

# FRIENDS OF POLISH ART

## CONSTITUTION

{As Amended January, 2008}

### ARTICLE I- NAME

The name of this organization shall be Friends of Polish Art.

### ARTICLE II- OBJECT

#### Section 1.

The purpose or purposes for which the corporation is formed is as follows: The Friends of Polish Art shall function as an educational organization acting as a medium for the promotion of the understanding and appreciation of the arts of Poland, its people and their descendants. These Polish arts shall include both the Fine Arts and the Liberal Arts.

- A.) The Fine Arts shall include: graphic arts, painting, sculpture, architecture, music, drama, theatre, dance, and other forms of creative physical skills and crafts.
- . . .
- B.) The Liberal Arts shall include: history, language, literature, philosophy, religion, and traditional customs.

#### Section 2.

The Friends of Polish Art is organized and operated exclusively for the purpose described in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In order to fulfill this function, the Friends of Polish Art shall:

- A) Offer to public and educational groups information pertaining to these arts as described in Section 1.
- B) Procure works of Polish Art for the purpose of donating these objects to public and educational institutions.
- C) Cooperate with other cultural groups by partaking and/or assisting in joint programs in order to fulfill the common objectives of this organization, so long as they qualify under Section 501 (c )(3).
- D) To provide gifted individuals, regardless of race, creed, or color, with grants-in-aid, financial assistance, and scholarships in the aforementioned fields, to various colleges, universities, and institutions which are qualified as Tax Exempt Organizations; or in the alternative, to participate jointly with other 501 (c ) (3) Tax Exempt Organizations in funding grants-in-aid, financial assistance, and scholarships.

## ARTICLE III- MEMBERSHIP

### Section 1.

Membership in the Friends of Polish Art shall be composed of persons whose sole allegiance is to the United States of America.

### Section 2.

Membership in Friends of Polish Art shall be open to individuals who are interested in Polish Art and who believe in the aims and purposes of this organization.

### Section 3.

Membership applications shall be presented by the Membership Committee and shall be approved by the Board.

### Section 4.

There shall be three classes of membership:

- A) Active Regular Member: May attend all general meetings and activities, shall be entitled to all privileges of the organization, and shall be allowed to participate in elections, including the holding of office.
- B) Supporting Patron: Shall have the same privileges as that of an Active Regular Member but whose financial support shall be greater as stipulated in the "BY-LAWS" under "Dues" as per Article VII, Section 3.
- C) Honorary Member: Granted to individuals who have given their highest dedicated services to the objectives of the organization and are deemed worthy of this honor. Honorary members shall be entitled to all privileges as specified for active members.

## ARTICLE IV- OFFICERS

### Section 1.

The administration of the Friends of Polish Art shall consist of three classes of officers: The Executive Officers, the Board of Directors, and Chairpersons of Standing Committees.

- A. ) Executive Officers shall consist of the organization's President, Two (2) Vice Presidents, Recording Secretary(ies) Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and Financial Secretary. These Officers shall be elected into office
- B. ) The Board of Directors shall consist of five (5) members who shall be elected at large. The immediate Past President shall automatically be an additional member of this Board for a term of one year. Thereafter, five (5) members shall be elected at large to this Board.
- C. ) The Board shall also consist of Chairpersons of Standing Committees as described in Article IV of the By Laws. The President shall appoint the Chairpersons of Standing Committees and be an ex-officio member thereof.

## Section 2.

The Executive Elected Officers, the Board of Directors, and the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees shall form a body that will be known as the Board. The President shall be the Chairperson of the Board.

## ARTICLE V - ELECTIONS

### Section 1.

All Executive Officers and Board of Directors shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting. They shall be elected for the ensuing term and shall enter upon the duties of their offices immediately following the annual meeting.

### Section 2.

The President shall be elected to a term of two years. The other Executive Officers and Board Members shall be elected for a term of one year. There is no limitation on the number of terms of office.

### Section 3.

In order for a member to be eligible to become an officer or director, he or she must be a member in good standing of the organization for a period of at least one year preceding the election.

## ARTICLE VI - NATIONAL AFFILIATION

The Friends of Polish Art shall be a member of and affiliated with the American Council for Polish Culture and shall pay the annual prescribed dues to the National Council.

## ARTICLE VII - INCORPORATION

The Friends of Polish Art shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan as a "non-profit corporation".

## ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the Friends of Polish Art by a two-thirds vote of all the votes cast, providing a notice with the exact wording of the proposed amendment or amendments be submitted in writing thirty days before the annual meeting.

## ARTICLE IX - DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution, all assets, real and personal, shall be distributed to such organizations as are qualified as tax exempt under Section 501 ( c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provisions of a future United States Internal Revenue Law.