



**The Constitution  
of the  
Mayday Hills  
Art Society**

**July 2018**

**(revised February 2020)**

## **PART 1 – ABOUT THE MAYDAY HILLS ART SOCIETY**

### **Vision**

To have a successful and dynamic Art Society that is integral to the art and culture of the Beechworth community and the Indigo Shire region.

### **Mission**

The Mayday Hills Art Society (henceforth MDHAS) is a non-profit organisation for the benefit of artists in this region of Victoria. Its objectives are to foster all branches of the arts and to provide innovative activities, networking and other opportunities for artists to advance their talents and for all those interested in the arts.

### **Our values**

The MDHAS values the wealth of our local and visiting artists. We believe by sharing their work with our communities in an open, inclusive, and accessible way that we encourage appreciation for all forms of art and, in so doing, enrich the quality of life in our community.

We are committed to conducting our affairs with a high degree of professionalism, accountability, and fiscal and environmental responsibility while encouraging creativity, vigorous discussion, innovation, and a culture of happiness.

### **Objectives**

- a) To foster the arts in the Indigo Shire region of Victoria.
- b) To enhance the status of artists in the Society.
- c) To work for the recognition of the importance of visual art in education, in community life, in commerce and in industry and the appreciation of art by the authorities and the general public.
- d) To promote art through organised discussion, workshops, exhibitions, films, lectures, demonstrations by members or invited guests.
- e) To encourage and facilitate the participation of members in other exhibitions.
- f) To co-operate with kindred bodies in the promotion of the arts.
- g) To hold social functions for the benefit of all members of the Society and for the benefit of the Art Society within the community.
- h) To encourage interest in film as an art form in itself.

### **How the Art Society will operate to fulfil these objectives**

- a) Motivate members to be creative
- b) Offer and encourage high quality workshops with professional tutors
- c) Support and encourage one another

- d) Help to advance the skill levels and self confidence of each member.
- e) Develop an appreciation for all forms of art by increasing knowledge about art, art techniques and artists
- f) Encourage networking and social activities.
- g) Promote the Society within the community.
- h) Maintain a high level of respect for people and the work of its members.
- i) Increase membership.
- j) To operate a film club with the following aims:
  - a) To present members' choice of films in a comfortable cinematic environment, regardless of the medium, that ensures the screenings are social events and promote interaction between members and with the local community.
  - b) To encourage interest in film as an art form and as a medium of information, social awareness, education and entertainment by means of the exhibitoin of a wide range of quality cinema selected from all countries and all genres.
  - c) To promote the study, discussion of and appreciation of film by means of lectures, discussions, exhibitions and publications.
  - d) To provide a means of bringing members of the community together socially, on a regular basis, and offering a means to overcome social isolation.

## **PART 2 - MEMBERSHIP**

### **Membership**

All people interested in the arts and the objectives of the Society are welcome to join the MDHAS. Membership shall take the form of:

Full membership

Friend of the Mayday Hills Art Society

Membership of MDHAS commenced in July 2017. The Society was officially opened on 22 November 2017. Membership renewals are due annually on 1<sup>st</sup> January each calendar year. There is a grace period for any person joining after 1 July each year.

#### **Full membership benefits (\$30 per year November to November)**

1. Application for studio space (long-term and short-term)
2. Exhibition participation
3. Gallery hire
4. Workshops and classes (10% or other discount)

5. Networking opportunities
6. Lectures, art talks and special events
7. Newsletter
8. Outdoor excursions
9. Membership of the MDHAS Film Club (Films @ the Playhouse)

**Benefits of Friends of MDHAS (\$15 per year)**

1. Workshops and classes (10% or other discount)
2. Lectures, art talks and special events
3. Newsletter
4. Networking opportunities
5. Membership of the MDHAS Film Club (Films @ the Playhouse)

**MDHAS Film Club (Films @ the Playhouse).** Membership is included in Full and Friend membership categories, as above.

1. Membership is only available to Full or Friend members.
2. Film Club membership database is recorded separately and requires a separate Film Club registration in order to comply with the rules for a Non-theatrical screening.

**Registration of members**

A register of members of the MDHAS shall be maintained electronically, with a separate register of ‘Films @ the Playhouse’ members also being maintained electronically. These registers specify the name and address of each person and the date on which the person became a member, including their membership category, and any other such information as may be required by the Society.

**Resignation of membership**

A person ceases to be a member of the MDHAS if that person:

- a) Dies
- b) Resigns that membership
- c) Is expelled from the MDHAS
- d) Remains unfinancial for a period of 60 days after the due date for payment of the annual subscription unless granted an extension of time by the Management Committee.

### **Membership fee**

Subscription fees are \$30 per year for Full membership and \$15 per year for Friends of MDHAS. The fees shall be determined from time to time by the Management Committee.

### **Disciplining of members**

The Management Committee may be called to resolve an issue with member/s of the Society. This would occur if the member/s concerned had persistently or wilfully acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the Society. The Committee would therefore need to resolve the matter in an appropriate manner.

## **PART 3 – THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

### **Powers and responsibilities**

The Management Committee shall control and manage the affairs of the MDHAS and may exercise all such functions as may be required by the Society. The Management Committee has the power perform all such acts and do all such things as appear to be necessary or desirable for the proper management of the affairs of the MDHAS.

The Society grants the Committee of Management the following powers and responsibilities on behalf of and for the benefit of the Mayday Hills Art Society (MDHAS):

1. To acquire, hold and dispose of any property belonging to the Art Society.
2. To open and operate bank accounts.
3. To submit applications for grants for infrastructure development or special projects.
4. To borrow money upon such terms and conditions as the Art Society thinks fit.
5. To appoint agents to transact any business on behalf of the Society.
6. To enter into any contract it considers necessary or desirable.

### **Meetings of the Management Committee**

The Committee shall meet as required and as convened by the President. A meeting can be requested by any other Committee members who advise the President of such.

### **Delegation of sub-committees**

The Management Committee may delegate to sub-Committees and may invite any member of MDHAS to join such a committee for a specific project and term.

### **Member's annual meeting**

An annual meeting shall be convened on or around 22 November each year. This meeting is an opportunity for member input and feedback on the operation of the Art Society and is the occasion for the official election of the Management Committee and office bearers.

## **PART 4 – MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Insurance**

The MDHAS shall effect and maintain insurance coverage appropriate to the operation of the Society at its location at Mayday Hills, Beechworth.

### **Funds**

- a) The funds of the Association shall be derived from the annual membership fee of members, entry fees to exhibitions, donations, commissions from sales and any other sources as the Management Committee determines.
- b) All money received by the Association shall be deposited as soon as practicable and without deduction to the credit of the MDHAS bank account.
- c) Subject to any resolution passed by the Society, the funds of the MDHAS shall be used in pursuance of the objectives of the Society in such manner as the Management Committee determines.
- d) All payments from the account shall be signed by any two (2) members of the Committee.
- e) The books and records in respect of income and expenditure shall be kept by the Treasurer.

### **Alteration of objectives and rules**

The missions, objectives and rules of the MDHAS may be altered, rescinded or added to at any time by a special meeting of the Management Committee with members informed of the change/s.

The Constitution of the Mayday Hills Art Society is approved and certified by the following Members of the Management Committee on 14 July 2018. Revisions and inclusions to the Constitution were approved and accepted on 1 March 2020.

Christine Cansfield-Smith (President)

Wendy Stephens (Vice-President/Secretary)

Robert Richards (Treasurer)

Dr David Lawrence (Archivist/Member of Management Committee)

Dr Jenni Munday (Archivist/Member of Management Committee)