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| |  | | --- | | **PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER**  **June 20, 2022**  We have exciting news to share with our members! The Philadelphia Pastel Society Board of Directors has approved guidelines for member artists to achieve Signature Status! Over the last 5 months, board member Mary Rinderle Smith chaired a committee comprised of PPS members Blanche Levitt Torphy (President), Denise Vitollo, (Vice President) Barbara Berry, Teresa DeSeve, Carol Kardon, Madeleine Kelly, and Wendy McClatchy. They reviewed guidelines used by a multitude of pastel societies, and came up with a document that provides clear instructions for earning signature status. If you achieve signature status with PPS, you can use PPS after your signature on your pastel paintings. One must be a member of PPS for one year to be eligible for Signature status.    There are two paths to Signature Membership. First, one can apply for Signature membership by sending in an application, 5 images of their work and a resume. A jury panel of two nationally recognized external jurors and one PPS member who holds Signature status in a national pastel society will review the application. The jury process will only be available once a year, beginning in March 2023.    Secondly, one can earn Signature status through acceptance into 3 national or international soft pastel exhibitions. One show must be a PPS national show. This means that participating in our upcoming national exhibition at the Community Arts Center in Wallingford will count towards earning Signature status. So apply soon! The deadline for entries using ShowSubmit is July 11th.  The guidelines for Signature Membership can be found at [www.PhiladelphiaPastelSociety.org/signature-membership](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001F8o2-TJixGI67GDUb75KxtNlNvp_9AuHelzUrOo83Q4SPGQN6te0VM1EzuvzeEKv5oPUyAw7HFM35vUFxu2L-MtcXkNG9yyUVGKj674ODz-MZYOpGxvHY1Frfy8ZKiqsDmzBCwLnPZJfk2NzJwAkeNB80c1hpxzVMcVW4sJexEPCUXTnScdeGi_ZKe3rMRfW&c=8997zeMTND3mbtSmX3BbEPnn49Kl-9eIspXHBZpIy8_DSKtj2pRauw==&ch=HJLl1RurTsPIVwmc3lmFdSeGqyT1FmU3QNK2LvYjE8RdifeOdRalog==).    I am off to Albuquerque in the morning to attend the IAPS Convention, and am looking forward to representing the Philadelphia Pastel Society at the President’s Forum and Fiesta Night. I will be attending demonstrations and workshops, and will see the international juried exhibition. I am thrilled that I will be joined by 9 other members of PPS. I will have lots to report on my return!  Warm regards,  Blanche Levitt Torphy  President, Philadelphia Pastel Society  Looking forward to seeing your beautiful art work in our national show! | |