



BALTIMORE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY, INC.

ESTABLISHED 1885

A Mid-Atlantic Organization of Water media Artists

A 501(c)(3) Organisation

Enclosed is the information you will need to present your paintings for the Baltimore Watercolor Society's semi-annual screening for Signature Artist membership.

Instructions:

- 1. Register on the BWS website.**
- 2. Upload 4 images of your work.**
- 3. Enter image sizes in inches (measure painted area only, no mat, no frame)**

Digital entries must be -

- *completed within the past two years*
- *professional quality: high resolution (300 dpi), jpeg, 1950 pixels or 6.5" on the longest side*
- *RGB*
- *show only the painted image*
- *file name labeled with correct file extension (.jpg) with the word jury + 1, 2, 3, or 4, artist last name, artist first name, and painting title,*

*Example: Jury1-Doe-Jane-frogpond
Jury2-Doe-Jane-portrait
Jury3-Doe-Jane-landscape
Jury4-Doe-Jane-abstract*

**BALTIMORE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY
SEMI-ANNUAL SIGNATURE ARTIST MEMBERSHIP JURYING GUIDELINES**

All work submitted must be original water media on paper, no less than 10" on the shortest side.

All work submitted must be original in concept and execution, and not copied or derived from a student class or workshop, nor copies or likenesses of other artists' work, and be free from any copyright infringement.

Photographic references must be taken by or be the sole property of the artist.

Screening is done twice a year -- in March and in October at a time and place designated.

Prospective members will be notified of their status by mail within two weeks of the screening.

Applicants may submit art works for review more than once.

Thank you for your interest in the Baltimore Watercolor Society and we look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions, please email BWS.Signaturejurying@gmail.com



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www.baltimorewatercolorsociety.org

Sharon Morell, President
Deb Cohan, Recording Secretary
Gaye Holcomb, Treasurer

BWS Signature Member Jurying Criteria

The Board of the Baltimore Watercolor Society would like to thank you for your interest in becoming a Signature Artist Member of the society. The categories below will be used in the review of your work.

Consistency: Is there a consistent style and quality in all four paintings?

Originality: Creativity and originality of the painting that depicts a theme or an overall approach that is fresh and original? Does the artwork stand on its own as a complete and outstanding work of art?

Note: Any reference used in the creation of the paintings must be the artist's original composition or photograph. Use of work created in a workshop or class or based on an instructor's or another person's reference or painting is unacceptable.

Technique: Do the paintings demonstrate mastery of the following technical components:

- Paint application and brushwork
- Drawing skills, correct or appealing proportions of figures and objects
- Linear and aerial perspective
- Color mixing, variation in the use of colors that complement or enhance each other
- Utilizing the unique aspects of water media
- Treatment of edges (soft vs hard, or lost)
- Repeating shapes, patterns, and symmetry.
- Textures
- Use of full range of value

Composition: Crops and composition that focus the eye and keep the viewers' attention? Movement or flow to guide viewers through the art?

Effective use of the elements and principles of design that achieve the conceptual objectives of the artist?

Elements of design: line, shape, color, space, form, value, texture

Principles of design: balance, variety, movement, unity, pattern, rhythm, emphasis, proportion, gradation

Concept: Is each painting successful in communicating the conceptual intent of the artist?

- Tells a story
- Interprets a clear theme to the viewer
- Communicates bold ideas
- Reflects upon the human condition
- Evokes a mood or captures a subtle feeling

N/A due to COVID

Presentation: Overall is the presentation of professional quality and “exhibition ready”?

- ~~Clean well-cut mats (white or cream) and encased in a clean cellophane bag~~
- ~~Frame well-made and undamaged (if used, framing is optional)~~

Digital submissions:

- Correctly sized and cropped images
- Showing only the painting, not the mat or frame
- Color balanced

Abstract Painting Criteria: Suggested criteria for consideration while critiquing abstract paintings or images”

Gray to rest the eye

- Form and eye control
- Balance
- Gradation
- Weighing
- Vibration
- Areas of visual excitement and paucity
- Mastery of color

Criteria by Rob Talbert. Abstract Painting Criteria from Rob T Gann’s weekly newsletter

SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR ARTISTS SEEKING SIGNATURE ARTIST MEMBERSHIP IN THE BALTIMORE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

To help you decide whether your skills and experiences have prepared you for Signature Artist membership in the Baltimore Watercolor Society, you may wish to consider the self-assessment list below of characteristics successful Signature Artists bring to the Society. Please keep in mind that the mission of BWS is to encourage, educate, and promote *professional excellence* in the creation and development of original works of art executed in water-based media. The galleries in which we exhibit expect no less. While we welcome all artists, who are eager to share the joy of water media painting and the camaraderie of fellow painters, Signature Artist members are expected to demonstrate a level of proficiency that is commensurate with their education and experience.

The list below is NOT a BWS list of requirements, but merely food for thought as you prepare your entry for possible BWS Signature Artist membership.

EDUCATION

Does your art education include?

- _____ Enrollment in watercolor classes three or more years?
- _____ Enrollment in classes or workshops with various instructors?
- _____ Knowledge about water media materials and methods?
- _____ A degree in studio art or art education?

Do you:

- _____ Read/study/purchase books/periodicals on painting?
- _____ Participate in BWS events (trips, workshops, paint-outs, social events, etc.)
- _____ Have the recommendation of a BWS Board member or BWS instructor-member?

PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS HAVE:

- _____ Ten or more works of art that have been framed and displayed
- _____ Exhibitions or published work (not student exhibitions)
- _____ Been accepted into juried shows
- _____ Successfully sold art works
- _____ Taught or are presently teaching water media classes
- _____ Business cards available and/or an artist website
- _____ Signature Artist membership in other water media societies