

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of The Sussex Guild. The Guild welcomes all applications from crafts practitioners living or working in East and West Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire and Kent.

The following explains what we are looking for from you and what you can expect from us when applying.

SELECTION CRITERIA & SCHEDULE

The selection criteria require the applicant's work to reach the standard of the work of the top 50% of Guild members within their discipline. As applicants are to be judged against the existing membership, we recommend attending at least one Guild exhibition before applying.

Applicants are judged on:

CRAFT SKILLS – does your work show an understanding of materials and expertise in the handling of techniques?

DESIGN SKILLS – does your work show creative use of form, colour, texture etc. appropriate to the work?

ORIGINALITY – does the work exhibit a 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?

ENRICHMENT AND ENHANCEMENT - how well the work enriches and enhances the range of work produced in the Guild.

Applicants are expected to have a current website or other professional online presence. A majority of the panel must vote yes on all four criteria.

Selection meetings are usually held four times a year:

January, April, July and October – dates tba – applicants will be invited to the next available meeting after the receipt of their completed application.

Details of the arrangements for delivery and collection of your work and supporting material will be sent to you on receipt of this form and your adjudication fee of £25.

SELECTION PROCESS

The 4 images to be sent with the application form will be assessed and, if acceptable, the applicant will be invited to submit work to the Selection Committee.

Prior to the Selection meeting, links to applicants' websites will be circulated to all Sussex Guild members who may comment on whether, in their opinion, the work meets the selection criteria, however the Selection Committee makes the final decision.

Applicants will be invited to bring six to twelve pieces of their work to the next available Selection meeting at the Guild shop Lewes.

The work of applicants is carefully assessed by the Guild Selection Committee which is made up of members from various disciplines. The committee will scrutinise the work, the application form and any other background material submitted.

Please include:

- **4 x 72dpi jpeg images of your work on a plain background**
- **statement about your work, sketch books**
- **information about your methods**
- **your CV**
- **selling prices**

Applicants will be informed by email of the committee's decision, which is final.

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.

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.

IN SUMMARY

- Read the information for applicants, complete an application form
- Pay the adjudication fee of £25.00 and submit the requested images and information.
- Submit work to the Selection Committee when requested.

If your application is successful

- You join us as a provisional member for one year.
- Take part in at least two Guild exhibitions/contemporary craft shows in your provisional year.

If you successfully complete your probation

- You join us as a full member.

The Guild year runs from 1st January to 31st December and the current annual fee is £125. 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.
- Contribution of your own time in whatever way that you can to the running of the Guild and / or the organisation of its shows.
- 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.

Application to join the Sussex Guild

Name:

(Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

Business name if different from given name

Craft discipline:

Home address & postcode

Workshop or business address & postcode

Telephone Number

Mobile Number

Email

Website

How long have you been practicing your craft?

Do you have workshop facilities

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

How many employees do you have?

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 Committee.

How could you help and contribute to the successful running of the Guild and its events?

The Sussex Guild is run for and by, its members. Without practical help the Guild cannot continue to run.

All Members are expected to contribute to the running of our treasured Guild to ensure our continued mutual success and the flourishing of our craft disciplines.

As part of your application, please let us know which areas you feel you could contribute to, by placing Y(es) in any appropriate boxes.

Can you join a show team to help with organising a show?	
Are you able to help put up and retrieve roadside boards directing to Guild shows?	
Can you help to set up Guild equipment just before a show or help other Guild members to load their equipment after a show.	
Do you have access to a van or would you be prepared to drive a hire vehicle to transport Guild equipment to and from shows? (We can of course cover costs and this arrangement may help with moving your own products and show equipment).	
Can you help with our social media presence? (LinkedIn, Pinterest, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube.)	
Are you an experienced Canva user and would you be willing to help out using this program?	
Can you help to organise special exhibitions like "Artwave" for the Guild shop?	

If you have a "special power" that we don't even know about but may be useful? please let us know!

Please return this form and requested images and information electronically and by email to selection@thesussexguild.co.uk

Please pay the adjudication fee £25.00 by BACS with 'your full name' as the reference to:

Sussex Guild, sort code 60 13 09, account no 42315115.