

1. Membership of the Paisley Art Institute is governed by the Charity's [constitution](#).

Members are admitted to support the central purposes of the Charity as defined by its constitution and members must observe any policies, practices, rules and byelaws that the Trustees issue from time to time. The purposes of the Charity are defined in brief here:

2. Purposes - Paisley Art Institute (PAI) which was founded in 1876. It is a membership led organisation with the purpose of promoting artists, and the visual arts, through a regular programme of exhibitions, educational activities, competitions, events, talks and debates.

The Charity's objects are:

- a) The advancement of the arts, heritage, recreation and culture.
- b) The advancement of education.
- c) The advancement of citizenship or community development.
- d) The promotion of equality, diversity, accessibility and inclusion.
- e) The promotion of the arts in Paisley, Renfrewshire and within Scotland.

The Charity's objects are restricted to those set out in these articles above and additionally the organisation has the power to do anything which is calculated to further its purposes or is conducive or incidental to doing so.

3. Qualifications for membership

Membership is open to any individual aged 16 or over who is either:

- a) Artist member – a practising artist in the visual arts who has gained skills and experience and whose work may be considered suitable for public exhibition.
- b) Associate member – any person involved or interested in the arts who wishes to be closely affiliated with the mission and purpose of the charity.

Employees of the organisation are not eligible for membership.

4. Applications for membership

Any person who wishes to become a member must sign an application for membership; the application will then be considered by the Trustees at its next meeting. The Trustees may, at its discretion, refuse to admit any person to membership. The Trustees must notify each applicant promptly (in writing or by e-mail) of its decision on whether or not to admit them to membership.

4.1 Application Procedure**a) Artist members**

Artist Membership is open to any practicing artist in the visual arts whose work may be considered suitable for exhibition.

Candidates for artist membership must complete a Membership Application Form and pay an application fee. Membership fee rates are published on the charity's website.

After payment of fees applicants will be instructed to send 3 examples of their artwork and practice (CV) to the Membership Secretary.

A **Selection Panel** will make decisions on the applicants considered and recommendations passed to the Trustees for ratification. Successful applicants will be notified by email. Successful applicants will be asked to make top up payment, which along with the original application fee is the first year's subscription.

Thereafter artist members renew each calendar year at current annual rate as published on the charity's website.

- b) Applicants for **Associate** membership need only complete a single stage application form and make payment of the fees. New Associate Members will be notified within 28 days of receipt of application.

5. Membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions will be payable annually, the subscription rates for the financial periods as set out on **the charity's website**.

Paisley Art Institute also recognises a number of honorary membership types:

- Honorary Members HPAI
- Honorary Office Bearers PPPAI (past Presidents)
- Diploma of Paisley Art Institute PAI (artist members)

These honorary credentials are awarded to members who are nominated, selected and recommended by the Charity.

6. Conduct of Members

The Charity may expel any member who offends against the Rules of the Institute:

- a) Whose conduct, in the opinion of the Charity, renders him or her unfit for membership of the Institute.
- b) Members who persistently fail to observe the **Code of Conduct** as published on the Charity's website.

Any person may be expelled from membership by way of a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of those present and voting at a members' meeting, providing the following procedures have been observed:

- a) at least 21 days' notice of the intention to propose the resolution must be given to the member concerned, specifying the grounds for the proposed expulsion.
- b) the member concerned will be entitled to be heard on the resolution at the members' meeting at which the resolution is proposed.

7. Termination

Membership of the Charity will terminate on death, resignation or non-payment of fees. Membership is not transferable.

8. Privileges of Members

Members shall be entitled to:

- a) Enter works to exhibitions of the Institute.
- b) Vote at all general meetings.
- c) Free admission to all exhibitions, musical evenings, lectures, and other events.
- d) Be eligible to stand as members of the Management Committee.

9. Resignation

- a) Any member wishing to resign shall intimate his or her intention to the Secretary in writing before the Annual General Meeting; otherwise he or she shall be liable for the subscription for the ensuing year.
- b) Unless the current year's subscription has been paid, artists work shall, at the discretion of The Charity, not be hung in the exhibition.
- c) Members who are in arrears with their subscription for two or more years shall, at the discretion of the Management Committee, cease to be members of the Institute and their names shall be removed from the list of members.

10. Interpretation of Rules – members may ask for clarification on any rule, purpose, or byelaw. However, members cannot choose to ignore or disclaim rules since this would conflict with the Charity's public duty. Members wishing to propose any rule change must submit a written motion, signed by 10 or more members, and the motion being circulated to the entire membership 21 days prior to any general meeting called to vote on same. The Trustees have a duty to ensure that any proposed motion is in keeping with Charity law in Scotland <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2005/10/contents>

*These bye-laws are introduced under Clause 7 of existing [Constitution](#)
"The Committee of Management shall have the power to make Bye-Laws,
which must be consistent with the Constitution and Rules of the Institute".*