



Membership Guide

Table of Contents

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Thank you | 6. How to Submit Events and Announcements |
| 2. Mission Statement | 7. How to Get Involved |
| 3. Membership Benefits | 8. Board and Committees |
| 4. What your Membership Dues pay for | 9. Lapsed Membership Feedback Form |
| 5. Communication | |
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Thank You

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the FMVA or for renewing or becoming a member. We really appreciate your support.

Please Note: The most current copy of the following info can be found on our website.

Mission Statement

“to promote and support quality visual arts in the Fargo/Moorhead area by educating and encouraging visual artists and their communities”

The most current copy of the FMVA's ByLaws can be found on our website at <http://www.fmva.us/about/by-laws>

Membership Benefits

<http://www.fmva.us/about/membership>

As a member, you have the following Exclusive Advantages:

1. You may submit* announcements to the public, World-Wide** FMVA mailing list (ML) and website. Eligible announcements include:
 - * a. Gallery showings of your visual artwork
 - * b. Awards/accolades you've received for your visual artwork/art career
 - * c. Publications relating to your visual artwork/art career
 - * d. Press Releases or Articles written about your visual artwork/art career
 - * e. Open studios/art shows or sales venues that your artwork will be appearing in/you will be participating in as a visual artist***
 - * f. Visual Art Competition information, Teaching/Mentoring opportunities and any other Visual Arts Opportunities that may be of interest to FMVA members
 - * g. Sales of or free/donations of Art Supplies that may be of interest to FMVA members
2. You may submit your name and website address to be listed on the FMVA website.*

3. You may apply for participation in the FMVA's annual Studio Crawl (Studio Crawl rules and regulations are governed by the Studio Crawl committee)
4. You may participate free of charge in the FMVA's group art shows
5. You may present at the FMVA's Artist Den
6. You have voting privileges and may serve on a committee and become an elected board member

* Submissions will be reviewed and moderated for accuracy and adherence to FMVA code of conduct/regulations, and are publicly posted at the discretion of the FMVA President and/or appointed Website Admin

** These announcements are public and World Wide – therefore the World Wide Web or www – so please word and proofread your announcement accordingly.

*** If several FMVA members are participating in the same gallery show/sales venue, your announcement may be consolidated at the discretion of the FMVA President or appointed Website Admin to avoid repetition/redundancy.

What Your Membership Dues Pay For

1. Hosting fees, domain name fees, and software and hardware fees associated with the development and upkeep of the www.fmva.us website and online media.
 2. Association dues related to the publicity of the FMVA as a group (i.e. – membership in the Arts Partnership, which allows the FMVA to publish it's group events in the local Fargo Moorhead Arts Calendar and on the Culture Pulse website)
 3. Fees associated with the FMVA's group art shows (renting space, catering, administrative support, public advertising)
 4. Fees associated with Administrative support
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Communication

The majority of communication between FMVA members and the Board and Committees is online via e-mail (Note: you will NOT get automatic updates, **you must subscribe** – see the website for more information) and the www.fmva.us website. If you do not use a computer please ask someone to be your cyber-buddy. We will try to accommodate you as much as possible, but have limited resources beyond what we currently provide.

How to Submit Events and Announcements

<http://www.fmva.us/about/membership/submit-an-event-or-announcement>

Do you have an Announcement or an Event of interest to the members of the FMVA?

You can distribute your announcement on the www.fmva.us website (and therefore to it's members and the public) either the Fast way, or the Slow way:

1. **Preferred:** The **Fastest** way to get your Events posted (usually within 24 hrs if immediately approved): Contact a site admin to have your www.fmva.us user account upgraded to Contributor or higher status to allow you to post on the site (all posts are moderated), or

2. Potentially **Slower** way to get your Events posted (24hrs-1 week if immediately approved): Send your announcement to us via the form at the bottom of the Events submission page (<http://www.fmva.us/about/membership/submit-an-event-or-announcement>) or to info@fmva.us. If you have any related digital images or documents to add, name them the same as your event title and email them to info@fmva.us

To get your Event/Announcement approved immediately, please provide ALL relevant information (Title, Dates, Times, Location, Contact Info, etc.) and follow the guidelines below.

If we need to contact you to verify or complete your information, it will take longer than the above stated timeframes to approve your submission.

Submission Guidelines

As a current member, you may submit* Events and Announcements to the public, World-Wide** FMVA website regarding the following:

- * Visual Art Competition information, Teaching/Mentoring opportunities and any other Visual Arts Opportunities that may be of interest to FMVA members
- * Sales of or free/donations of Art Supplies that may be of interest to FMVA members
- * Gallery showings of your visual artwork
- * Awards/accolades you've received for your visual artwork/art career
- * Publications relating to your visual artwork/art career
- * Press Releases or Articles written about your visual artwork/art career
- * Open studios/art shows or sales venues that your artwork will be appearing in/you will be participating in as a visual artist***

* Submissions will be reviewed and moderated for accuracy and adherence to FMVA code of conduct/regulations, and are publicly posted at the discretion of the FMVA President and/or appointed Admin. Our policies are at <http://fmva.us/policies/>

** These announcements are public and World Wide – therefore the World Wide Web or www – so please word and proofread your announcement accordingly.

*** If several FMVA members are participating in the same gallery show/sales venue, your announcement may be consolidated at the discretion of the FMVA President or appointed Admin to avoid redundancy.

How to Get Involved

<http://www.fmva.us/about/membership/get-involved>

You don't have to be a fanatical advocate for the visual arts to lend a helping hand to the organization (although, it sure doesn't hurt to be one either! *wink*). There are numerous ways you can get involved with the organization, from very small volunteering efforts to larger roles of leadership. Here are just a few ways you can help:

- * Attend the Annual Meeting as a paid member and contribute your thoughts and vote
- * Attend a Board Meeting to find out more about what's happening with the organization's leadership and bring up any important topics
- * Contribute Events and Announcements to the website
- * Tweet about the FMVA, or Tweet for the FMVA
- * Tell your friends and family about the FMVA
- * Participate in the annual Studio Crawl, as an Artist or a Spectator
- * Become a Paid Member
- * Help out with the Big Art Show – get on the committee
- * Join any of the committees
- * Present at an Artist's Den
- * Join the FMVA Facebook Group, or join and help administrate it
- * Follow the FMVA on Twitter
- * Become a regular contributor on the website with posts and comments

If you have an idea you'd like to share with the FMVA, don't be shy – Contact Us! info@fmva.us

Board & Committees

<http://www.fmva.us/about/board-committees>

Any member may request to be allowed to address the Board of Directors at their monthly meetings and should contact the President to be part of the monthly agenda. Such requests will be scheduled to fall directly after the request by the Secretary for approval of the minutes of the last meeting and before the Treasurers report.

If a member has an idea for an activity or a concern and is not sure which committee to present it to, they should contact the President or any Board member for advice.

Board of Directors – board@fmva.us

President: Ana Rusness-Petersen
Vice-President: John Borge

Secretary: Jackie Anderson
Treasurer: Dwight Williams

Cas Johnson, Eric Johnson, Eric Syvertson, Brenda Luthi, [vacant]

Studio Crawl – mulciberglass@hotmail.com

Studio Crawl Director Jon Offut is responsible for the production of the annual Studio Crawl.

Committees

Membership Committee – membership@fmva.us

Chaired by: [vacant]

Grow and nurture the membership by establishing a personal presence with our members.

Program Committee – program@fmva.us

Chaired by: Eric Syvertson & Brenda Luthi

Promote the FMVA through the organization of Member Events and Exhibitions.

Communications Committee – communications@fmva.us

Chaired by: Vice President, John Borge

Create and Maintain the FMVA's online and offline communication channels with members and the public.

Finance Committee – finance@fmva.us

Chaired by: Treasurer, Dwight Williams

Oversee the FMVA Finances and long term planning and coordinate fund raising.

Professional Practices Committee

Please contact the Board of Directors if you have a question/concern related to the Professional Practices Committee.

Chaired by: Tim Ray

Research and educate members in matters of professional practices.

Lapsed Membership Feedback Form

<http://www.fmva.us/about/membership/membership-lapsed>

The FMVA is trying to improve communication & services for its members & wants your feedback. If your membership has lapsed in the past, please take our 1 minute survey to give us some feedback on your experience.

All your information & answers will be held in the strictest anonymous confidentiality & used ONLY internally by the FMVA to assess areas in which the organization can improve its communication & services to its members.

1. Was the lapse of your membership

Intentional OR Unintentional

a. If it was Unintentional, why? (You may choose any that apply.)

- Was unclear on when I should renew again
 - I couldn't remember the last time I paid my membership
 - I didn't get any membership renewal notices
 - My contact information changed & I didn't notify the FMVA
 - My contact information changed & I didn't know HOW to notify the FMVA
 - I just forgot
 - Other (If you chose 'Other', please describe.)
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b. If it was Intentional, why? (You may choose any that apply.)

- I had moved away from the area
 - I wasn't interested in being part of the organization any more
 - Annual Membership fee is too high
 - Didn't find any value in being a member anymore
 - Other (If you chose 'Other', please describe.)
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2. What, if anything, do you value about the FMVA?

3. Please tell us anything you think would help us improve the organization for your needs.

Use the back of this sheet if you need more room. Remember, this is completely anonymous. We want your feedback, no matter how harsh (but maybe try to be a little more constructive than critical – Thanks!). :)

THANK YOU – We appreciate your time & input.

If you'd like to offer more specific information on a non-anonymous basis, please feel free to contact us at info@fmva.us – we'd be happy to hear from you.