



FEDERATION
of CANADIAN
ARTISTS

2021 APPLICATION FOR SIGNATURE STATUS
AFCA™ AND SFCA™
Application Fee: \$150

ENTRY DEADLINE:
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26TH 2021
12:00 NOON



Schedule

October 1, 2020	Applications Open
February 26, 2021	Application Deadline – Online submissions must be completed by 12:00 noon PST
March 1 – 15	Application Pre-Screening
March 16	Pre-screening results issued by this date at the latest
April 1 – 17	Delivery window for artwork for successful pre-screened applicants (during gallery hours)
April 18	Selection Committee Meeting (BoG) - Jurying
April 19	Acceptance & decline notification phone calls and emails to applicants <i>Success!</i> Exhibition Installation
April 20	First day of exhibition – <i>Success!</i>
April 22	<i>Success!</i> Opening reception
April 22	Unsuccessful applicants may pick up their paintings / return shipping start date
May 2	Final day of exhibition
May 6	<i>Success!</i> exhibition artwork is available for pick-up and return shipping

Application fee: \$150 – application fees are non-refundable. If an artist is unsuccessful at the pre-screen stage, the \$150 non-refundable application fee still applies.

The application may be emailed to: membership@artists.ca

Please follow the directions carefully.

Incomplete, inaccurate or late applications will NOT be considered.

Applicants must meet all the requirements.

Please note once the deadline has passed all information submitted is FINAL. Changes cannot be made after the submission deadline, before or after jurying.

Please read through the entire application package. There are changes that take place every year.



Submission Requirements

OPTION A: AFCA (Associate) Members applying for SFCA (Senior) status

AFCA members are not required to have been accepted into juried Federation exhibitions in recent years. To apply for SFCA status, AFCA members need to fill in the “Application for Senior Signature Status (SFCA)” form at the back of this package. Applicants also need to **submit 10 digital images** of their work and, of these images, three (3) original artworks must be submitted for live jurying, framed or unframed. The standards to which SFCA applicants are held are considerably higher than applicants for Associate status.

How to apply:

1. AFCA's must start their application process by filling out the “**Application for Senior Signature Status**” **application form** found at the back of this package and returning it to the Federation office via email. **Please submit your application form well ahead of the deadline to allow sufficient time for the second step, uploading your online portfolio.**
2. After review of the application, staff will email you a **submission link**, which will allow you to upload your 10 images and pay for your application online. **This online submission process must be complete by noon Friday, February 26th 2021.**
3. During your online submission process, please indicate in the “Description” field which three (3) out of the submitted images are of the artwork you intend to deliver to the Federation Gallery for live jurying, framed or unframed. Write in the “Description” field, “*Live Jury #1,*” “*Live Jury #2*” & “*Live Jury #3.*” Live jury items must be available for the jury process; applicants cannot change their live jury items after their applications have been submitted. Do not include pieces with obligations at other galleries that conflict with this jury schedule, or that you may sell between now and the live jury date. By entering a piece into this application as a live jury item, you agree to withhold it from gallery display and/or sale until after the live jury date.
4. Your online portfolio will be pre-screened by the Standards Committee between **March 1 – 15, 2021**. Due to the number of applications we receive each year, the cost of physically shipping artworks to the gallery for live jury and limited storage capacity, only applicants that have been approved through pre-screening will be required to deliver artwork to the gallery for live jury.
5. Artists will be informed by **5PM on March 16, 2021** if they've been successfully pre-screened. Only artists who are successfully pre-screened will be invited to deliver artwork to the gallery.
6. These three (3) original artworks, must arrive at the Federation Gallery between **April 1st – 17th, 2021**. Please wait for approval of your online application pre-screening before sending in your three (3) original artworks to the Federation Gallery for live jurying.



OPTION B: Active Members applying for Signature Status

By making a submission, Active members are automatically considered for both AFCA and SFCA status. Please see the “Jury” section for more information. Note that the standards to which SFCA applicants are held are considerably higher than AFCA applicants are. All applicants have access to a video recording of “Preparing Your Application for Signature Status”. We strongly recommend that applicants watch this video and the “What Happens at the Selection Committee” article available under the Signature Status pages at artists.ca

Eligibility

Active members must have had seven (7) different works accepted into seven (7) different juried Qualifying FCA exhibitions in the past four (4) years. Most but not all Federation juried exhibitions are “Qualifying” exhibitions, as stated in the call booklets and the FCA Exhibition Calendar. Artists are responsible for keeping records of their qualifying acceptances.

As part of your seven (7) Qualifying exhibitions, two (2) chapter exhibitions per year, to a maximum of five (5) total, may be used in your application. You must have had at least two (2) works accepted into exhibitions that occurred at Federation Gallery in the last four (4) years.

Possible exceptions to this rule are Open National Exhibitions that are held by Chapters from time to time. If you were accepted into an exhibition like this it may be considered on par with a Federation Gallery exhibition in which case it may be used in lieu of a Federation Gallery exhibition. Please contact our office for confirmation if you plan to use a chapter Open National Exhibition in lieu of a Federation Gallery exhibition or if you are unsure whether an exhibition is a Qualifying exhibition or not.

Please note that acceptance into exhibitions other than Federation exhibitions no longer count toward FCA Signature status application.

How to apply:

1. Active members must start their application process by filling out the “**Application for Signature Status**” **application form** found at the back of this package and returning it to the Federation office via email. **Please submit your application form well ahead of the deadline to allow sufficient time for completing your online submission.** Staff must have enough time to confirm your exhibition information. If applicants delay submitting until the last few days before the deadline, FCA staff will not be able to assist in the completion of your application.
2. After review of the application and the provided list of Qualifying exhibitions, staff will email you a **submission link**, which will allow you to upload your 10 images and pay for your application online. **This online submission process must be complete by noon Friday, February 26th 2021.**
3. During your online submission process, 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. Write in the “Description” field, “*Live Jury #1,*” “*Live Jury #2*” & “*Live Jury #3.*”
4. Your online portfolio will be pre-screened by a member of the Standards Committee between **March 1 – 15, 2021.** Due to the number of applications we receive each year, the cost of physically



shipping artworks to the gallery for live jury and limited storage capacity, only applicants that have been approved through pre-screening will be required to deliver artwork to the gallery for live jury.

5. Artists will be informed by **5PM on March 16, 2021** if they've been successfully pre-screened. Only artists who are successfully pre-screened will be invited to deliver artwork to the gallery.
6. These three (3) original artworks must arrive at the Federation Gallery between **April 1st – 17th, 2021**. Please wait for approval of your online application pre-screening before sending in your three (3) original artworks to the Federation Gallery for live jurying.

Artwork Requirements

Submitted 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. While using photos as reference for painting is a long-held accepted practice, using stock imagery or photographs taken by professional photographers is not permissible in our organization, even with permission or paid licensing. All artists submitting to Federation Gallery must sign an Exhibition Contract that declares their artwork is not a copy, derivative or based on the work of others or in any way an infringement of copyright. The FCA will reject submitted artwork that appears to be in violation of copyright law. The FCA reserves the right to refuse entries that are not accurately represented by the digital photograph submitted for jury. All artwork must be signed by the artist. Members may not enter a piece that was the result of a workshop or class. 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.

Artwork that were created in whole or in part during a workshop, class or mentorship program may not be used for application for a Signature status.

Work that has appeared in the Federation Gallery or has been sold may be again submitted for Signature application. Artists are responsible for sourcing and producing agreements with their clients to obtain sold artwork.

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

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

Specifically excluded media are:

- Photography, digital photography, digital art, and any art that is not 2-dimensional.

Do not attempt to submit artwork in media other than that noted above, for your application will be declined without refund.



Image Requirements & Online Submission Process

Images must be entered online using the same system we use for our exhibition entries. Please send your completed application form to the Membership Coordinator (membership@artists.ca), who will forward you a link to submit your ten (10) images via our website.

Images must be prepared according to the Juried Exhibition Submissions Guidelines published on the FCA web site under “Member Resources” on our website (www.artists.ca). 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. For more information please review the page on our website that reviews standards: http://artists.ca/member_resources/information_for_artists

Digital images must be cropped tightly to the edges of your substrate, so that only the painting is visible. The painting’s frame or background must be removed. Images that are off square, out of focus, over or under exposed, or with excess glare from sun or flash will be disqualified from the jury process.

Images must be submitted in **jpeg (.jpg) format**. We do not accept .tiff, .pdf, .zip or other file formats.

Please remember during your online submission process to note in the “Description” field whether it is an image of the artwork you intend to deliver to the Federation Gallery for live jurying. Write in the “Description” field, “Live Jury #1,” “Live Jury #2” & “Live Jury #3.”

Jury

Jurying is completed by the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee is made up of SFCAs members who are able to attend the Selection Committee meeting that year. Usually around 20 SFCAs are in attendance. Jurying for Signature Status is similar to all FCA jurying in that it is anonymous and jurors do not speak to each other during the process. Ballots are counted independently by three people including the Standards Committee Chair, the Executive Director, and usually another member of the Board of Directors.

The 2021 Selection Committee meeting and Signature application jurying will take place on **Sunday April 18th, 2021.**

Each juror allocates a point score from 1- 7 on each applicant’s entire portfolio.

Point scores are as allocated as follows:

1 –The body of work presented is disjointed and there is considerable room for improvement in artistic skill and execution. The applicant is still considered to be working at the Active level.



2-3 – applicant demonstrates a somewhat cohesive portfolio, but still has room for improvement with regard to artistic skill and execution. The body of work presented is still considered to be of Active caliber.

4-5 – applicant possesses strong artistic skill, their portfolio is consistently strong in execution and clear strides towards establishing an artistic voice are evident. Candidates awarded 4-5 are considered to be working at an AFCA level.

6-7 – applicant possesses exceptional artistic skill, their portfolio is consistently strong in both execution and voice. Candidates awarded a 6-7 are considered to be working at an SFCA level.

An applicant's result is determined by the cumulative point scores of all the jurors in attendance. This varies from year to year but roughly:

It takes 4.5 points for an application to be successful for AFCA (Associate) Signature Status.

It takes 6 points for an application to be successful for SFCA (Senior) Signature Status.

If you wish to know what your point score was, you may contact the office three days after the jurying process. Representatives calling on results day will only know your end result, and not your point scores. Representatives are not familiar with your portfolio, nor are they present for the jury process.

Notification & *SUCCESS!* Exhibition

All successful applicants will be notified of the Selection Committee's decision by telephone on the day following the jury. All applicants will receive an email notification in the days following. Names of successful applicants will be posted on our website www.artists.ca after reasonable means have been taken to notify successful applicants personally.

It is customary for the Federation Gallery to display up to two (2) submitted works of the successful applicants for the two (2) weeks following the Selection Committee meeting. The exhibition "*Success!*" will be on display between April 20th – May 2nd, 2021. Applicants may choose to opt out of the exhibition if they wish. 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.

Paintings are not required to be for sale for this exhibition.

Artists who are unsuccessful at the pre-screening stage will receive written feedback on their submitted portfolio within a month of their application. Artists who are unsuccessful during the live jury portion of adjudication will be scheduled for a Signature Status 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 online interactive software. The SFCA Selection Committee member will offer feedback on where the artist is in their practice and guidance on how they might improve on their portfolio. Applicants will be invited to partake in this feedback process but will not be required to do so.



Painting Drop-off and Pick-up

Three (3) original artworks must arrive at the Federation Gallery between April 1st – May 17th, 2021. Those three (3) artworks must be represented in the 10 digital images you submitted online and may be framed or unframed.

The FCA Gallery is open to receive deliveries 7 days/week between 10am – 4pm.

Upon arrival at the gallery, please sign in your artworks, thereby specifying which three (3) original artworks out of the 10 digital images were dropped off. When shipping your artworks, please send an email to membership@artists.ca specifying which three (3) artworks were sent to the Gallery.

Unsuccessful applicants may pick up their work from the Federation Gallery starting Thursday, April 22nd, 2021. Works to be shipped will be returned as quickly as possible.

The work from successful applicants will automatically be included in the *Success!* Exhibition which will be shown in the Federation Gallery from April 20th – May 2nd, 2021. Assuming the artwork does not sell, these works may be picked up starting Thursday May 6th 2021. If they need to be shipped this will be done in the week following.

Application Checklist

- Completed appropriate application form, including “Intent to Exhibit” and “Declaration” (found at the back of this package)
- Ten (10) digital images of original artworks submitted online via submission link
- Three (3) original works. The three (3) original works **must be** represented and identified in the group of ten (10) images submitted. Extra originals will not be considered.

A non-refundable registration fee of **\$150.00**. Payment can be made by credit card or PayPal during the process of uploading images. If you prefer, cheques may be mailed and must arrive before the deadline. Please make them payable to “Federation of Canadian Artists”.



Rights & Responsibilities

There are rights and responsibilities associated with Signature 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 FCA and Chapter exhibitions on an as-needed basis.
3. Are expected to act as jurors for Active status applications on an as-needed basis.
4. Are expected to maintain a consistently high standard of work.
5. Are eligible to instruct for and present, FCA educational programming
6. Provide feedback for Active Status applicants through Active Status Feedback Sessions – paid opportunity.

Rights and Responsibilities – AFCA’s

1. Associate FCA members may use the letters “AFCA”
2. Are eligible to participate in the Annual Signature Medal Exhibition

Rights and Responsibilities – SFCA’s

1. Senior FCA members may use the 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
4. Are eligible to participate in the Annual Signature Medal Exhibition



Application for Signature Status 2021

Date of application: _____ (DD/MM/YY)

Applicant's full name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

ACTIVE MEMBERS APPLYING FOR SIGNATURE STATUS MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING LIST. AFCA applicants can move on to the next page of application and do not need to complete the list. List of seven (7) juried Qualifying exhibitions in which your work has been accepted.

Name of work	Name of exhibition	Location (e.g "Vancouver")	Date (MM/DD/YY)
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			



Intent to Exhibit (for all members applying)

The Federation Gallery will hold an exhibition from April 20 – May 2, 2021, called *Success!*, featuring up to three (3) of the original artworks of the successful Signature applicants immediately following the jurying process. Please indicate below whether or not you would like your work included in the exhibition if your application were to be successful.

Yes

No

Declaration (for all members applying)

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. COPYRIGHT AND STANDARDS: While using photos as reference for painting is a long-held accepted practice, using stock imagery or photographs taken by professional photographers is not permissible in our organization, even with permission or paid licensing. All artists submitting to Federation Gallery must sign an Exhibition Contract that declares their artwork is not a copy, derivative or based on the work of others or in any way an infringement of copyright. The FCA will reject submitted artwork that appears to be in violation of copyright law. The FCA reserves the right to refuse entries that are not accurately represented by the digital photograph submitted for jury. All artwork must be signed by the artist. Members may not enter a piece that was the result of a workshop or class" 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