

ARTISTIC AND FINANCIAL CRITERIA

(updated 2023)

Greene Street Artists Cooperative
5225 Greene Street Philadelphia PA 19144-2927

Membership and Policy Committee

This document outlines the information you must send to our committees for your GSAC member application. All personal financial information should be sent to the Finance Committee chair (s), and artwork samples and requested documents should be sent to the Membership and Policy Committee chair (s) in SEPARATE emails. Personal financial information is kept confidential and will only be reviewed by the Finance Committee.

Artistic Criteria

- Members must be active artists, with evidence of demonstrable prior and ongoing commitment to their work. Applicants for membership must submit, along with the application form, a résumé and artistic biography, artist statement and evidence (via email or hard copies) of their artistic work. (Artist website and/or instagram link may also be submitted)
 - **Note:** this is to ascertain commitment, not for aesthetic judgment. Eligible arts include, but are not limited to visual arts: fine arts, crafts, design; literary arts; performing arts: theater, dance, music*.
 - **Note:** teaching, healing, and martial, are not qualifying arts for membership at Greene Street Artists Cooperative/Corporation.
 - *While musicians ARE considered eligible artists, due to sound attenuation issues in the building, musicians would need to practice their craft with headphones, or seek out rehearsal/practice space outside of the building.
- **Please see submission requirements for your artistic practice below:**

VISUAL ARTS

Painting, Sculpture, Craft, Photography and Graphic Design

All applicants in the fine arts and photography should have a substantial record of gallery exhibitions to their credit, demonstrate a professional history of more than

five years and must include professional quality digital images, and/or videos. (Do not submit physical work samples unless requested)

- Current résumé/curriculum vitae
- Artist statement and brief bio
- Three references - Provide the names and contact information for three professionals acquainted with the applicant and his or her work.
- Include a list of digital images submitted numbered with title, dimensions, medium, and date of completion of each work.
- Work Samples for painters, sculptors, photographers, graphic designers:
 - Include no more than **eighteen** digital images of recent works (last five years). The images should be organized in descending chronological order, from the most recent work to the oldest work. Each image should be in JPEG format, and no more than 3 megabytes in file size. The name of each digital file should be identified using the following format:## LastName and Number.

Film and Video Makers

Video work samples will be accepted from applicants who are submitting time based work such as film, video, performance art, new media, kinetic sculpture/installation, etc.

- Current résumé/curriculum vitae
- Artist statement and brief bio
- Three references - Provide the names and contact information for three professionals acquainted with the applicant and his or her work.
- List of submitted materials including title and date of completion
- Submit up to three samples totaling no more than 10-minutes in length, via online links, DVD, Blu-ray, or USB flash drive. Choose one of the following:
 - One sample totaling no more than 10-minutes;
 - A selection of excerpts from one work - edited together and totaling no more than 10minutes, or;
 - Up to three separate samples from different works, totaling no more than 10-minutes.

PERFORMANCE ARTS

Music*, Dance, Theater and Performance Art

All applicants in the performing arts should have a substantial performance history to their credit, and demonstrate a professional history of more than five years.

- Current résumé/curriculum vitae with a complete list of works or performances
- Artist statement and brief bio

- Three references - Provide the names and contact information for three professionals acquainted with the applicant and his or her work.
- If applicable, recordings or videos of at least two but not more than three pieces or performances from within the past five years. Recordings should be hosted online, either on SoundCloud or another file hosting site. *Links to the recordings should be included in the online application form.*

LITERARY ARTS

Poetry, Journalism, Playwriting, Screenwriting, Writing of Fiction and General Nonfiction, Blogging

All applicants in the literary arts should have a substantial body of work to their credit, demonstrate a professional history of more than five years and must include writing samples.

- Current résumé/curriculum vitae
- Artist statement and brief bio
- Three references - Provide the names and contact information for three professionals acquainted with the applicant and his or her work.
- Include a list of the items submitted, giving the title, publisher, and date of each
- A Writing sample, choose one of the following:
 - 5-10 poems or
 - Published Articles
 - Established blog
 - Novel, or other published works

Financial Criteria

Note: All personal financial information in GSAC applications is kept confidential, and is reviewed by the Finance Committee only. This committee will either recommend an applicant for approval, or not, with no confidential information being discussed.

1. Monthly co-op fee (minus maintenance charges), must come to no more than 35% of applicant's total monthly income.
2. Monthly co-op fee (minus maintenance charges), plus monthly credit payments, must come to no more than 50% of applicant's total monthly income.
3. Applicants must be able to show on-time payments in their credit history, and provide adequate justification for any late payments.

4. Applicant must verify that they are now making rent or mortgage payments and that they have done so in a timely manner for at least one year.
5. Applicant's annual income must be verified by tax return, receipts, pay stubs, employment verification form, or other acceptable form of documentation agreed upon with Finance Committee.
 - In cases where annual income is inadequate, the Finance Committee may allow a 3rd party to guarantee the applicant's financial obligation to GSAC. In that case, the guarantor must meet the above financial standards.
 - The Finance Committee may allow an applicant with significant savings, or windfall income, to propose some other means of guaranteeing his or her ability to make monthly co-op payments. The Finance Committee will have full discretion in such cases, and its decision will be final.

Financial criteria are based on the following considerations:

- GSAC is responsible for maintaining its sound financial condition, as a matter of responsibility to the bank, and to its individual members.
- Financial ratios required for membership are more lenient than commercial lenders' standards in consideration of several factors:
 - Artists need and normally lease space for living and working, and therefore, normally pay higher than average monthly costs for space. Both living and working space are included in co-op fees.
 - Artist-members invest higher than average "sweat equity" in their units and in the cooperative as a whole.
- Other Artistic and Financial considerations
 - Artist-members are committed to their art as their primary career, although it may not be financially rewarding. They often seek additional employment in the minimum amount necessary to meet their expenses, although they tend to have higher than average levels of education. In a financial crisis, artists are likely to be able to increase their incomes by seeking new or additional employment, at the expense of studio time.

General Membership Requirements

- Members must live in their co-op unit as their primary residence, and use the space for their artistic work. Absentee ownership and/or rental of units as workspaces-only is not permitted (some artist residents own two units to accommodate their specific needs).

- Members must serve on at least one committee and participate in keeping management costs as low as possible. Read the GSAC Handbook for a fuller understanding of GSAC participation requirements.