

Frequently Asked Questions for Art Applicants

Where do I send my application? Email your application form (plus your resume, bio, and PDF) to the branch President or Membership Chair. Your sponsor can give you the email address.

What happens next? In most branches, the officers (or the whole branch, if it's a small branch) will vote to approve you as a member. Then the branch President or Membership Chair will email your application to the National Art Credentials Officer.

What if I don't live near a branch? You can apply to be a Member-at-Large (MAL). In this case, email your application form, resume, and bio directly to the Art Credentials Officer listed on the application. Another option is to join a branch that holds zoom meetings.

What does the Art Credentials Officer do with the application? The Art Credentials Officer will evaluate your application packet. If she approves the application, she will send an email to the branch letting them know that you are now a Pen Woman. She will send the application on to the NLAPW headquarters in Washington DC, where it will be processed.

What if I prefer to send my application through snail mail? Most branches will accept a paper application. Usually, the President or Membership Chair will scan the application (this can be done with any smartphone) and email it to the Art Credentials Officer.

What is the difference between a resume and a bio? A resume will look like a list. The bio will look like a paragraph.

What should I list on my resume? Exhibitions where your work has been shown: juried shows, commercial galleries, and co-op galleries. In other words, list at least three places where your work has been exhibited after a selection process.

How do I select which works of art to list on my resume? List at least three works of art that you have sold to the public or organizations. Yes, works sold through a fundraiser count.

Should I list prizes and recognition I've received for my art? Yes.

Does teaching art or working as an artist count? Yes. List your employment on your resume. Art members can include being art teachers, commercial artists, designers, architects, illustrators, photographers, cartoonists, or any of the other art professions.

If my artwork is on my website, can I send that link instead of a PDF? Yes.

Please note: If you join between February 15 and May 1, you will not be asked to pay dues again until the following May.