



## **Introduction to Minnesota Watercolor Society (MNWS) Board of Directors**

Below is a short overview of MNWS, and a guide to what it means to be a MNWS Board member, the expectations and benefits.

MNWS was founded in 1983 with 47 members as the Twin Cities Watercolor Society. In 1998 the name was changed to the Minnesota Watercolor Society. The organization currently has an average of 300+ members.

The Board provides these very valuable benefits to our members through the various Board roles.

- Monthly member meetings from September through May. Typically, four member meetings are in-person; Dec, Jan, and Feb months are remote via Zoom due to challenges with Minnesota winter weather; spring and fall show receptions replace that month's member meetings.
- Monthly member meeting programs usually include an artist demo.
- Spring and Fall Show Exhibitions
- Workshops led by accomplished and well-known artists. Usually (2) workshops per year.
- Newsletter printed in color and mailed to members' homes.
- Membership support and Lifetime membership acknowledgement and award (pin).
- Signature membership recognition and award (framed certificate).

All the Board positions are on a volunteer basis. The Board is made up of the following members:

### **Executive Board**

Executive Board members are elected by a majority of the membership to serve a (2) year term. A second term can be served through the same election process. **The Executive Board acts as a governing Board** that oversees the organization's strategic planning and decision-making activities, providing direction and oversight of key objectives. They serve as a steering committee when decisions need to be made quickly but answer to and report back to the full board of directors.

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary

### **Board of Directors**

These positions are appointed by the Executive Board and require a 2-year commitment. A longer commitment is encouraged. Also, the Workshop Chair does have a limited term as in this position they are able to attend the workshops for free.

- Membership Chairperson
- Programs Chairperson
- Workshops Chairperson - This role is limited to one term (2 years)
- Spring Exhibition Chairperson
- Fall Exhibition Chairperson
- Signature Member Chairperson
- Marketing and Communication
- Webmaster
- Newsletter Chairperson
- Historian



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### **MNWS Board Member Expectations:**

- Attend monthly Board meetings (September thru May). Board meetings are typically via Zoom, however, can also be in person. If needed, attend a Board meeting during the summer break or ad hoc as needed.
- Fulfill the requirements of your Board role. (*Temporary assistance can be requested from MNWS members who are willing to volunteer.*)
- Collaborate with other members of the MNWS Board, supporting them in their roles. Contribute where possible to problem solving and share ideas at Board meetings.
- Attend “In Person” events such as Member meetings, and the openings of spring and fall exhibitions. At these events, help to welcome new members and be a resource for members. Board members are the ‘face’ of MNWS.
- Solid understanding of the by-laws on [www.minnesotawatercolors.com/about](http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/about)
- Coordinate and manage transition of role to the new person and responsibilities when exiting your role. Update any reference documents on Google drive for MNWS. Refer to those identified on the membership list as willing to volunteer as a resource to find your replacement.

### **MNWS Board Member Benefits:**

- One point is earned each year that a Board member serves/volunteers in support of the mission and activities of the MNWS. Maximum of two points can come from Board role.
- Stipends are given to a few of the Board positions due to the technical/special skills required for the role.
- Great experience in working on a Board to support a large organization.
- Contribution to ensuring the continued success of an important organization to promote watercolor as an art medium.