



FEDERATION
of CANADIAN
ARTISTS

2026

APPLICATION FOR ELECTED STATUS
AFCA™ & SFCA™

ENTRY DEADLINE:

FRIDAY AUGUST 15th 2026
12:00 NOON (PST)

Schedule for 2026 intakes

August 15, 2026	Autumn intake Application Deadline.
Aug 22 - Sept 5	Application Pre-Screening
September 12	Pre-Screening Results issued by this date at the latest
October 1 - 15	Delivery window for artwork for successful pre-screened applicants
October 18	Selection Committee Meeting (BoG) – Jurying
October 19	Acceptance & decline notification phone calls and emails to applicants
October 20	First day of exhibition – <i>Success!</i>
October 29	Return shipping start date. Unsuccessful applicants may pick up.
November 1	Final day of exhibition
November 4	Success! Exhibition artwork is available for pick-up and return shipping

General Considerations

- Application for Elected status is ONLY open to Exhibiting and AFCA members who meet all the requirements.
- Application fee is \$150. This fee is non-refundable at any stage of the application process.
- Applications must be emailed to the Membership Coordinator at membership@artists.ca
- Incomplete, inaccurate or late applications will NOT be considered nor refunded.
- Once the deadline has passed all information submitted is FINAL. Changes cannot be made after the submission deadline.
- We will only be accepting 60 applications per intake. Subsequent applications will be deferred to the following intake.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY



How to Apply

I. All Applicants

It is important to submit your application form ahead of the deadline to allow sufficient time for completing all submission steps. FCA staff will not be able to assist in the completion of your application if applicants submit too close to the application deadline.

Due to the number of applications we receive each year all applications are pre-screened by members of the Standards Committee. If any one (or more) of the committee members believe you have a reasonable shot of receiving AFCA status, your application will be approved for the Selections Committee Meeting. All applicants will be informed of the result by the “pre-screening results” date listed on the schedule. Applicants who are not accepted at any stage will be offered feedback on their application.

- Start the application process. Fill out the application form found at the back of this package and email it to the Membership Coordinator at membership@artists.ca.
- After review of the application and Qualifying exhibitions list, staff will email you a submission link to pay for your application online and upload your 10-piece portfolio.
- Please indicate in the “Description” field which three (3) out of the ten submitted images are of the artwork you intend to deliver to the Federation Gallery for live jurying. **There is no need to enter any other descriptions. Descriptions or any supplementary info are NOT shared with the jurors.**
- Finalize your submission. FCA staff will reach out if there are any issues or questions we have about your portfolio. If you do not hear from us after finalizing your portfolio, your portfolio has been accepted for the pre-screening stage.
- Upon receiving your pre-screening results, you may prepare your three (3) pieces of artwork for delivery. Additional delivery instructions will be emailed to those accepted with their results. Please do not send your artwork until you have received approval.

II. Exhibiting Member Considerations

Exhibiting members must have had seven (7) different works accepted into seven (7) different Qualifying FCA exhibitions in the past four (4) years to qualify for this intake. In 2026, this will include Exhibitions that occurred between 2022 - 2026 (up until the application deadline date). A Qualifying Exhibition is defined as “an Exhibition held by the FCA or one of its Chapters, juried by FCA Elected members, that is held within a physical gallery space. Exhibitions’ call booklets and the FCA Exhibition Calendars state whether a call is Qualifying. As part of your seven (7) Qualifying exhibitions up to five (5) may be Qualifying Chapter exhibitions.

III. Current AFCA (Associate) Members

AFCA applicants are not required to list 7 exhibitions in recent years as their AFCA status implies their previous acceptances. After having received your application, staff will forward you a submission link to pay for and upload your portfolio.

AFCA members please complete the following sections of the application:

- Contact information,
- Intent to exhibit,
- Declaration.

Artwork Requirements

Submitted work must comply with the standards for Federation exhibitions. Work must be original work by the artist, not copies or derivatives of the work of others or in any way an infringement of copyright. Submitted artwork may not make substantial use of stock photography in its creation. If stock photography has been used as a reference for any of the artwork in a portfolio, the artist is expected to have used it as a reference to inform their own lighting, composition and vision instead using the photograph as a substantial component of their finished artwork. Submitted work must have been made without any amount of AI assistance.

Applicants can expect to be contacted by staff if there is any question about their use of copyrighted material or stock photography, and must be prepared to provide evidence by way of receipts and presenting the stock photographs used to be considered by the Standards Committee. If there is any doubt the artwork could be considered an infringement or is derivative of a stock photograph, do not submit it.

Artwork that was created in whole or in part during a workshop or class may not be used. Work that has appeared in the Federation Gallery or has been sold can be resubmitted. Artists are responsible for sourcing and producing agreements with their clients to obtain sold artwork.





Accepted and Excluded Mediums

The FCA is presently only granting Elected status for work in the following types of 2D media:

- Oil, acrylic, and water media painting, pastel, graphite, pencil, ink, encaustic, collage, and original hand-pulled prints as long as your practice is to have a print run limited to <200.

The FCA is presently only granting Elected status for work in the following types of 3D media:

- Stone, metal, glass, clay, wood and wood products, or ceramic

Specifically excluded art forms are:

- Photography, digital photography, digital art, ivory, plaster, wax, reusable modeling compound, found objects, electronics, holography and other projected media, fragile modeling media such as paper-mâché and salt dough.

Image Requirements

Images must be submitted to the same standards of FCA juried exhibitions. Please take great care in the preparation of your images as they will represent your work to the jurors. Think of your submission as a professional portfolio and select your images accordingly. This portfolio is a visual representation of you, the artist, so take care to only select high quality images that reflect the best examples of your work – your portfolio is only as strong as your weakest image.

Digital images must be prepared and cropped so that only the painting is visible. The painting's frame or background must be removed. Images that are off square, out of focus, improperly exposed, have excess glare, or contain watermarks will be disqualified from the jury process. Images must be submitted in jpeg (.jpg) format.





Painting Drop-off and Pick-up

Three (3) original artworks must arrive at the Federation Gallery during the “delivery window” listed on the schedule. Those three (3) delivered artworks must match the record of items to be delivered.

The FCA Gallery is open to receive deliveries 7 days/week between 10am – 5pm. The schedule for drop-offs and pickups is outlined on page 2. Further details will be forwarded to artists successful following pre-screening meeting.

Jury

Jurying is completed by the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee consists of SFCA members who are able to attend the Selection Committee meeting that year. Jurying for Elected Status is similar to all FCA jurying in that it is anonymous and jurors do not speak to each other during the process. Portfolios are evaluated and scored as a whole, with consideration placed upon how the applicant curated their own work for the event. Ballots are counted by staff under the supervision of the Standards Committee. Scores are tallied and the median score is found to be the final score.

Notification & *SUCCESS!* Exhibition

Applicants will be notified of the Selection Committee’s decision by email following the day of jury.

It is customary for the Federation Gallery to display the submitted works of the successful applicants following the Selection Committee meeting. Please complete the “Intent to Exhibit” portion of the application form, informing us whether or not you would like your original artworks included in the *Success!* Exhibition if your application is successful. Applicants may choose to opt out of the exhibition if they wish. Paintings are not required to be for sale for this exhibition.

Artists who are not successful can be scheduled for a Feedback Session at their request. The feedback sessions will be led by one (1) of the jurors and takes place either in written form or via Zoom, at the discretion of the juror. The SFCA Selection Committee member will offer feedback on where the artist is in their practice and guidance on how they might find further success within the FCA.



Rights and Responsibilities

There are rights and responsibilities associated with Elected standing with the Federation of Canadian Artists. For more information please consult our constitution and bylaws which may be found on our website (www.artists.ca) under About\Governance.

Both AFCA and SFCA members

1. Must pay yearly membership fee
2. Are expected to act as jurors for Federation Gallery and Chapter exhibitions as needed.
3. Are expected to act as jurors for Exhibiting status applications as-needed.
4. Are expected to maintain a consistently high standard of work.
5. Are eligible to instruct for and present, FCA educational programming
6. Are eligible to participate in the annual Medals Exhibition.
7. Shall conduct themselves in a professional manner as required by the Society's Bylaws.

Rights and Responsibilities – AFCA's

1. Associate FCA members may use the post-nominal letters "AFCA"

Rights and Responsibilities – SFCA's

1. Signature FCA members may use the post-nominal letters "SFCA"
2. SFCA members will be asked to participate in the annual Selection Committee jurying
3. SFCA members are strongly urged to serve on the Board of Directors





Application for Elected Status 2026

Applicant's name:	Application date: (DD/MM/YYYY)		
Address:			
Email:	Phone:		
Current AFCA members please skip the step below and complete the declaration. Current EXHIBITING Members, please provide your entire list of Qualifying work here.			
Name of work	Name of Qualifying exhibition	Location/Chapter	Show Year





Intent to Exhibit (for all applicants)

The Federation Gallery will host an exhibition of the work of all successful applicants immediately following the jury. Please indicate below whether you would like your work included in the exhibition if your application were to be successful.

Yes

No

Declaration

By submitting your application, you declare that all submitted artwork are not copies, derivative or based on the work of others, or in any way an infringement of copyright. Submitted artwork may not make substantial use of stock photography in its creation. Submitted artwork may not make any use of AI generative resources. If stock photography has been used as a reference for any of the artwork in a portfolio, the artist is expected to have used it as a reference to inform their own lighting, composition and vision instead using the photograph as a substantial component of their finished artwork. Applicants can expect to be contacted by staff if there is any question about their use of copyrighted material, AI, or stock photography. Artists must be prepared to provide evidence by way of receipts and presenting the stock photographs used to be considered by the Standards Committee. If you are in any doubt if your artwork could be considered an infringement or is derivative of a stock photograph, do not submit it.

You also agree to allow the Federation to use the images of your work for marketing purposes, including but not limited to online advertising in-house and off-site promotions, email marketing, print advertising, and social media advertisements.

Please contact the FCA office if you have any questions about these or any other requirements.

Name of applicant

Signature of applicant

Email completed application form to membership@artists.ca

