are displayed and a judge selects winners.

**“Juried”** - all artworks submitted are reviewed by a judge, who selects the show (accepts or rejects the artwork submitted) and then selects winners.

Annual VAS **judged** exhibitions:

- Photography Show open to all held in August
- Members-only Show held Dec-Feb at Green Spring Gardens in Alexandria, Virginia

Non-judged bi-monthly exhibitions and shows are held at the VAS Art Center, the VAS Gallery, and at Continuing Shows at various locations throughout the greater Vienna area. Sales at all venues include a 25% commission to VAS and sitting time is required. If you sell your artwork within 60 days after participating in any exhibition or show, it is your obligation to mail a check for the 25% commission to the VAS Treasurer.

## **Contacts**

VAS Art Center Director- Lu Cousins (703) 319-3971

VAS Gallery Chair- Deborah Schneider

## **Continuing Shows**

*Vienna Community Center*  
120 Cherry Street, SE, Vienna, VA 22180

*Ameriprise Financial*  
1950 Gallows Road, Suite 420, Vienna, VA 22182

L'Image Salon

3079 Nutley St., Pan Am Shopping Center, Vienna, VA 22031

VAS Gallery

Village Green Shopping Center  
513 Maple Avenue W., Vienna, VA 22180

Patrick Henry Library

101 Maple Avenue E., Vienna, VA 22180

**Steps for Entering VAS Continuing Shows**

1. Sign up to sit at the VAS Art Center for a three-hour shift each month that your artwork is on display at the Art Center, and another shift if your work is also displayed at any other VAS venue (maximum 6 hours per month)
2. Follow instructions found under “Exhibition Guidelines” for artwork.
3. Check the Continuing Show schedule on the website and E-Blast for:
  - a) Venue locations
  - b) Hanging date and time for each location
  - c) Show Chair contact information
4. Contact the Show Chairs before the hanging date to pre-register and to provide the Title, Media and Price of each piece.
5. Deliver your artwork to the Show location at the date and time specified.
6. At delivery time, read the Show Entry Agreement Form that specifies the requirements for entering your art into the Show. Signing it means you agree to the requirements. Fill in your Name, Title, Media, and Price of each piece. Be aware of pick up times. When picking up artwork, initial the sign-in sheet to indicate retrieval.
7. Be sure to sign up to sit at the Art Center using VAS’ online SignUp. The SignUp calendar is located on the website under the Member Corner (click on VAS Calendar).
8. As artwork is sold, it is removed from the Show. If your work is sold, a Show Chair will call to make arrangements for a replacement.

9. Pick up your unsold paintings at the next show change. If you cannot be there, make arrangements with a friend or other member to pick up your artwork, and advise the Show Chair. There is a \$10 fee for uncollected artwork, and VAS cannot guarantee against any damage if the work must be transported to and stored at the Art Center.

### **Classes and Workshops**

A variety of classes, workshops, critiques and paint-ins are organized each year to meet the interests of beginning, intermediate, and advanced artists of all ages in a wide variety of media and styles.

### **EXHIBITION GUIDELINES**

All art must be the artist's original work. Acceptable media include: Oil, Watercolor, Acrylic, Collage, Mixed Media, Pastel, Drawing, Hand-pulled Prints, Photography, Etc. and Sculpture of size and weight easily handled by one person. Each show may establish specific size/weight guidelines.

Photography entries must be in the edition of one and can include: Traditional, Digital, and Innovative.

*The following are not eligible:* Work accepted in previous VAS juried shows. Work depicting nudes, violence, weapons, drugs or drug-related items. Works unsuitably framed. (Frames must be secure, and gallery-wrapped canvases should be painted on all sides and must have framing wire securely attached.) SAWTOOTH HANGERS are not acceptable hangers for either frames or canvases.

### **Criteria for Display**

Mats must be acid-free board, clean and well cut. Tape used to secure work and backing board also must be acid-free material. Glazing must be glass or Plexiglas and free of cracks and scratches. Entries must be dry and ready for display. Entries consisting of multiple pieces will be considered multiple entries. No piece can be over 2304 square inches (approx. 48X48), including frame. Any oversized art may be accepted on a case-by-case basis at the sole discretion of the Show Chair. Sculptor must provide floor pedestal for display if needed.

### **Bin Pieces**

All registered artists may bring original, matted, unframed pieces for sale for the bins. Mats must be clean and well-cut. All bin pieces must be neatly and securely shrink-wrapped in professional clear art bags. Reproductions and giclees, which must be marked as such, may be submitted for bins. Maximum size 22" x 28" (616 sq. in.). Reproduction pieces in bins cannot be a copy of an original that is hanging at the same time in any VAS location. All bin pieces must be clearly labeled with the artist's name, title of the work, medium and price. This information must also be listed on one 3"x5" card per artist and turned in to the person in charge of the exhibition.

## ART CENTER/GALLERY SITTING & VOLUNTEER HOURS

The Vienna Arts Society is a volunteer membership organization. Each member is expected to volunteer to sit at the **VAS Art Center** or **VAS Gallery** and/or contribute time to VAS Continuing Shows, special exhibitions, events, and/or administrative functions.

In order to ensure that the **Vienna Art Center** is open to the public during regular hours, members who are exhibiting artworks at the Art Center must agree to devote one three-hour session sitting at the Vienna Art Center during any month their work is on display. In addition, if a member is displaying at any other VAS venues (no matter how many) they must sit one additional 3 hours at the Art Center\* during each month their work is only display. (\*If displaying at the VAS Gallery, then sitting would be done at the Gallery, not the Art Center – see additional \* note below). **The maximum sitting requirement is 6 hours per month.**

Paid-entry shows, such as the annual Green Spring Gardens show, are exempt from the above sitting requirements, as each will have their own volunteering requirements.

Members must use VAS' online SignUp system to sign up for dates for sitting. The SignUp calendar is located on the website under the Member Corner/VAS Calendar link.

Executive Board members, Show Chairs, and others designated by the Executive Board who donate extensive time to working on special projects during a month are not required to sit that month. Those members are encouraged to add their name to an "on call" list to cover unfilled slots. This allows Lu Cousins, the Art Center Director, to send out a call for help during times the Art Center would otherwise have to be closed.

Members who have not fulfilled their volunteer hours will not be allowed hang their work at any location until they do.

These rules and procedures are displayed at all venues during show changes and included in new member orientation sessions.

\*The **VAS Gallery** policy: Participating artists may hang two paintings no larger than 40” or up to four paintings if the sizes do not exceed 14”. The shows are two months in length and participation requires signing up for three hours of sitting at the Gallery per month. After participating in four shows the artist may sign up to be a featured artist and must sign up for two sittings per month at the Gallery for the duration of their show. Each featured artist may hang multiple paintings. The number of paintings to be displayed depends on the size of the paintings and the space available for each show; one painting can be displayed at the Art Center. In addition, artists dedicate a Sunday afternoon to help hang each Gallery exchange.

## **VAS ELECTED OFFICERS, ADVISORY BOARD, AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

### **ELECTED OFFICERS of the EXECUTIVE BOARD**

President – Ruth Ensley  
Vice President – Jodi Condes  
Secretary – Susan Tilton  
Treasurer – Richard Neff

### **APPOINTED EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

VAS Arts Center Director: Lu Cousins  
VAS Gallery Director: Ruth Ensley  
Community Liaison Chair: Mary Ellen Larkins  
Communications Committee Chair: Dore’ Skidmore  
Continuing Shows Chair: Grace Rooney  
Fundraising Chair: Hayden Luczka  
Hospitality Committee Chair: Grace Rooney  
Membership/Directory Chair: Sheeler Kowalewski  
Programs Chair: Alice Nodine  
Workshops/Classes Chair: Noreen Brunini  
State Agent for Corporation: Sue Tilton

## **VIENNA ARTS SOCIETY ADVISORY BOARD**

The VAS has an Advisory Board of artist members and Vienna community leaders. The Advisory Board meets twice a year.

2019-2020 President of Advisory Board – Hayden Luczka  
2019-2020 Virginia Registered Agent - Susan Tilton

## **PAST AND PRESENT VAS PRESIDENTS**

1969 Valerie Elmore  
1970 Sue Haitt  
1971 Treena Rinaldi  
1972 Marie Straw  
1973 Fran Goodrick  
1974 Bernie Jernigan  
1975 Ruth Magann  
1976 Beverly Rice  
1976-1977 Dorothy Strange  
1977-1978 Mary Ann Winstead  
1978-1979 Jeannette C. Niska  
1980-1981 Pauline Lorfano  
1981-1982 Maggie Jordon  
1982-1983 Peggy Hooper  
1983-1984 Angie Culfogienis  
1985-1986 Nadine Sloan  
1986-1987 Vera Heywood  
1987-1988 Constance Stillwell  
1988-1989 Pauline Lorfano  
1989-1990 Susan Spinosa  
1991-1993 Lilly Manning  
1993-1994 Betsy Kellum  
1994-1995 Art Zasada  
1995-1998 Carol Milton  
1998-2000 Carter Ide  
2000-2001 Marty Klaimon  
2001-2004 Carolyn Koslow  
2004 Cleo Converse  
2004-2005 Pauline Lorfano  
2005-2007 Charlotte Potashnik & Karin Sebolka  
2007-2009 Margaret Johnson

2009-2011 Donna Grone  
2011-2012 Arla Albers  
2012-2015 Grace Rooney  
2015-2018 Doré Skidmore  
2018-2019 Hayden Luczka  
2019-Present Ruth Ensley

## ARTIST of the YEAR

The Artist of the Year Award was launched in 2005 in order to publicly recognize a member of the Vienna Arts Society that had demonstrated a history of creditable volunteer service, outstanding artistic workmanship, and faithful contributions to the society. The Executive Board, Committee Chairs, and past presidents offered up nominations from the membership, with the award being given to the member that had garnered the highest number of votes.

2005: Pauline Lorfano  
2006: Harris Miller  
2007: Brendan Somerville  
2008: Bev Nickens  
2009: Nancy Hornstein  
2010: Jean Johnston  
2011: Carol Milton  
2012: Grace Rooney  
2013: Pauline Lorfano  
2014: Debi Elliott  
2015: Helen Dilley Barsalou  
2016: Rita Bentley  
2017: Ken Frye  
2018: Richard Neff  
2019: Dore' Skidmore  
2020: Ken Britz

