

VISUAL ARTISTS ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION

The name of the association is “Visual Artists Association.”

ARTICLE II: ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION

SECTION 1 The association is an unincorporated association, which was organized by people who are interested in art and wish to both enhance their skills and encourage others to do the same.

SECTION 2 The organization is comprised of these by-laws, which encompass the articles of the association, which may be amended from time to time.

SECTION 3 In the absence of separate articles of association or in the event of any conflict between these by-laws and articles of association, these by-laws shall govern.

ARTICLE III: OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The objective of the association is to create a community of people who both create and appreciate art, provide peer teaching and criticism, and help others understand the importance of art. This objective will be reached through student leadership, projects and programs which are governed and qualified by the basic policies set forth in Article IV.

ARTICLE IV: BASIC POLICIES

The basic policies of the association are as follows:

- (a) The association shall support students by cooperating closely with the members and advisors.
- (b) The association shall be a nonsectarian-and nonpartisan group.
- (c) The name of the association shall not be linked with a commercial concern with any partisan interest which is not appropriately related to the promotion of the objective of this association.
- (d) The association shall not directly or indirectly participate or intervene (including the publishing or distributing of statements) in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office; or devote more than an insubstantial part of its activities to propaganda.
- (e) The association shall work with Lone Star College to provide quality experience for students by recognizing that Advisors have legal and ethical responsibilities to make decisions which are delegated to them by the Lone Star College and the Office of Student Life.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: Any currently registered student (full or part time) at LSC-North Harris who is in good standing with the College is eligible for membership, without regard to race, religion, national origin, ethnicity, color, age, sex, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, or gender identity/expression.

SECTION 2 Only members in good standing of the association shall be eligible to participate in its business meetings or to serve in any of its elected or appointed positions.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 1 Officers, elections, terms, and limitations:

- (a) Officers of the Visual Artists Association shall be President, Vice President, and Secretary, unless otherwise decided by the Advisor.
- (b) Election of officers shall be by ballot at the end of the spring semester unless otherwise decided by the Advisor.
- (c) To be a voting member at the end of the spring semester meeting, a person must be in good standing and have attended at least two previous meetings during the year.
- (d) To be a candidate for an officer position, a person must have been actively engaged in the association for a minimum of one (1) semester.
- (e) Term of office shall be for one (1) year (defined as the fall semester and subsequent spring semester) and/or until a successor is elected and assumes the duties of office. The official duties of office shall commence after the end of officer election.
- (f) Officers are expected to train at least one member to take their role once their term is completed.
- (g) Limitation of office shall be restricted to two (2) consecutive terms in the same office unless stated by an Advisor.

SECTION 2 Vacancies

- (a) A vacancy occurring in any office shall be filled by a person elected by the majority vote of the remaining officers. Notice must be given by the President to the association that an election will be held by the officers to fill the unexpired term of the vacant office.
- (b) In case a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, The Vice President shall serve as the interim President, and shall serve notice of the election to replace the President.
- (c) Vacancy in office will occur in any office when that officer has missed two (2) consecutive meetings without just cause. If in question, "just cause" shall be determined by the remaining members of the officers.

SECTION VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1 President

- (a) Serves as the presiding officer at all regular and special meetings of the association and all officer meetings.
- (b) Performs all duties required by the by-laws of the association and those assigned to the office by the association or Advisor.
- (c) Coordinates the work of the officers and members in order that all objectives of the association are met.
- (d) Appoints standing and special committees.

- SECTION 2 Vice President
- (a) Assists the President by assisting and cooperating in carrying out the objectives of the association.
 - (b) Serves as the program chairperson for association events.
 - (c) Performs the duties of the President in the absence or inability of that officer to serve.
 - (d) Works with the Office of Student Life to obtain information for regular budget reports.

- SECTION 3 Secretary
- (a) Records all minutes of the association and officer meetings.
 - (b) Attends all meetings of the association and officers, except for just cause.
 - (c) Oversees all duties in promoting the association through the media or throughout the college.
 - (d) Record's the club's history.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

- SECTION 1 Regular meetings of the association will be held during the school year twice bi-monthly. Should there not be enough members to justify this schedule, meetings will be held once a week bi-monthly.
- SECTION 2 An annual meeting and election of officers shall be conducted at the end of the spring semester, unless otherwise decided by the officers and/or the Advisor.
- SECTION 3 Special meetings of the association may be called by the officers or the Advisor. Any member of the association may request a special meeting of the association by giving written notice to the officers. Unless otherwise stated, special meetings will not be mandatory.
- SECTION 4 Meeting quorum of the association shall be set at five (5) members for conducting the transactions and business of the association.

ARTICLE IX: FISCAL YEAR

- SECTION 1 The fiscal year of the association shall begin on September 1 and end on the following August 31.

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS

- SECTION 1 Amendments to the association's constitution can only be made through a voting process. All amendments shall be proposed and discussed during a regular meeting.
- SECTION 2 Amendments must pass with a two-thirds majority vote.
- SECTION 3 If approved, copies of the amended constitution must be provided to the Advisor and the Office of Student Life for administrative approval.

ARTICLE XI: RATIFICATION AND ENACTMENT

- SECTION 1 This constitution shall become effective immediately upon its approval by a two-thirds vote of a quorum of members and administrative approval from the Office of Student Life.
- SECTION 2 This constitution shall become the official governing document of the Visual Arts Association at Lone Star College-North Harris.

