

Thank you for your interest in making an application to become a member of The Sussex Guild. The Guild welcomes all applications from crafts people living or working in East and West Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire and Kent.

The work of applicants is carefully assessed by the Guild selection panel and the following explains the process and criteria of selection; hopefully it explains what we are looking for from you and what you can expect from us when applying.

SELECTION PROCESS

The work of applicants is assessed by a panel of Guild members who meet up to four times a year. The panel members represent a range of craft disciplines and backgrounds but if their knowledge does not extend to your craft they will call on specialist advisers.

Applicants are asked to complete an application form and return it with images preferably as jpegs or, if these are not available, photographs.

An adjudication fee of £15.00 includes a pre-selection made by the committee.

Applicants whose work is considered suitable for submission are invited to bring six to twelve pieces of their work to Lewes (times, location etc will be given).

The panel will then examine the work, the application form and any other background material submitted.

Please include:

- statement about your work, sketch books
- information about your methods
- your CV
- selling prices

When applicants are successful, membership is provisional for one year, during which time they are expected to exhibit with the Guild on at least two occasions. At the end of this year the selection panel confers full membership, renews provisional membership for a further year, or withdraws any offer of membership. Fortunately, membership is rarely withdrawn.

Should the panel reject an applicant, the Chair of the Selection Panel will write, giving a few notes about the work that was submitted and some of the reasons for rejection.

Where appropriate the panel will recommend applicants to reapply in a year or two.

The panel continues to act as a “watchdog” to ensure that work displayed with the Guild uses the same techniques and reaches the same standards as the examples submitted for selection.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection criteria, chosen by the selected committee of the Guild and applied by its selection panel, require the applicant to be judged against the overall standard of the best 50% of the members of the Guild. As you are to be judged against the existing membership, we recommend you to attend at least one Guild exhibition before applying. Applicants are judged on their:

- **CRAFTSMANSHIP** - does your work show an understanding of materials and confidence in the handling of techniques?

- **DESIGN SKILLS** - does this show the creative use of form, colour, texture etc appropriate to the body of work?
- **ORIGINALITY** - does the work exhibit a specific personal style? If the maker is working within a recognisable tradition, does the work go beyond a repetition of past styles and contribute to the development of this tradition?

A majority of the panel must vote yes on all three criteria.

IN SUMMARY

- Complete an application form and return it with an adjudication fee of £15.00 made payable to The Sussex Guild.
- Arrangements will be made for you to submit 6 - 12 pieces of work and supporting material.
- If selected, you become a provisional member for one year.
- Take part in at least two Guild exhibitions/contemporary craft shows in your provisional year.
- If approved, become a full member.

The Guild year runs from 1st January to 31st December and the annual fee for 2016 is £115. After selection, fees are worked out on a pro rata basis where necessary.

MEMBERSHIP INVOLVES

- Becoming part of a supportive group of professional designer makers.
- Exhibiting at our popular events and thereby benefiting from the Guild's loyal customer base.
- The opportunity to become a member of the Guild Shop.
- Contribution of your own time in whatever way that you can to the running of the Guild and organisation of its shows.

Our success as a Guild is due to the sharing of these responsibilities by our members, so that we are able to provide exhibiting and selling opportunities that help us all to progress in our chosen discipline.

[Please write clearly]

APPLICANT _____ DATE _____

Please read the 'Information for applicants' and answer the questions below. Details of the arrangements for delivery and collection of your work and supporting material will be sent on receipt of this form and your adjudication fee of £15 (cheques made payable to The Sussex Guild please).

Please supply photographs and details of your work when returning this form.

Selection meetings are usually held four times a year:

January, April, July and October – dates tba – applicants will be informed on receipt of their completed form.

Name: _____ (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

Craft: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Telephone Number _____ Mobile Number _____

Email Address _____

Website: _____

How long have you been practising your craft? _____

Do you have workshop facilities? _____

Do you work with any assistants/partners? (please give details)

Are you a member of any other craft society or on any craft indexes? (Please give details.)

Craft related Qualifications, including art and design training (Please give details including dates)

How do you sell your work? (i.e. outlets, commissions, fairs, trade outlets, exhibitions)

What do you hope to gain by joining the Guild?

Where did you hear about the Guild?

Please add any other details you feel might interest the panel -

FOR USE BY SELECTION PANEL

Panel member _____

Application 1st 2nd

Craftsmanship Yes No

Design Yes No

Originality Yes No

Reapply Yes No

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM, IMAGES AND THE ADJUDICATION FEE OF £15.00
(cheques should be made payable to the Sussex Guild) to:
Edith Pargh Barton | Church Lane House, Plummers Plain, Horsham, West Sussex,
RH13 6LU | 01403 891801 | or selection@thesussexguild.co.uk