

PROPOSED DIVERSITY STATEMENT

AUGUST 2021

At Piedmont Craftsmen a diverse, inclusive, and equitable organization is one where all involved feel valued, heard, and represented. We are committed to a nondiscriminatory approach to providing equal opportunity - for employment, for artist membership, for leadership, public participation, and patronage - in all that we have to offer.

As a nonprofit arts organization and cultural institution, maintaining an inclusive environment means taking every opportunity to highlight, explore, and advocate for the ways in which fine craft reflects cultural experience. Fine craft is relevant and important across generations, cultures, and history, but has evolved and become woven into an industry that can be inaccessible to some. Thus, it is our commitment and our promise to always pursue ways in which we create opportunities for artists and the community to thrive, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, cultural identity, age, nor any other significant identifier that might otherwise negatively impact a person's success in, or ability to enjoy, fine arts.

Further, we are committed to assessing all ways in which our policies and procedures have been exclusive in any way, currently or in our past. The organization is committed to holding ourselves accountable, to ensure that this statement is not a statement alone, but an actionable plan with built-in accountability, ongoing assessment, and sincere efforts to deepen our understanding in regards to discrimination in the arts, our role and responsibility toward the community of artists, collectors, and patrons as whole, and how to deepen our positive impact in the universal - as well as local - effort in building a more equitable and inclusive sector.

Approved by the Board of Directors August 26, 2021