
Preparation guide for application for Master Pastellist Status with the PSA Inc

- A Master Pastellist (MP) is a level of achievement accredited by the PSA Inc., to pastel artists who exhibit a sustained level of expertise in pastel artwork.
- Once achieved the accreditation is only valid whilst you remain a member of the PSA Inc
- It is required that Master Pastellists take an active role in promoting the goals of the Society

Applications are considered by an assessment panel of not less than 5 Master Pastellists

The PSA Inc Management Committee ratifies the decision of the Assessment Panel

A fee of \$50 is due upon submission of the application

The applicant is notified in due course as to the outcome

The application is in two stages:

Stage ONE (expanded below):— the applicant submits a cover letter, requested paperwork, and digital images to the panel. Feedback is provided to the applicant in due course as to progression or not to the next stage

Stage TWO (expanded below): - the applicant submits artwork in the physical, along with all documentation in a presentation folder, and any additional supporting evidence that the applicant deems appropriate

Stage ONE expanded:

What the applicant is required to **do and prepare** for the application:

1. Check that you have been a member of the PSA Inc for at least 3 years and currently are still a financial member
2. Seek out a Mentor from the MP data base within the PSA Inc who can offer you advice and guidance as you prepare your application and choice of artworks to submit for the assessment. Discuss with your Mentor how the status of Master Pastellist has contributed to their art career.
3. Write a cover letter to the panel for your application
4. Prepare to submit examples of your pastel artwork, in a minimum of three genres, and in varying sizes. Initially in stage One present the panel with digital images* and should your application progress, we shall request to view your art in the physical (these would be presented framed or mounted)
5. Explain, illustrating with images, your usual work process when constructing a pastel painting. Siting one or two specific artworks would be adequate.
6. Tell us a little about yourself. Prepare a comprehensive CV about your art life. We want to know about your art education, art Exhibitions, art Groups, art teaching and demonstration experience and any publications in which you are represented. You may even have more aspects to tell us about.

7. Help us to understand how you believe you can value add to the PSA Inc. List or describe this in 300-500 words.

*Digital Images - Prepare a selection of 6-9 digital images of your recent pastel artwork (completed within the last 2-3 years) no larger than 2MB each labelled with the title, your name, size of image in cm. Include pieces both large and small over 3 genres of your choice. These could be portraiture, landscape, seascape, streetscape, still life, contemporary, abstract, floral, wildlife, animals, etc. Include at least 2 images of pastel artworks in any given genre

All submitted artwork must be from your own references, and not completed under an instructor, and completed within the last 2-3 years

Upload onto the PSA Inc website your prepared application documents by the prescribed date
The documents are:

- Cover letter – sample cover letters available upon request
- Art CV
- Work Process illustrations and explanations
- 300-500 words on your specific value add to the PSA Inc
- Digital Images

The application fee is payable to the PSA Inc, at this time, according to the Treasurer's instructions

Await a verdict from the Assessment Panel

Stage TWO expanded:

If you progress to Stage Two, we will request your artwork to be presented in the physical, along with a copy of all your paperwork, that you would have already sent by digital means. All this paperwork should be presented in a folder for ease of viewing.

Stage Two artwork to be presented:

Artwork in a minimum of 3 genres

2 pieces in each genre presented, in varying sizes

These ideally would be the same images that you sent digitally in stage ONE of the application

Depending on your location point from Brisbane, we will individually request the applicant to present either framed or mounted artworks for consideration. The PSA Inc is very mindful of the concerns in place when shipping framed pastel works over long distances. However, in the main we would prefer to see framed artworks.

If we do suggest sending mounted works then we also require that you send us detailed images of the front and back of your typically framed work. These images should be presented within your folder along with the all the application documentation.

The artwork is to be delivered by the designated date, or delivered in person on that date, to the specified address. After the panel has assessed all applicants, artwork can be collected. Notification of the outcome will come at a later date. Applicants may not be present during the deliberation of the assessment panel.

Criteria applied in assessing the applicant:

Professionalism of the presented application both in content and display

Willingness to value add to the PSA Inc.

Artwork:

- sound drawing skills
- composition and design excellence
- appropriate use of colour in terms of hue, tone, and intensity
- understanding of reflected and direct light
- competent use of a variety of edges
- competent use of pastels (textures and application thereof)
- consistency of strengths and techniques
- originality of subject matter and/or approach skilfully rendered to convey a sense of individuality

RECAP of Process for application:

- Check Membership year count
 - Find your Mentor
 - Prepare images for submission as described
 - Explain your working process when creating pastel artworks
 - Prepare your CV
 - Tell us how you can value add to the PSA Inc
- Submit all these prepared documents and digital images online on the web site
 - Pay the application fee
 - Wait for notification of progression or not to Stage Two

Applicants who progress to Stage Two:

- Submit physical artwork and folder for assessment on the set date to the prescribed address**
 - Leave assessment address while the panel deliberates
 - Collect artwork and folder post assessment
 - Wait for notification of the results

** Applicants will be notified of the address where the assessment will be conducted, at the time of their notification to progression to Stage Two of the application