

Standards Committee Meeting- May 17, 2023

In Attendance: Candice Westberg (Chair), Don Parker, Chuck Roehrich, Michael Baldree, Anna Lawrence.

Staff: Shannon Lee-Hutson, Silver Lee-Hutson, Sonia Ostendorf

Recorder: Anna Lawrence

Guest: Jessie Gustafson

Absent: Willie Gibboney

Introductions: None

Announcements: Jessie Gustafson is no longer a member of the Standards Committee. Pressing Member Concerns: Michael Baldree brought up the concern around C & C digital art with regard to original art. It was mentioned that that discussion would be under New Business at this meeting. Discussion ensued about meeting decorum and how to keep the cross talking to a minimum by raising one's hand and getting on a speakers list. There is a desire to encourage a lively discussion and debate with respect to other committee members. With a newer committee members, we are still learning the procedures to ensure a good meeting.

Agenda: Review/Amend/Approve:

Under New Business the topic of Member Honesty during screenings was added.

Motion to approve agenda: Chuck/Anna 5-0-0.

Approval of Minutes from April 19, 2023:

Candice felt that the wording from the last minutes regarding the Standards Committee Member Structure needs to be corrected to read: *"Under the current administration there was a 2-way tie for the co-chair position. It was decided that each of the two tied candidates would serve a 6 month term."* This is a temporary solution to the two-way tie.

Motion to approve the correction: Anna/Chuck- 5-0-0

New Business:

Amend the shared co-chair terms for this year: Because co-chair Jessie Gustafson is no longer on the committee, Willy Gibboney and Candice Westberg are the two co-chairs. Candice is leading the meetings for the first six months and Willy will lead the meetings for the second six months of the 2023 year.

Motion to approve amended chair terms: Don/Mike- 5-0-0

AI Generated Art:

Candice spoke to the increased popularity of AI generated art on line and in the Industry. She has not seen any AI Art in Screening meetings but she would like get would like to NOT permit any AI Generated at this time. This description would be under its own headline in the Standards Guidelines. The committee needs more time for discussion regarding this subject.

Motion: AI Generated Art is NOT permitted into SM at this time. Don/Anna 5-0-0

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Digital Art/Computer Art:

Candice has thoughts about this category. The Standards Committee needs to know what programs, apps and tools are used in the creation of the artists artwork. The artist needs to be prepared to share screenshots of your work and the progress of its creation as it is such a new medium. The Standards Committee wants to work with the artists and our membership who are creating with Digital and computer art as we move forward. If the artist uses a computer in any part of the process of creating your art we need to know the programs and techniques used. We can look up that program to verify its use. Programs that can be used are Photoshop, Procreate, Ibis paint, Adobe Illustrator, etc. (AI programs are different from digital/computer art). These apps and programs are tools for creation of the original art, and the original creative process must happen first - Chuck.

Silver added her process of using a digital app for creating her artwork. The entire process of creating one's art on a computer can be recorded for evidence of creating one's own art. A blurb needs to be written in the body of the Standards Guidelines prior to each items requirements and the following is Candice's initial contribution..." Due to the prevalence of AI Generated Art and the ease of accessing readily available digital files, whether free use or purchased, the SM requires screenshots, process images and the names of applications and programs used in the creation of your artwork, so we can best determine where it falls in our requirements for maker-made art. There must be a significant creative component/effort that originates from you (the maker) within the piece.* (*Knowledge of any tools or programs and the time it takes to calibrate/adjust/process those tool and programs does not equal creative contribution.)

We appreciate your understanding of our need for additional information in these relatively new and rapidly expanding fields. "

Discussion ensued about generational differences around creating art- hands-on versus computer...its all about the tools used to create one's art. Generally speaking, all original art takes a lot of hours...in Digital art the artists need to be prepared to give a presentation of how their original art is created.

Motion: Move the discussion of Digital/Computer Art forward to the next meeting under Old Business giving time to edit the explanatory paragraph above and more discussion for the Standards Guidelines Handbook. Anna/Chuck 5-0-0

Honesty of Artists in Standards Screenings:

Anna has concerns about whether or not the new artist in the screening is telling the truth about the creation of their art. Her experience came from last fall's screenings for HM when she was told that the art being proffered was their own when in fact it was manufactured commercially. Anna struggled with how to call someone out if their art is not theirs but they claim it is.

It was suggested that we do not need to approve everyone in the moment, but can delay for 1,2 or even 3 weeks while the committee investigates the origin of their product, proof of craftsmanship.

Don proffered that the procedure is in place called a "notice of concern" where a vendor must reappear before the Standards Committee, and /or the Board, to determine the feasibility of the origin of their art. It was noted that being approved and then finding out the art isn't their original design allows the Standards/Board to disqualify that artist from selling that item at market.

SM has an unwritten "Honor System" around the artists origin of their art and the 10% of sales earned every Saturday.

We are all human and thus errors occur. The Standards Committee is doing what we can with the information provided.

Old Business:

Hawking: A lively discussion ensued about the levels of hawking and where to draw a line... Definitions were proffered and examples were given about the variety of "hawked" items. In the SM guidelines sound is not supposed to leave the confines of your booth...Drums, Thunder Gourds, pounding metal, etc were deemed all part of the sounds of our market...the ambiance. IF a vendor is having trouble with the sounds emanating from a nearby booth it is suggested that the GM tend to problem and the artist not take matters into their own hands. What was determined was that artists cannot demonstrate their products use outside of their booth.

Motion: Demonstrations outside of the artists booth are NOT permitted. Don/Mike 5-0-0

Services:

This discussion was finalized at the April Committee meeting.

The June 21st meeting's topics will be knitting/crochet, face painting and Tie Dyes.

Motion to adjourn meeting: Don/Chuck 5-0-0

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