



SVWS Specifications for Exhibiting

General Guidelines:

- All exhibiting SVWS members are responsible for reading and understanding the Exhibiting Specifications
- The specifications outlined in this information are general guidelines for all SVWS sponsored exhibiting
- At times, SVWS may have the opportunity to exhibit at new locations requiring slight changes to this information depending on the requirements of the exhibiting facility.
- Any needed changes or additions to these requirements for a special exhibition space will be communicated at SVWS monthly meetings in advance of the installation of the exhibition
- Sales at SVWS sponsored venues will require a remittance of 7% commission of the sales price
- Each artist is individually responsible for payment of Virginia State Sales Tax collected by SVWS
- If questions exist about the specifications, the member is responsible for consulting with the SVWS Board or the Director of Exhibits for clarification prior to exhibiting

Mediums:

- Water media shall be defined as using one or more of the following water soluble materials in a painting: watercolor, acrylic, casein, gouache, ink and other water soluble mediums
- If other mediums are used, the painting must be predominately water media
- Works containing collage materials must be created using predominantly water media
- Currently water soluble oils are not being admitted to local, state and national water media organizations. Until such time as these materials are allowed into exhibitions, SVWS will **not accept water soluble oils**
- Final decisions on mediums used will be made by consensus of the member's Annual Show Committee and/or the SVWS Board

Accepted Substrates:

- Paper
- Synthetic paper such as Yupo
- Canvas
- Cradled panels including wood, clay, gesso and watercolor finish surfaces for water media painting

Finishing:

Paper and Synthetic Paper Substrates:

- All works on paper or synthetic paper must be matted and framed with glass or acrylic glazing
- Mats must be neutral such as white, off-white or light gray
- A color mat liner may be used
- As noted under General Guidelines, certain venues may allow other mat colors, please check with SVWS Director of Exhibits for clarification prior to exhibiting
- All mats must be cut straight and be clean and free from smudges, dirt, dust, hairs and fingerprints
- Mats should be cut with equal weight on all four sides with the exception of a weighted bottom if desired
- Mats less than 2 inches on most paintings is unattractive and unprofessional. Larger works look best with mat borders of at least 3 inches
- Ready-made frames that include pre-cut mats usually have incorrectly weighted borders. These are unattractive for artwork
- Frames must be appropriate for the work in style and size
- All framed work should have no movement between frame and glass/glazing
- Appropriate framing clips or other hardware should be used to secure artwork in the frame
- All work must have the proper hanging hardware; screw eyes and hanging wire, note position of hanging wire so that wire does not show above the frame of the artwork
- Saw tooth hangers are not accepted
- Glass and acrylic glazing must be used on paper and synthetic paper framed work
- Both glass and acrylic glazing materials must be clean and free from damage
- For guidance in determining glass versus acrylic:
 1. Combine the length and width of the framed piece (outside dimension of the mat)
 2. If the combined length and width is 49 inches and under, picture frame glass can be used
 3. If the combined length and width is 50 inches or over, acrylic glazing (Plexiglas) is to be used

4. The dimension represents a half sheet of watercolor paper (15 x 22) plus a 3 inch mat all around = $15 + 3 + 3 = 21$, $22 + 3 + 3 = 28$, combined $21 + 28 = 49$ inches
 5. Any combination of length and width can be used to determine type of glazing material to be used (e.g. Oblong piece measuring $12 + 32 = 44$, can be framed using picture frame glass)
- Professional backing must be used on all pieces; examples are acid free mat board, acid free foam core board, other acid free materials
 - At no time is cardboard or other wood pulp products allowed
 - Wood framed pieces must have a paper dustcover backing neatly secured

Canvas:

- Gallery wrapped canvases are permitted
- The edges of the wrapped canvas must be finished
- Gallery wrapped canvases can be framed but framing is not required
- Canvas work should not have glass or acrylic on the piece

Cradled Panels:

- Wood finish, clay finish, gesso finish and watercolor finish cradled boards may be used for exhibiting
- A minimum of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch depth on the panel is acceptable
- Sides of the panel must be finished with acrylic, stain or paint
- Because panels are not protected by glass or glazing the artist must finish the surface to protect the painting for the exhibition and for the buyer
- Some methods of finishing are wax, spray, acrylic mediums and it is the responsibility of the exhibiting artist to use the appropriate finishing method
- It is recommended that the artist research appropriate finishes for their work to ensure the quality of the piece is acceptable for display and purchase
- It is suggested that artists provide a buyer with information on how to care for work painted on panels if necessary

Finished Artwork and Delivery:

- All artwork submitted for SVWS exhibiting must include proper identification on the back of the work
- All work must be identified on the back with: SVWS, artist's name, title of work, medium used and price, a sample label is provided below for member's use
- If a venue allows bin work, original art must be matted, backed and professionally shrink wrapped or enclosed in an archival art storage envelope
- Prints for bin display may be presented without a mat but must be backed and shrink wrapped or enclosed in an archival art storage envelope

Final: Approved on February 2nd, 2017

	Name:	_____
	Title:	_____
	Medium:	_____
	Price:	_____

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