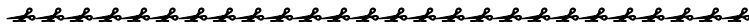


# **QUILTERS OF COLOR NETWORK OF NEW YORK, INC, BYLAWS**

## **MISSION**

In 1996, **The Quilters of Color Network of New York, Inc.** (QCNNY) was established as a non-profit group dedicated to: a) fostering and preserving the art of quilt making among people of color, b) maintaining high standards of design and technique in the art of quilt making, c) Making quilts that benefit the needy and d) stimulating community interest in the art of quilt making. We achieve these goals in a number of ways which include: frequent workshops that encourage members to share and develop their skills, exhibitions of quilts produced by members and by students of the workshops, selling quilts for the benefit of the needy and distributing quilts to pediatric and geriatric wards in hospitals.

The Quilters of Color Network of New York, Inc welcomes members at all skill levels and is open to all women and men interested in exploring quilting from the perspectives of individuals from communities of color both in the US and abroad. Any person, regardless of race, color, creed, sex or national origin may become a member of this chapter upon application and receipt of dues. The guild is self -supporting through its annual dues and fundraising activities.



## **BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE I: ORGANIZATION NAME.** The organization shall be known as the Quilters of Color Network of New York, Inc.

1. This organization shall be a non-profit organization.

## **ARTICLE II: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1. To foster and preserve the art of quilt making among people of color
2. To maintain high standards of design and technique in the art of quilt making.
3. To stimulate community interest in the art of quilt making.
4. To distribute and/or sell quilts for the benefit of the needy
5. To present exhibitions of the quilts produced by members and by students of the workshops.

## **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

1. Any person, regardless of race, color, creed, sex or national origin, may become a member of this guild upon application and payment of dues.
2. Annual QCNNY dues for the following year shall be payable at the June meeting. Renewals not received by October 1 will be dropped from membership roster.
3. All who have paid in full will be considered members in good standing.

#### **ARTICLE IV: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, henceforth referred to as the Executive Committee, plus the chairs of any standing committees, including the newsletter editor.
2. Chairs of any ad hoc committees can be invited to join the Board of Directors at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
3. The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of twice per membership year; once prior to the September meeting during the summer hiatus, once no more than two months prior to the annual meeting. The meeting shall be called at the discretion of the President. All Board of Directors meetings must be announced to the membership at the prior month's meeting and in the newsletter immediately prior to the meeting. The meeting prior to the Annual meeting should be used to generate the summary annual reports by standing and ad hoc committees A budget shall be submitted to the membership at the September meeting.

#### **ARTICLE V: OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS**

1. The officers shall include a President, a Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
  - A. **PRESIDENT:**
    - a. shall preside at all meetings of the Guild and of the Executive Board.
    - b. shall appoint committee chairs as needed in consultation with the Executive Board.
    - c. in consultation with the Executive Board, will have general supervision over the plans needed to organize, unify, and render efficient the work and goals of the Guild.
    - d. shall preside over an annual meeting of the Board of Directors.
    - e. shall call for a report from the Treasurer at the annual meeting (see VI.2).
  - B. **VICE PRESIDENT:**
    - a. shall, in the absence of the President, conduct any meetings or perform on behalf of the President any other duties that need execution.
    - b. shall, with the assistance of other officers, organize workshops and programs at the regular meetings.
  - C. **TREASURER:**
    - a. shall be the custodian of all Guild funds.
    - b. will collect membership fees and other monies pertinent to the Guild's activities and will be responsible for maintaining accounts with a local bank.
    - c. will provide an oral accounting of Guild finances to the membership during regular meetings. This accounting will be published in the Guild newsletter.
    - d. will provide a written report with a cumulative summary of the Guild's financial activities (income and expenses) in the current membership year at the April meeting; will also provide a proposed budget for membership vote to be included in the September newsletter.
    - e. will submit all necessary forms related to the accounting and finances of the organization to the proper agencies as required.
  - D. **SECRETARY:**
    - a. will take minutes at meetings of the Executive Board and regular membership meetings; such minutes shall be approved by the Executive Board and made available to members at regular meetings
    - b. will answer correspondence coming into the Organization ad the direction of the President and the Executive Board.
    - c. will keep records of pertinent correspondence.
    - d. will have written copies of the Guild constitution available at the annual meeting.
    - e. shall be responsible for organizing any changes or amendments to the Guild Constitution.

2. Officers shall serve no more than two consecutive terms. Should there be a situation where a replacement cannot be found following a reasonable effort by the Nominating Committee, an officer may stand for reelection for one additional term.
3. A nominating committee shall be constituted by the President no later than the February meeting in an election year. This committee shall be comprised of three persons who are not to be considered as candidates for any elected office. Candidates for office must be in good standing.
4. Election of officers shall be held at a closed, members-only meeting in April. Elections shall be conducted by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee delegate shall ask for any nominations from the floor during the Annual Meeting after the distribution of ballots, and prior to the addresses by candidates. Such nominees must be in good standing. Such nominees will have the right to refuse the nomination prior to a vote. Officers will be elected by majority vote of members present. Each candidate will make a brief statement to the membership at the Annual meeting. Ballots will be provided in the April newsletter, in the Members only area of the website, and at the meeting by the Nominating Committee. The ballot will list all identified candidates, plus provide space for write ins in the event of nominations from the floor. In the event of a tie, a runoff election will be held and members will simply write their candidate selections on paper.
5. The term of office will begin in September.
6. Any Officer who resigns from the Executive Committee shall give timely notice. The Executive Committee may appoint a replacement to serve the unexpired term. After three unexcused absences, the Board may remove an officer for cause.
7. Any office may be removed for cause by the recommendation of the Executive Committee. To remove an officer, the Executive committee must notify the full membership of an impending vote by newsletter, e-mail, and/or telephone at least one month in advance of the meeting. Such votes may only take place during a regular meeting. An officer may be removed with 3/4 majority vote of the members present at the designated meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS and ACTIVITIES**

1. **Regular meetings** shall be held once monthly on the 4th Saturday of every month. No meetings will be held in July and August, but Guild members may choose to schedule and/or attend workshops open to all members. In the event of a cancellation, members will be contacted by phone or email on the Friday prior to a meeting.
  - A. All motions put before the membership, with exception of changes or amendments to the Bylaws, will require a simple majority of members present. Such votes will be made by show of hands.
2. An **annual meeting** of the membership with the Board of Directors must be held in April. The purpose of this meeting is to present the summary annual reports by the standing and ad hoc committees.
  - A. The date and time of this meeting may be changed by vote of the majority of members present at the Annual meeting in which such vote is presented. All members shall be notified of any change at least one month before the meeting by newsletter, e-mail, and/or telephone.
3. The affairs and activities of the group shall always be conducted in such a manner that no part of the net earnings shall accrue to the benefit of any member, director, officer or other individuals. No substantial part of its activities shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation. It should neither participate nor intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

#### **ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES:**

1. Standing committees shall be: Communications, Charity, Membership, and Fundraising.
2. Ad hoc committees may be appointed by the President with approval of the Executive committee. Such committees may include (but are not limited to): Exhibitions, Constitution, and Nominating.

## **ARTICLE VIII: FISCAL POLICIES**

1. The fiscal year shall run from September 1st through June 30th.
2. The signing officers for the Guild shall be the Treasurer and the President.
3. The books and accounts of the chapter shall be kept in accordance with sound accounting practices, and a report made available at all times to the Executive Committee and all guild members in good standing. A written financial summary provided by the Treasurer within ten days following the meeting will be published in the newsletter. A written financial report with summary must be distributed at the Annual meeting
4. No one may profit financially from membership by sales or solicitation of sales at chapter meetings or workshops. However, the chapter may contract with members in their professional capacities.
5. Members selling work through a QCNNY exhibition are expected to donate 10% of the sale to the guild. QCNNY will provide a markup sheet so that members may add this donation to their pricing.
6. If for any reason the Quilters of Color Network, Inc. should cease to exist, all assets will go to a Registered Charity designated by a 3/4 vote of the surviving membership. Notification to the membership shall be provided in writing, at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which such a vote is taken.

## **ARTICLE IX: CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS**

1. Articles of the Constitution and/or By-laws may be passed, amended or repealed by a majority vote of the membership present at the annual meeting. Any member may submit a proposed change to the bylaws to the Executive Committee. Such proposals must be submitted no later than the March meeting prior to the Annual meeting.
2. Written notice of proposed changes to the Constitution and/or By Laws must be announced at the March meeting, and submitted in writing with the April newsletter. Additional copies of the Constitution must be made available at the Annual meeting in April.
3. If for compelling reasons, the Executive Committee decides that the Constitution and/or By-laws need to be passed, amended or repealed before the annual meeting, the Executive Committee must circulate notice of the proposed changes prior to the meeting at which the vote will taken. Such changes pass with a 3/4 majority of members present at the designated regular meeting.