

## Membership Information and Application

### **Prospective Member**

The Gallery Uptown is the second oldest co-operative (member owned) art gallery in the State of Michigan. It was founded in 1975 to provide a place for its members to sell their art. The continued success of the gallery is due to three key principles: quality art, hard work and sales.

**Quality Art:** Many of our member artists have earned awards for their art in juried shows and exhibitions throughout the United States (nationally and internationally). All of our artists continue to improve their skills by studying art and attending workshops held locally and internationally by renowned artists from all over the world.

**Hard Work:** The amount of work involved in running a business doesn't diminish because we are a co-operative (member-owned). The work of running our business is shared by the member/owners. Owner/members can expect to work at least twelve hours a month. Everyone works in the gallery one day a month (or two half days) this is about eight hours, with about four or more hours a month spent on committee work.

**Sales:** The dues offset most of the overhead expenses of running our business but our continued success is derived from the sale of art. All members must do their best to help our customers find art that meets their personal satisfaction by selling the art work of every member.

There is a great deal of history and pride in the success of our Gallery. We hope that you become a kindred spirit in the pursuit of helping our customers see that purchasing art from us is as satisfying to them as it is rewarding for us. We are convinced that active enthusiastic member/owners, quality art, hard work and satisfied customers will keep us in business for a long time to come.

### **You Can Expect:**

... the opportunity to exhibit and sell your art work in a professional environment where others will sell your art work too. You will have an opportunity to participate in a small group shows annually.

... that referrals may come to you from the Gallery when a client is looking for a type or style of art that you specialize in and there isn't a piece on hand for them to view.

... to develop professional relationships as well as lasting friendships with gallery members.

... to have opportunities to display your art at offsite locations through the Art-Reach program.

... a great deal of information regarding show announcements (entry forms, contacts with area businesses and other galleries, etc) are received by the gallery. Members have access to this information.

**The Gallery Expects:**

... you to create and display high quality art work that is presented or framed in a professional manner consistent with standards of the gallery. (What you were juried in)

... that you will work at the Gallery one eight (8) hour day per month or two four(4) hour half-days per month (and attend a quarterly meeting). July and August require ten (10) hours work per month. In the event you have a last minute scheduling issue or a planned extended vacation you may hire an approved substitute to work for you. A list of approved substitutes will be provided.

... you to be active on a committee (usually one of your own choosing) and/or on the Board of Directors.

... you to do your best to greet customers and help them to find art that meets their personal satisfaction by promoting or selling the work of all of our members.

**Membership Requirements:**

There is a new-member initiation fee of \$100.00. The initiation fee is required with your first month's membership dues. If you leave the gallery and wish to rejoin, you must be juried in again and pay a \$100.00 initiation fee again. Dues are \$35.00 a month and may be paid monthly, quarterly, or semi annually. They are due by the first of each month. Each member must provide the gallery two months notice of resignation.

The Gallery retains a 25% commission on all work sold. You will receive 75% of the amount of the item sold. Checks are issued monthly, usually by the tenth of the month following the month in which a sale takes place.

The Gallery is not responsible if your work is damaged or stolen while hanging in the gallery. We take extra precautions in an effort to avoid problems but you do hang at your own risk.

**All Gallery Uptown members hang/display their artwork at their own risk. The Gallery Uptown is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged art.**

**To apply for membership:**

Return the application form below along with your biography, and five photographs with the selling price marked on the photo. ***When an opening related to your medium occurs, you will be contacted and asked to submit your work for review by the gallery Board of Directors.***

***Only at that time*** will you be asked to submit five original works, ready for display, in the medium or media you wish to sell through the gallery. *Your submissions do not have to be work that is for sale but they must be representational of your current ability.* You must have work available to sell upon your acceptance. If accepted, you will need to retain at least four pieces in the gallery at all times.

Submit original work only, not photographs or slides. This implies that the work is not taken from the work of other artists (including photography).

Include a statement or biography about yourself and your work.

*If the Gallery Board finds your work to be of the quality expected by the Gallery Uptown, the member-ship committee will organize an all-member review of your work and all members will vote on it.*

If you are accepted, you will be notified by mail or by phone.

The membership application form is on the next page.

*Please fill out the form below and submit it, along with your biography and five photographs that are representational of your art-work to: Membership Committee, Gallery Uptown, 201 Washington Ave., Grand Haven MI 49417. Please retain this top portion for your reference and clarification.*

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Media: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Art Memberships: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Awards: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Where is your work currently on exhibit? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

