

Effective Date: 03/05/2023

DRAFT AMMENDMENTS

Membership

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set forth the way in which persons become members of the Guild, membership categories and how they are determined, and the privileges and responsibilities of members within the organization. Defines a “member in good standing”, speaks to how Honorary/Lifetime membership is conferred.

Authority/Relevant Documents

Articles of Incorporation: Article III

Bylaws, Section 2.

Policies & Operational Procedures: Board of Directors, Finances, General Committee Information, Properties, Workshops

Policy

I. Membership Dues

- A. Categories of membership and the amount of dues per category are established by a vote of the Board of Directors.
- B. Categories of membership and current dues for the fiscal year (July through June) are as follows:
 - 1. Individual membership: \$40.00
 - 2. Household membership (2 or more people who live in the same house): \$55.00
 - 3. Scholarship membership (valid student ID required): \$30.00
 - 4. Hardship membership \$30.00 following a private, confidential conversation with the Membership Chair about relevant necessity.
 - 5. New members joining between February first and the end of the fiscal year (June 30) may deduct \$15.00 from their annual dues.
 - 6. Honorary/Lifetime Members need not pay annual dues.
- C. Members are asked to renew their membership by June 30th so their information can be included in the Yearbook.

II. Privileges and Responsibilities of Membership

- A. Members are considered to be in “good standing” if dues are current, no unpaid overdue library fines or fees are outstanding, and no equipment rental fees or damage assessments are outstanding.

- B. Members in good standing shall be entitled to the following:
1. To participate in all guild activities subject to the Policies and Operational Procedures for that activity, including contributing to the newsletter and social media sites.
 2. To check out library materials.
 3. To rent Guild equipment, such as looms, rag cutters, drum carders, etc. A list of available equipment is found in the Yearbook, under "Properties".
 4. To first priority when registering for workshops. (See Workshop Policy.)
 5. To renewal of yearly membership. Renewal of membership is contingent upon all fines and/or restitution for damages being paid in full.
 6. To sell fiber-related items such as equipment, yarn, hand knit, woven, or crocheted products, books, or magazines at Guild membership meetings or at the picnic. Member will set the prices and will donate 10% of the total sales to the Guild treasury. The Guild is not responsible for taxes, unsatisfied customers or any other issues related to the sale of items.
 7. To stand for election to the Board of Directors after one year's membership.

III. Honorary/Lifetime Membership

- A. To be considered for Honorary/Lifetime Membership, a member must have been an active member of the guild for at least 20 years and be a current member in the year they are nominated.
- B. During the years of membership, they must have taken active leadership roles in the guild, such as being an officer, a board member and/or Chair of a major committee.
- C. The individual should be an active member who participates in Showcase and attends at least some meetings and/or study group meetings. Participation in outreach activities of the Guild, such as the fairs, the Show & Sale, demonstrations for the public or schools, etc. will be considered.
- D. Nominations originate with the Board as it is an honor conferred by the Board. See Operational Procedure.
- E. Recipients no longer need to pay dues, will be honored with recognition in the Yearbook, and will be featured in an interview published in the Newsletter.

Operational Procedures

I. How to Join or Renew Membership

- A. Prospective members are encouraged to attend up to three regular meetings as guests of the Guild.
- B. Membership Applications (see Appendix A) are available from the Guild website or from the Membership Chair.
- C. Completed Applications should be mailed to the individual listed on the form with the membership fee, either in cash or personal check. Form and fee may also be delivered to the Membership Chair at a membership meeting.
- D. Individuals with questions regarding the membership process or privileges are encouraged to contact the Membership Chair in person or via the website.
- E. Members who make donations to the Guild at the time they join or renew are encouraged to designate how they want their donations used; for Pattison grants, Standley awards, Erickson awards, or for the Guild's general expenses. If unspecified, donations will be deposited in the General Fund and used for general expenses. (Choices are specified on the Membership form.)

II. Process for Awarding Honorary/Lifetime Membership

- A. Information regarding longevity of membership and activities in which members participate shall be maintained by the Vice President or Board-designated person and provided to the Board each year in November for consideration in March.
- B. In March the Board shall review the list of eligible members and evaluate whether they wish to award Honorary/Lifetime Membership status to any members that year, based on the recommendation of the Vice President.
- C. Status may be awarded to no more than five members in a year.
- D. Announcement of the award(s) will be made at the June picnic.
- E. Follow-up activities (notification to the Yearbook Lead, article about the award and the individual in the newsletter) shall be made by the Vice President or a designated individual.