

THE 1805 CHARTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS:

From:

Articles of Association, Dec. 26, 1805, of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

The Subscribers, Citizens of Pennsylvania, having associated for the object and purposes herein-aftermentioned, and under the name conditions and articles following, are desirous to acquire and enjoy the power and immunities of a corporation or body politic in law, agreeably to the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided.

The object of this association is to promote the cultivation of the fine arts, in the United States of America, by introducing correct and elegant copies, from works of the first Masters, in Sculpture and Painting, and, by thus facilitating the access to such standards, and also by occasionally conferring moderate but honorable premiums, and otherwise assisting the studies and exciting the efforts of the artists, gradually to unfold, enlighten and invigorate the talents of our countrymen.

The name of this Association shall be The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.

A President and twelve Directors of the Academy shall be elected by the members, by ballot, on the first Monday of May in each Year. The President shall ex-officio be one of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors, five of whom shall form a quorum, shall have power to appoint a Secretary, Treasurer, and such other officers and attendants as they shall think necessary.

The Directors shall prescribe the manner and terms of admitting new members, shall procure and use in their corporate acts, a Common Seal, and shall have power to make such rules regulations and by-laws, as they shall think proper to promote the objects of the Institution. The Corporation have power to purchase, or take on ground rent a suitable lot or piece of ground, and erect thereon a suitable building, or buildings, for the purposes of the Institution; to procure casts of the best statues and busts, to dispose thereof, and such paintings, drawings, and other specimens of the Fine Arts, as the Corporation may become possessed of, or as may be sent for exhibition, in such manner as to display them to the best advantage, and regulate the prices of admission to the exhibition; to offer premiums in Sculpture, Painting, and Engraving and generally to do all such things as shall be conducive and beneficial to the objects of the

Institution. No alienation of real estate belonging to the Corporation shall be made for a longer term than seven years, except by a resolution of the members, convened at a general meeting.

A general meeting of the members may be called by order of the Directors, or at the request of any six members, signified in writing to the President, on at least six days notice, in two of the public newspapers printed in the City of Philadelphia. The Treasurer's accounts shall always be open to the inspection of the Board of Directors, or a general meeting of the members, or a committee appointed at such general meeting.

Witness our Hands this twenty sixth day of December in the Year of our Lord One Thousand eight hundred and five.

James Oldden, Jun
 Henry K. Helmuth
 John Redman Coxe
 Will. Poyntell
 Jos. Reed
 Peter S. Du Ponceau
 W. Lewis

Wm. Tilghman
 Samson Levy
 Thos. Barton Zantzinger
 Henry Pratt
 John B. Wallace
 Thos. Weidman
 Lewis Neill
 Saml. Meeker
 John K. Helmuth
 Charles Smith
 Joseph Lownes
 Edw. Penington
 D. Watts
 Edw. Burd.
 William Smith
 James Hopkins
 Benj. R. Morgan
 John Hallowell
 John R. Coates
 Plun. F. Glentworth
 Philip Wager
 Peter Wager
 James Tatem
 Walter Kerr
 Wm. Rush
 Jacob S. Waln
 Henry Kuhl
 C. W. Peale
 Rem. Peale

G. Clymer
 W. Rawle
 Jos. Hopkinson
 Simon Gratz
 Geo. Fox
 Ch. Chauncey
 Charles Swift
 Saml. Ewing
 Thomas Bradford, Jun.
 Wilson Hunt
 Moses Levy
 J. B. McKean
 A. J. Dallas
 William H. Tod
 Hor. Binney
 Richard Rush
 C.W. Hare
 John Read, Jun.
 James Gibson
 Wm. Meredith
 J. Dorsey
 W. S. Biddle
 Richd. Peters, Jun.
 Walter Franklin
 Samuel Shoemaker
 Mahlon Dickerson
 .J. W. Condy
 Zalegman Phillips
 Peter A. Browne

Charles Clark
Andw. Bayard
T.P. Garesché

Robt. Frazer
James Milnor
Chas. Biddle

To the Judges of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

I, Joseph B. McKean attorney general of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania do hereby certify that I have perused and examined the above instrument of association and am of the opinion that the objects articles and conditions therein set forth and contained are lawful. Witness my hand this twenty sixth day of December one thousand eight hundred and five.

We certify that we have perused and examined the above instrument and are of opinion that the objects articles and conditions therein set forth and contained are lawful. Witness our hands in open court this twenty eighth day of December one thousand eight hundred and five.

To his excellency Thomas McKean, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania