Revised October 2023

CONSTITUTION

Article I NAME
The name of the organization shall be the Wisconsin Art Education Association, Incorporated.

Article II OBJECTIVES
The objectives of the organization shall be as follows:
1. To promote excellence in visual arts education as a non-profit educational organization in the schools and the communities of our state.
2. To promote visual arts education as necessary for the quality of education of all students K-12 and college/university, and be recognized as one of the academic basics in the general school curricula.
3. To increase access to visual arts education for all students regardless of race, economic status or geographic location.
4. To promote communication and understanding among the various arts groups, educational organizations, and visual arts education.
5. To stimulate and promote professional growth and individual competence among teachers of the visual arts.
6. To unite in action on important issues relating to visual arts education and related arts education.

Article III MEMBERSHIP
Membership is open to anyone interested in visual arts education.

Article IV ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

The association shall be organized to include officers, a board of directors, and affiliated groups.

1. OFFICERS There shall be a president, ex officio, president-elect, secretary, treasurer, and six regional vice-presidents.

2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS The membership shall include the president, ex-officio, president-elect, secretary, treasurer, six regional vice presidents, an art representative from the professional divisions of elementary, middle school, secondary, private-parochial, college-university, higher education student and museum education.

3. ADDITIONAL VOTING MEMBERS TO THE BOARD The State Art Consultant and Standing and Sub-Committee Chairpersons, all serve as members to the board.

4. AFFILIATE GROUPS Affiliate groups of association members may be organized provided that they meet the criteria established by the board of Directors.

Article V ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

1. PRESIDENT-ELECT The president-elect shall be elected from a slate of candidates nominated from the state membership. The election shall be held on odd numbered years by mail ballot to all members in good standing. A simple a majority of the votes cast is required for election.

2. SECRETARY AND TREASURER The secretary and treasurer shall be elected on even numbered years from a slate of candidates from the state membership. The election shall be by mail ballot to all members in good standing. A simple majority of the votes cast is required for election.

3. REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS The six regional vice-presidents shall be elected from a slate of candidates from the region that they will be representing. The election shall be held in even numbered years by mail to all members in good standing. A simple majority of the votes cast is required for election.

The geographic regions defined as follows:

SOUTHEAST: Milwaukee, Kenosha, Ozaukee, Racine, Washington and Waukesha counties

SOUTHWEST: Dane, Green, Jefferson, Rock and Walworth; Crawford, Grant, Iowa, LaFayette, Richland, Sauk and Vernon counties

NORTHEAST: Dodge, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Outagamie, Waupaca, Winnebago, Brown, Calumet, Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc and Sheboygan; Florence, Forrest, Langlade, Marinette, Menomonie, Oconto, Shawano and Waupaca counties

NORTHWEST: Barron, Burnett, Dunn, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, St. Croix, Washburn; Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, Iron, Price and Sawyer counties

WEST CENTRAL: Buffalo, Jackson, Juneau, LaCrosse, Monroe, Trempealeau and Vernon; Chippewa, Eau Claire, Rusk and Taylor counties

NORTH CENTRAL: Adams, Columbia, Green Lake, Marquette, Portage, Wood, Waushara, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, and Vilas counties

4. DIVISIONAL REPRESENTATIVES Board members representing art in the professional divisions of elementary, middle school, secondary, private-parochial, college-university, museum education and higher education student, shall be elected on odd- numbered years from a slate of candidates from the state membership. The election shall be by electronic ballot to all members. A simple majority of the votes cast is required for election.

Article VI TERM OF OFFICE

1. PRESIDENT: The president shall serve a two year term of office which will begin June 1 on the odd numbered year and continue until May 31 of the following odd numbered year or at the May board retreat. Following that term of office, the president shall serve in an ex-officio capacity on the Board during the term of the new president. The president shall serve only one consecutive term unless the president-elect resigns just as the new term of office begins. The president could then be appointed by the board to a second term.

2. PRESIDENT-ELECT: The president-elect shall serve for two years in this capacity prior to assuming the office of president. The term of office shall begin June 1 on the odd numbered year and continue until May 31 of the following odd numbered year or or at the May board retreat.

3. SECRETARY AND TREASURER: The secretary and treasurer shall serve two year terms beginning June 1 on even numbered years and continuing until May 31 of the next even numbered year. The secretary and treasurer may be elected by the membership for additional consecutive terms.

4. REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS: The six regional vice-presidents shall serve two-year terms beginning June 1 on even numbered years and continuing until May 31 of the next even numbered year. The six regional vice-presidents can be elected by the membership for one additional consecutive term.

5. DIVISIONAL REPRESENTATIVES: The board members representing the professional divisions shall serve for a two-year term beginning June 1 on odd numbered years until May 31 of the next odd numbered year. The board members representing the professional divisions may be elected by the membership for one additional consecutive term.

Article VII VACANCIES

1. PRESIDENT: If for some reason the president is unable to complete his/her term of office, the president-elect shall automatically become president for the unexpired term and assume all presidential duties. If for some unexpected reason, the president-elect resigns at the end of the second year term of office, the board may appoint the outgoing president or board member to fill the new term of office of the president.

2. PRESIDENT-ELECT: If for some reason the president-elect is unable to complete the first year of his/her term of office, a special election shall be called as soon as practicable to fill the vacancy as per section V (1). If for some reason the president-elect is unable to complete the second year of his/her term of office, the president, with approval of the board of directors, will appoint a member of the board to fill the unexpired term.

3. SECRETARY AND TREASURER: If for some reason the secretary or treasurer is unable to complete the first year of his/her term of office a special election shall be called within reasonable time to fill the vacancy as per section V (2). If for some reason the secretary or treasurer is unable to complete the second year of his/her term of office, the president, with the approval of the board of directors, will appoint a member of the association to fill the unexpired term.

4. REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS: If for some reason a regional vice-president is unable to complete the first year of his/her term of office a special election shall be called within a reasonable time to fill the vacancy as per section V (3). If for some reason the regional vice-president is unable to complete the second year of his/her term of office, the president, with the approval of the board of directors, will appoint a member from the appropriate region to fill the unexpired term.

5. DIVISIONAL REPRESENTATIVES: If for some reason a board member representing the professional division is unable to complete the first year of his/her term of office, a special election shall be called to fill the vacancy as per section V (4). If for some reason a board member representing the professional division is unable to complete the second year of his/her term of office, the president, with the approval by the board of directors, will appoint a member of the association to fill the unexpired term.

Article VIII MEETINGS OF THE ORGANIZATION

There shall be at least one general membership meeting held each year.

Article IX INCOME AND BENEFITS

1. No part of the earnings of the Association shall be used to benefit any member, any employee, or to otherwise attempt to influence legislation. This shall not prevent payment of reasonable compensation for services actually rendered to or for the association.

2. Upon dissolution, all of the assets of the Association shall be turned over to such non-profit, tax-exempt, charitable organization exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or any successor provision thereto as the final Executive Board of the Association shall elect.

Article X METHOD OF AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution may be amended or revised by two-thirds of the membership casting an electronic ballot. Proposals for revisions or amendments must be mailed to all members of record, thirty days prior to consideration and action.

BY-LAWS

SECTION I UNIFICATION
The Association shall be unified with the National Art Education Association.

SECTION II DUES
A. The dues shall be established by the board of directors and shall cover a period of twelve months.
B. The board of directors shall review all financial transactions and shall approve any necessary change.
C. Collection of dues shall be delegated by the executive board to a designated agent, namely, the National Art Education Association.

SECTION III DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. PRESIDENT: The president shall preside at all general and board meetings of the association. He/she shall appoint, with the approval of the board of directors, all members of standing and special committees. He/she or their designee from the membership shall be the delegate to the States Assembly of the National Art Education Association.

B. PRESIDENT-ELECT: The president-elect shall preside at all general and board meetings of the association in the absence of the president. He/she or their designee from the membership shall be the delegate to the States Assembly of the National Art Education Association.

C. EX-OFFICIO (Past President): The ex-officio shall advise the president on matters concerning the association. He/she shall preside at all general and board meetings of the association in the absence of the president and president-elect.

D. SECRETARY: The secretary shall serve as recorder for all regular and special meetings of the association, as well as assume secretarial duties as designated by the president and the board of directors.

E. TREASURER: The treasurer shall receive and disburse all monies of the association as directed by the president and the board. He/she shall prepare an annual budget for the association. He/she shall maintain a record of all monetary transactions of the association and shall submit these records for audit. He/she shall provide frequent financial statements to all members of the board and shall present a financial report to all general membership meetings of the association.

F. REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT: The regional vice-president shall act to facilitate information and professional growth opportunities for the membership in their region.

G. DIVISIONAL REPRESENTATIVES: The divisional representatives shall act to facilitate information and professional growth opportunities to the members in their region.

H. BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The board of directors of the association shall formulate the yearly program of the association and seek to carry out the objectives of the Association. They shall approve the annual budget. They shall approve all presidential appointments to standing and special committees. One third of the voting members of the executive board must be present to conduct the business of the association.

SECTION IV MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. The board of directors of the association shall meet a minimum of three times a year, exclusive of general membership meetings. The president with the agreement of the board shall determine the location and time of each meeting. The general membership shall be invited to attend and observe the meetings of the board.

B. The president shall call a special board meeting upon request of any two board members and/or upon the signed request of twenty members of the Association.

C. A board member's unexcused absence from two consecutive board meetings and/or from three regularly scheduled board meetings during the year shall be cause for dismissal from the board.

SECTION V STANDING COMMITTEES, SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: The executive committee shall advise the president on matters concerning the association. The committee shall consist of the president, president-elect, secretary, treasurer, and two additional members of the board of directors. The committee shall report to the board of directors.

B. NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The nominating committee shall present a slate of nominees to fill such regular and special vacancies, which shall exist on June 1 of each year or as vacancies, occur as per Article V. The committee shall be composed of at least two members in good standing who have indicated a willingness and interest in serving in this capacity. One of these members shall be appointed from the board of directors. The committee shall report to the board of directors.

C. FINANCE COMMITTEE: The conference committee shall review the financial condition of the association and make recommendations concerning monetary policy. The committee shall conduct an annual audit of all monetary transactions of the association. The committee shall be comprised of at least three members of the board of directors and shall report to the board of directors.

D. SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS: Special committees and appointments may be initiated by the board or by majority vote of the membership present at a general meeting of the association to carry out the constitutional objectives of the association.

SECTION VI AMENDING THE BY-LAWS

The by-laws may be amended or revised by a majority of the membership casting a ballot. Proposals for revisions or amendments must be mailed to all members thirty days prior to consideration and action.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The number of members serving on the board has varied. In 1962 it consisted of twelve members elected at the spring meeting. The term of office was three years with the president serving a one-year term. At least one person from six geographic locations was on the board. Today the board is consistent with that of the NAEA. The organizational year runs from June 1 to May 31. Elections are by electronic ballot.

All board members serve two-year terms, including the president. Elected officers number eighteen; president; president-elect; past president, secretary, treasurer, regional vice-president (Southeastern, Southwestern, North Central, West Central, Northeastern, and Northwestern), and divisional representatives (elementary, secondary, museum, private schools, higher education, and student). Non-elected, include the State Art Consultant, the membership chairperson, a public relations chairperson, a YAM chairperson, and a NAEA representative. The board plans and organizes the year's activities. Since 1976, the board members have attended a two-day spring retreat at their own expense to plan and approve the budget and activities. The WAEA is made up of concerned educators who care about their profession. It was founded and held together by the efforts of hundreds of educators who, over the years, have put in countless hours dedicated to the promotion of art education.