

# *The Pastel Society of Victoria, Australia*

## **Master Pastelist Award Program**

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### **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](http://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](mailto: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.