

Southern Appalachian Artist Guild Member of Excellence and Signature Member Program

Many of the most respected art associations have a credential system in place for members to work toward if they so choose. These credentials are basically used by artists and members who want their hard work and dedication recognized by not only their own association, but by their peers, collectors and galleries.

To serve the needs of its diverse and talented members, the Southern Appalachian Artist Guild Executive Board put together a credentialing program for our professional artist members as well as those members who have shown excellence in their dedication and support of the arts in our communities.

The Signature Member designation is designed for those artists who enter professional shows and competitions. Meeting the requirements for this designation will indicate that the member has reached a professional status within SAAG and entitles the artist to use the SAAG Signature Member title behind their name on all marketing materials.

The Member of Excellence designation is for those members who have shown exemplary support for the arts within SAAG and the arts communities. The members in this category have shown extraordinary dedication through the devotion of their time, talents and volunteerism. These qualified members are entitled to use the title SAAG Member of Excellence in recognition of this extraordinary dedication.

The SAAG Executive Board worked to offer both of these credentials, equal in status, to our diverse membership so anyone could work toward a designation. Any member can obtain either or both credentials. As of 2019, continuous membership must be maintained in order to retain Member of Excellence and Signature Member designations. To reinstate awarded designations, members may pay a renewal fee equal to the membership dues missed during inactive status.

Obtaining “credential” status is a personal choice. Each of our SAAG members is valued within our organization, whether or not he or she chooses to work toward a credential.

SAAG Signature Members

Keith Burgess
Tom Chambers
Joan Christopher-Quillen
Camille Day
Bill Dealy
Suzanne DesLauriers
Fred Dorr
Juanita Greenspan

Bill Groce ^
Kim Hamby
Toneeke Henderson
Irene Klangos
Robin Lewis-Wild
Carolyn Molder
Brooke Nations
Marsha Savage

Zoe Schumaker
Estelle Schwarz
Marie Spaeder-Haas
Bill Suttles ^
Marie-Luce Van Asten
Paula Van Huss ^ *
Marilyn Williamson

SAAG Members of Excellence

Ellen Minion
Pebbie Mott
Betty Schaefer

^ Honorary
* Deceased

To apply to be a SAAG Signature Member, complete the recording worksheet on page 4. When completing the worksheet, please refer to the examples and instructions listed below:

1. Fill in your name as it should appear on the award certificate (which will be presented at the December meeting – see 7. below). Also, please provide your email address so that we may contact you if we have any questions about the points recorded.
2. Proof of points must be provided with the recording sheet (please submit copies if possible; however, if you must use original documents, they will be returned to you.). A few examples of acceptable forms of proof are:
 - Show acceptance letters
 - SAAG/BRMAA show entry forms
 - Show catalogs
 - Emails
 - Donation forms
3. Section 1 – Items recorded in this section are retroactive to January 2008.
 - Record one completion for each year your artwork was accepted into the SAAG NJS. Example: If your artwork was accepted in 2009, 2013, 2014 and 2018, record 4 completions. Multiply these completions by 50 points for a line total of 200 points.
 - Follow the same process to calculate the number of completions for artwork juried into a national or regional show. Record 25 points for each completion in this category.
 - If you have been a BRMAA or SAAG program speaker or instructor, record 20 points for each program presented and/or class taught.
 - If you have been BRMAA Artist in Residence, record 20 points for each quarterly exhibit.
4. Section 2 – Items recorded in this section accrue from the start date of your SAAG membership.
 - If you have published an art-related article, at least one page in length, record 20 points for each article.
 - Record the number of SAAG member shows entered since becoming a guild member. Each show is worth 15 points. SAAG Member shows are:
 - Celebration of Artisans
 - SAAG Away Shows (Quinlan, Bowen, GAHA, Sautee Nacoochee, etc.)
 - Marvelous Miniatures
 - Record the number of BRMAA shows entered since becoming a member of SAAG. Each BRMAA show is worth 10 points. Shows included in this category are:
 - BRMAA Holiday Show
 - 3D Off the Wall
 - Fall Plein Air Event
 - Community Quilt and Fiber Arts Exhibit
 - Record 10 points for each piece of artwork donated to BRMAA or SAAG. Included in this category are:
 - WhoDunIt?
 - Cork & Canvas
 - Arts in the Park
 - SAAG Meeting Raffle Prizes
5. TOTAL
Signature Member designations are awarded to applicants who have accrued a total of 300 or more points. Prior to awarding designations, worksheets will be reviewed and verified by members of the SAAG Membership Committee.
6. Submit the completed recording sheet and proof of points to SAAG, 420 West Main Street, Blue Ridge, GA 30513, by November 15. Please keep a copy of the worksheet for your records.
7. Certificates will be presented at the December General Meeting/Holiday Potluck. At that time, you may begin using “SAAG Signature Member” on your marketing materials (continuous membership must be maintained in order to retain this designation). If you cannot attend the meeting, your certificate will be mailed to you.



Signature Member Recording Sheet

Name: _____ **Email:** _____

NOTE: Proof of points must be provided. Please refer to page 3 for examples and instructions.

ITEMS TO BE COUNTED	# OF POINTS	x # OF COMPLETIONS	TOTAL POINTS
Section 1 - Items are retroactive to January 2008 (first full founding year of SAAG and our first NJS):			
<i>Accepted into SAAG National Juried Show</i>	50	X _____ =	
<i>Accepted into any juried national or regional show</i>	25	X _____ =	
<i>Presented a SAAG/BRMAA program, pre-program, or class</i>	20	X _____ =	
<i>Selected as BRMAA "Artist in Residence"</i>	20	X _____ =	
Section 2 - Items accrue from beginning of membership in SAAG:			
<i>Published a one-page article on art for a periodical</i>	20	X _____ =	
<i>Entered a SAAG member show (excludes NJS)</i>	15	X _____ =	
<i>Entered a BRMAA show</i>	10	X _____ =	
<i>Donated one piece of art to SAAG or BRMAA for fundraisers</i>	10	X _____ =	
TOTAL POINTS ACCRUED FOR YOUR DESIGNATION			

Signature Member = 300 points

Approved By: _____ **Date:** _____

To apply to be a SAAG Member of Excellence, complete the recording worksheet on page 6. When completing the worksheet, please refer to the examples and instructions listed below:

1. Fill in your name as it should appear on the award certificate (which will be presented at the December meeting – see 8. below). Also, please provide your email address so that we may contact you if we have any questions about the points recorded.
2. Proof of points must be provided with the recording sheet (please submit copies if possible; however, if you must use original documents, they will be returned to you.). A few examples of acceptable forms of proof are:
 - Copies of magazine articles
 - Emails confirming dates/times for programs or volunteer schedules
 - Donation forms
3. Section 1 – Items recorded in this section are retroactive to January 2008.
 - If you have been a SAAG elected officer, record 50 points for each year served. Elected positions are:
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary
4. Section 2 – Items recorded in this section accrue from the start date of your SAAG membership.
 - If you have served as a SAAG Committee or Show Chair record 25 points for each year served. Positions included in this category are:
 - Programs Chair
 - Hospitality Chair
 - Webmaster
 - National Juried Show Chair
 - Membership Chair
 - Facebook Chair
 - Guild Photographer
 - If you have published an art-related article, at least one page in length, record 20 points for each article.
 - If you have volunteered for a SAAG or BRMAA event, record 10 points for each 2- to 4-hour shift worked. Examples of volunteer activities included in this category are:
 - Arts in the Park
 - SAAG artwork check-in/check-out
 - Delivering artwork to an away show
 - NJS Opening Reception
 - Record 10 points for each item donated to SAAG for monthly meeting raffles. Examples of items included in this category are:
 - Books
 - Art supplies
 - Gift certificates
5. Section 3 – Items in this section pertain to the current calendar year.
 - Earn 1 point for each SAAG monthly meeting attended during the current calendar year. To provide proof of points, please list the monthly meetings you attended.
6. TOTAL
Member of Excellence designations are awarded to applicants who have accrued a total of 300 or more points. Prior to awarding designations, worksheets will be reviewed and verified by members of the SAAG Membership Committee.
7. Submit the completed recording sheet and proof of points to SAAG, 420 West Main Street, Blue Ridge, GA 30513, by November 15. Please keep a copy of the worksheet for your records.
8. Certificates will be presented at the December General Meeting/Holiday Potluck. At that time, you may begin using “SAAG Member of Excellence” on your marketing materials (continuous membership must be maintained in order to retain this designation). If you cannot attend the meeting, your certificate will be mailed to you.



Member of Excellence Recording Sheet

Name: _____ **Email:** _____

NOTE: Proof of points must be provided. Please refer to page 5 for examples and instructions.

ITEMS TO BE COUNTED	# OF POINTS	x # OF COMPLETIONS	TOTAL POINTS
Section 1 - Items are retroactive to January 2008 (first full founding year of SAAG and our first NJS):			
<i>Served as a SAAG elected officer for one calendar year</i>	50	X _____	=
<i>Presented a SAAG/BRMAA program, pre-program, or class</i>	20	X _____	=
Section 2 - Items accrue from beginning of membership in SAAG:			
<i>Served as a Committee or Show Chair for one calendar year</i>	25	X _____	=
<i>Published a one-page article on art for a periodical</i>	20	X _____	=
<i>Donated an art related item to SAAG or BRMAA for fundraisers</i>	10	X _____	=
<i>Volunteered for a 2 to 4 hour shift for SAAG or BRMAA</i>	10	X _____	=
Section 3 - Items for current year only:			
<i>Attended a monthly meeting</i>	1	X _____	=

TOTAL POINTS ACCRUED FOR YOUR DESIGNATION			

Member of Excellence = 300 points

Approved By: _____ **Date:** _____