

Bylaws of the Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters Association

ARTICLE I - NAMES, DEFINITIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS

Section 1: Organization Name

The name of this Organization shall be the **Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters Association**. It may also be known as **MBPAPA**.

Section 2: Plein Air Art

Plein air art is that which is painted outside on location from direct observation of the landscape. Plein air art refers to methods, techniques and results, but not style. It may include many styles and forms of artistic expression as long as it is substantially executed on location from direct observation.

Section 3: Region

The geographic region of interest to the organization is the Monterey Bay and Monterey Bay Coast, the Monterey Peninsula, the Central California Coast from San Mateo County through the Big Sur Coast and adjacent inland areas, including the Salinas Valley, Carmel Valley, and the Santa Lucia Range. The region includes Monterey County and parts of Santa Cruz, San Benito and San Mateo Counties.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSES

The purpose of the organization shall be:

1. To promote the creation of plein air art depicting the Monterey Bay Region as described above;
2. To promote the development of visual artistic skills and artistic expression of artists who live and who paint in the region;
3. To promote appreciation for, and understanding of, the art of the area in the general public and among the youth of the region;
4. To develop a community of active artists;
5. To continue and to expand the artistic legacy started by the early California impressionists who painted in the Northern California area.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1:

The association is primarily for artists who reside in the region. However, artists who live in other parts of California who regularly paint in the region may join and participate in all aspects of the Organization.

Section 2:

Classes of organization membership are:

- Associate Artists Must be practicing, serious plein air artists who from direct observation of subjects in the region described above.
- Signature Artists. Artists who meet the criteria for “Artists Members” and who are selected by a jury process (established for that purpose, see Article V, Section 6). Artists who were classified as “Professional Artists” in the first year of operation of MBPAPA shall be classified as “Signature Artists”.
- Patrons. Anyone who wishes to support purposes and participate in the organization, but who is not a painter. Patron Members do not vote on organization business.
- Sponsors. Individuals or businesses who wish to support the organization, its purposes and its membership. Sponsor Members do not vote on organization business.

Section 3:

Associate and Signature Artists must participate on one or more working committees. All classes of membership must pay annual dues, as established in Article X.

Section 4:

Memberships are not transferable.

Section 5:

Any member of this organization who shall commit any act which reflects discredit or dispute thereon, or shall refuse or neglect to comply with the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors, shall be subject to suspension or expulsion. Such member will be given ten days written notice and the right to be heard by the Officers (see Article V). After these considerations the member may be suspended or expelled by a two-thirds vote of the Organization’s Board of Directors.

In such circumstances, dues are not refundable or transferable.

ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1:

The Board of Directors shall consist of the MBPAPA Officers and the Chairperson of each working committees. The size of the Board shall be from five to fifteen members. They shall exercise all powers of management of the organization not specifically excluded by these bylaws.

Section 2:

The responsibilities of the Board are:

1. To see that funds are raised to operate the Organization;
2. To authorize expenditures for the Organization;
3. To create the long-term vision for the Organization; and
4. To govern, manage and operate the Organization.

Section 3:

The members of the Organization will nominate and elect members of Directors each year in the following manner:

Nominations

Individuals may volunteer for election to office, or the membership may nominate individuals prior to the January General Membership Meeting.

Election

Election of Board Members will be held during the January Membership Meeting. The persons receiving the most votes will be elected to hold office.

Term of Board Office

Board Members shall serve for three years, January to December, with three to five new members elected each year.

Section 4:

The Board of Directors shall meet monthly and at such times as needed. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

Section 5:

Decisions of the Board shall be made by vote of a majority of the quorum present at a Board meeting.

Section 6:

Board of Directors meetings shall be open to all organization members.

Section 7:

The Board of Directors will also act as a jury to review portfolios of Associate Artists annually. Those Artist Members who receive a 2/3 vote from the Jury will be reclassified as “Signature Members”.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Section 1:

The Organization Officers shall consist of members of the board and include a President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Their duties shall be such as their title would indicate or such as may be assigned to them respectively from time to time.

The Organization Officers will be elected from members of the Board, and voted upon by the Board, and shall hold office for one year, with the election of Organization Officers occurring at or shortly after the January General meeting. The terms of office shall begin immediately following their election, and will continue until new officers are elected to replace them.

Section 2:

In the case of any vacancy of a Organization Office through death, resignation, disqualification or other cause, the Board of Directors will elect a Board Member by majority vote to hold office for the unexpired term of the Organization Officer until the election of his or her successor at the normally appointed time.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

Section 1:

The Board of Directors shall authorize and define the powers and duties of all committees. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 2:

The following committees may exist:

- Artist Development and Workshop Committee.
- Public Relations Committee.
- Paintouts Committee.
- Membership Committee.
- Internal Communications Committee.
- Exhibit Committee.
- Finance Committee.
- Bylaws Committee.

The Board of Directors may create additional committees as they may deem necessary or advisable.

Section 3:

The President shall appoint chairpersons and members of all committees.
The term of a chairperson shall be one year.
There are no limitations on serving consecutive terms.

ARTICLE VII - COMPENSATION

Section 1:

Officers and Board members shall not be compensated for their services.

Section 2:

Officers and Board members shall be reimbursed for their expenses incurred to operate and manage the Organization to attend Organization meetings.

ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS

Section 1:

At least one General Membership Meeting of the MBPAPA shall be held each year, in January.

Section 2:

The Organization Officers may provide for the holding of any other meetings as may be deemed necessary or desirable.

ARTICLE IX - ACTIVITIES

To achieve the purposes of the MBPAPA the following activities will be initiated:

- Group exhibitions of plein air artwork
- Group plein air “paint-outs”
- Educational opportunities for membership and the greater community
- Artist skills workshops

Social events for the MBPAPA community of artists

ARTICLE X - DUES AND FEES

Section 1:

The fiscal year for the Organization shall be from January 1 through December 31.

Section 2:

The Board of Directors shall establish all membership fees and dues from time to time in such amounts as they deem adequate to operate and maintain the Organization.

Section 3:

Dues paid will be for the year ending December 31st. Renewal dues will be for the following year. Dues must be submitted by the January Membership Meeting or members will be removed from the roster.

Section 4:

New membership dues paid from October 1st through December 31st shall be for that portion of the year and the following year.

ARTICLE XI - BYLAWS

Section 1:

These bylaws were approved in principle by the Board of Directors January 7, 2007 and (version 1 was) adopted by the Board of Directors on April 11, 2007.

These bylaws were updated for typographical correctness on March 8, 2010).

These bylaws were amended (Article V, Section 1) and approved by official board vote, to include the role of Vice President as an officer of the Board on March 15, 2010.

Section 2:

These bylaws may be amended by the Board, as the Board deems necessary. Amendments shall be communicated to the members at one of the General Membership Meetings.