

The Pastel Society of Victoria, Australia

Master Pastelist Award Program

OFFICIAL RULES & GUIDELINES

The following are the official Rules and Guidelines for operating the Master Pastelist Award Program through the Pastel Society of Victoria, Australia, henceforth referred to as the PSVA.

1. Definition

- a. A Master Pastelist (MP) Award accredits pastel artists who demonstrate expertise in pastel painting and who actively promote the aims of the Pastel Society of Victoria, Australia (PSVA).
- b. Once achieved, the accreditation remains valid while the Master Pastelist continues to be a member of the PSVA.
- c. Submissions to apply for Master Pastelist status can be made at any time.

2. The aims of the Master Pastelist Award Program (MPA) are:

- a. To support the PSVA in the achievement of its goal of promoting pastel as a fine art medium.
- b. To recognise our members who achieve artistic excellence using 80% pastels. Oil pastels are excluded.
- c. To help artists make an active contribution to our society.
- d. To encourage our Master Pastellists to inspire, educate, and coach fellow pastel artists, as well as promote the pastel medium.
- e. To provide our most highly accomplished artists with a level of accreditation commensurate with their skill, achievement and professionalism.

3. A Master Pastelist can demonstrate and contribute to achieving the objectives of our society in the following ways: (As also outlined in the 'Rules of the PSVA')

The Rules can be downloaded from the PSVA website at the bottom of the Membership page – vicpastel.com.au

A. By Inspiring:

- Exhibiting their artwork.
- Encouraging the use of pastel by our members and people new to pastel.

B. By Educating:

- Tutoring, demonstrating, and/or holding workshops.
- Providing information about pastels for interested people.
- Judging exhibitions.

C. By Coaching:

- Coach fellow Pastelists in Australia and internationally, this could include critiquing artwork, and supporting them in preparing for awards and scholarships.
- Promoting pastel as a fine art medium.
- Promoting the greater recognition of the beauty and permanence of the pastel medium by:
 - a. Holding exhibitions of works in pastel.
 - b. Influencing exhibitions to include pastels as a category.
 - c. Possible communications with manufacturers of materials and pastels.

D. By The Commitment:

- To make themselves available if asked for the assessment of other Master Pastellist applicants.

4. THE APPLICATION PROCESS

It is expected that an applicant shall be a Signature Member of the PSVA **OR** be able to demonstrate that they have already achieved what is required for Signature Membership from other pastel institutions.

The award can be gained in one of two ways:

1. A PSVA financial member can apply for consideration, **OR**
2. Based on the selection criteria, the current PSVA Committee can at its discretion determine and agree based on the criteria, to offer Master Pastelist status to a financial member who is deemed to have qualified for this award.

Applicants seeking consideration are asked to electronically submit the following:

- a. A cover letter.
- b. A minimum of six pastel artworks of at least three different genres. (i.e. Landscape, Waterscape, Portrait, Figurative, Still Life, Floral, Cityscape, Abstract.) **NOTE:** All images are to be artwork only, no frames or background and no more than 1MB in size.
- c. Applicants may also be requested to send/deliver two paintings either mounted or framed for further consideration.
- d. A current art Curriculum Vitae, including a copy of their Signature status or equivalent level of achievement.
- e. A 300 to 500-word statement on how they have contributed to, and how they will continue to assist the PSVA achieve its aims as indicated above.
- f. Payment of a non-refundable Application Fee of \$45 will be required when an applicant applies. Upon receiving their application, this payment will be requested and paid online within 7 days.
- g. All applications are to be sent to the President of the PSVA – president@vicpastel.com.au with the subject noted as - **Master Pastelist Submission (APPLICANT'S SURNAME)**

5. CRITERIA

- a. An applicant must have been a member of the PSVA for the last three years and be a current financial member.
- b. An applicant has attained Signature Membership, which automatically confirms excellence in their work, or attained a similar status or higher from another institution.
- c. There is a demonstrated commitment detailed in their application that contributes to the PSVA achieving its aims.
- d. All components of the application should be presented in a professional manner.

6. ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATION

- a. All applications are forwarded to the PSVA committee through the President.
- b. The committee will then form a panel for the assessment.
- c. The Panel will consider all components of the application and evaluate these against the criteria to determine if the applicant meets the requirements.
- d. The panel will comprise a minimum of three (3) Master Pastelists to assess an application, except for when a Member is invited by the PSVA Committee after unanimously approving that Member to become a Master Pastelist.
- e. A majority agreement needs to be reached when Master Pastelists are the Judging Panel.
- f. The Judging Panel needs to be kept confidential and Applicants are not to be informed who judges their submission.
- g. All aspects of the application process must remain confidential by the Judging Panel and PSVA Committee.

7. SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS:

- a. Shall be formally notified in writing via email, whether successful or not.
- b. Shall be able to use the letters: PSVA-MP after their name whilst remaining a financial member.
- c. May begin to call themselves a Master Pastelist once officially acknowledged by the PSVA to its members.
- d. Will be announced at the next general meeting and in the next VPN newsletter and eNews mailouts.
- e. Will be given an official certificate of their new member status at the PSVA December meeting.

8. GENERAL:

- a. We encourage applicants to reapply and not feel discouraged should their application not be successful the first time.
- b. This document may be reviewed and/or revised as deemed necessary by the PSVA Committee.