

Master Pastellist Guide

This guide provides members of the Pastel Society of Australia, Inc. with information about the role and responsibilities of Master Pastellists. Members wishing to apply for Master Pastellist status should also download a copy of the **Master Pastellist Application** from the Society's website at www.ozpastels.com

What is a Master Pastellist?

The Pastel Society of Australia, Inc. seeks to differentiate between general ("ordinary") members and those members that have demonstrated a consistently high standard of art in pastel over a significant period of time. These members are awarded "Master Pastellist" status of the Society in recognition of the high level of knowledge and skill in the execution of pastel art.

Selection as a Pastel Society of Australia, Inc. Master Pastellist represents a significant accomplishment and members with this status are held in high esteem both locally and internationally. Master Pastellists may utilise their position and status in promoting their art, both independently and as a member of the Society.

What is expected of Master Pastellists?

Recognised as experts and leaders in the field of pastel art, Master Pastellists are in a unique position to make a key contribution to the Pastel Society of Australia, Inc. Master Pastellists are expected to share their knowledge, skills and experience in both a formal and informal way and to seek out opportunities to contribute to the development of both their fellow members and the Society.

Some examples of ways in which Master Pastellists may contribute include the following:

- Provide general members with casual positive input, suggestions or ideas during discussions.
- Deliver workshops or demonstrations.
- Provide positive, constructive, developmental critiques of general members' paintings.
- Play an active role in the day to day operations of the Society.
- Contribute to decision making within the Society, such as committee membership.
- Offer to be mentors, write articles for distribution and/ or burn a DVD as a further contribution.

Within the Pastel Society of Australia, Inc., Master Pastellists are looked to as a source of encouragement, support, guidance and inspiration among members.

Who can apply?

Any individual who has been a financial member of the Pastel Society, Inc. for three (3) years or more is eligible to apply for Master Pastellist status.

Applicants are generally prompted to apply for Master Pastellist status after achieving a sustained level of success with their art in the form of awards, prizes, commendations and/or successful exhibitions.

An individual who has been a member of less than three (3) years and who can demonstrate outstanding artistic ability may also apply to the Management Committee for special consideration to be assessed for Master Pastellist status. Approval is at the discretion of the committee after consultation with Master Pastellists.

How do I apply?

Members wishing to apply for Master Pastellist status of the Pastel Society of Australia, Inc. should download a copy of the **Master Pastellist Application** form from the Society's website at www.ozpastels.com. Completed application forms along with the required paintings must be submitted to the Society's Management Committee during February of each year and applicants will be notified of the outcome by the end of March.

What paintings should I submit?

Applicants for Master Pastellists status must present a total of six (6) original, framed paintings, predominantly composed (more than 75%) in soft pastel. Paintings should be representative of four(4) different genres as follows:

- A. Three (3) paintings from one genre.
- B. Three (3) paintings from three(3) other genres.

Genres may include portrait, figures, landscape, seascape, streetscape, still life, wildlife, flora, abstract/contemporary, pastel on canvas or any other genre.

- C. It is recommended that artists submit half sheet or larger paintings for assessment purposes and especially framed paintings.
- D. Applicants must also produce one (1) **monochromatic drawing** to show they have an understanding of tone & form.

- E. Applicants must submit a personal CV to support the application and if they have been awarded major art awards (i.e. 1st prize of \$800+) please provide name of Show/Exhibition, date and supporting material.

All paintings must be individually identified by title and genre, and this information should be detailed on the **Master Pastellist Application** form.

Submitted paintings must be original uncopied work of the applicant, executed without digital modification or the assistance of another person.

Country member applicants for Master Pastellist status should contact the Management Committee in relation to the processing of their application. In consideration of transportation costs, country members may present up to four (4) matted & shrink wrapped original paintings in place of four (4) of the six (6) required, framed paintings, as follows.

- A. Three(3) paintings from one genre – One framed painting and two (2) matted and shrink wrapped paintings
- B. Three(3) paintings from three(3) other genres – One(1) framed painting and two(2) matted and shrink- wrapped paintings.

All care will be taken in storing and display of art but no responsibility will be taken by the PSA Society, Members or Organisers.

Participants needing to courier/freight works, send to PSA Master Pastellist Determinations C/- PSA Exhibitions Co-ordinator, 168 King St, Clontarf, Qld 4019. (phone/fax 07-38894619). All works being couriered must be in packaging strong enough to return, and all works submitted must have return freight prepaid, or permission to return Cash on Delivery. Under no circumstances will the PSA incur courier/freight costs.

How are Master Pastellists selected?

The Management Committee will process all applications for Master Pastellist status and convene a panel of not less than five (5) Master Pastellists to assess the applications. Where the applicant for Master Pastellist is also a member of the Management Committee, this individual shall not participate in discussions or decisions in relation to their application.

Applications will be considered during March of each year by the assessment panel. The panel will then report back to the Management Committee for ratification of the selected applications for Master Pastellist status.

Master Pastellists are selected on their basis of their high level of artistic knowledge and skills as demonstrated by their ability to produce a consistently high standard of pastel art. Successful applicants are also expected to demonstrate their understanding of the role of Master Pastellist and to contribute to the Pastel Society of Australia, Inc through the support and development of their fellow members.

In assessing applicants' submitted paintings, the panel will particularly seek the following as evidence of the individual's artistic ability and standard.

- Sound drawing skills
- Competent use of pastels- appropriate textures and applications.
- Composition excellence
- Tonal understanding
- Appropriate use of colour
- Consistency of techniques and strengths
- Originality of subject matter and/or approach
- Competent use of a variety of edges

All applicants will be advised in writing of the outcome of their assessment.

Successful applications will be announced by the President at the April General meeting and in the following issue of the Pastel Society of Australia, Inc. newsletter.

Further Information?

If you would further information or advice about becoming a Master Pastellist, please contact of member of the Management Committee of the Pastel Society of Australia, Inc. – or speak to a Master Pastellist.