



By-Laws

Mission Statement:

Capitalizing on our privileged location in New York City's cultural hub, Lincoln Center, the Fordham Art Law Society (FALS) strives to promote an understanding of the intersection between the arts and the law, both at Fordham and in the larger legal community. The Fordham Art Law Society seeks to accomplish this goal by providing a forum for the contemplation and discussion of potential improvements to the art community's understanding of the law, and the legal community's understanding of the art industry, serving as an outlet for members to execute these ideas.

FALS uses the term "Art Law" in its broadest sense, incorporating legal issues that persist in the creative, visual, and performing arts. This term also encompasses cultural heritage law.

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section 1.

This organization shall be known as the Fordham Art Law Society (FALS), and referred to as "the organization" within this document.

Section 2.

The purposes of the organization shall be to

- A.** promote the understanding of the intersection between the arts and the law;
- B.** provide a forum for the contemplation and discussion of various issues facing the art law community, including but not limited to, potential improvements to the art community's understanding of the law and the legal community's understanding of the art industry;
- C.** provide an outlet for members to execute these improvements;
- D.** provide law students, particularly Fordham Law students, with the opportunity to network with practitioners in the field;
- F.** continue Fordham Law's tradition of making New York the extended campus of its law students; and

E. organize activities, including career panels and lectures, to educate students of Fordham Law School and the surrounding community on all aspects of art law.

Article II: Membership

Section 1.

Membership shall be open to all Fordham Law School students, faculty, staff, and community members. Only student staff members and students who attend two or more FALS meetings or events per year may be voting members. All may be non-voting members.

Section 2.

To become a member, one need only to inform the Secretary. Active Membership requires a student to attend an event or become a guest blogger. Membership runs from the day of informing the Secretary to the day after the end of the spring academic term. At any time during the spring academic term, a standing member may express their desire to renew their membership for the following year by writing for the blog or attending an event.

Section 3.

Membership ends upon

- A. the end of the spring academic term;
- B. the member's request; or
- C. the unanimous decision of the officers to end membership based on a material disciplinary issue presented by that member.

Upon graduation, members will become an Alumni Member unless the member requests otherwise.

Section 4.

Members who are removed by the officers may not join the organization again until the next academic year. Members who are removed lose any positions they may have held within the organization and lose the opportunity to run for a Board position for the following year.

Section 5.

Alumni Members are former Fordham Law School students who graduated from Fordham Law School and

- A. were a member of the organization;
- B. practice in any form in the area of art law; or

- C. have requested membership.

Alumni Members do not have the privilege of voting.

Section 6

At the earliest practicable moment, FALS shall establish an art law alumni advisory group with the purpose of eventually establishing an affinity group. One person, either a board member or an appointed representative, shall maintain a relationship with this group and ensure that meetings are held on a regular basis to be determined by the board and advisory group. The purpose of the alumni group shall be to advise and support FALS in any and all means determined by the Board and the alumni group.

Article III: Officers

Section 1.

The FALS board shall be made up of elected officers. The elected officers of this organization shall be President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Publication's Director, and Secretary. Each position has certain responsibilities; however, the Board shall function as a team and not a hierarchy. These elected officers may appoint and may delegate responsibilities via majority vote of the Board of any additional officer positions as necessary. These may include, and are not limited to,

- A. Bar Representative (who attends NY Bar, NYC Bar, and American Bar Association meetings), Alumni Affairs Director, Public Relations Director, Events Officer, and Webmaster.
- B. Alumni Liaison/Art Law Alumni Group/Art Law Affinity Group Student Representative, who, among other things, will plan alumni meetings, including helping prepare documents for the event.
- C. S.J.D./L.L.M. Liaison, who works to connect S.J.D. and L.L.M. students with the Board
- D. 1L Representatives, who work mainly with the Secretary, Publications Director, and/or Treasurer as needed. The Secretary and the Publications Director shall have final discretion regarding whom to appoint. Representatives are generally to be appointed at the end of September by soliciting applications, and/or
- E. Fund Manager, who works with the Treasurer to raise money for FALS.

Section 2.

All vacant Board member positions will be chosen each year. In February, the board shall hold a meeting to describe the various board positions and give a chance for students to ask questions.

Election will occur by a majority vote of all voting members each March or April for the following year. The President and Vice President shall be elected first, either on the same day or a different day of the election of the remaining positions. Only current officers (elected or appointed) are eligible to run

for President and Vice President. In the event that no current officer seeks election for President or Vice President, any voting member may apply for election to the positions. In the event that two officers run for President, the one with the least votes shall automatically become Vice President. In the event that three or more officers run for the offices of President and/or Vice President, the person(s) with the least amount of votes will have the option to maintain their previous board position and no further election will be held for that position. Voting members who had applied for that position may be given the opportunity to run for another vacate position(s). Should that/those individuals choose to run for any remaining board position, they will forfeit their previous position in the event they lose the election for that new position.

All positions besides the President and Vice President, except for the exception mentioned above, are open to any voting member that plans to remain a voting member during the next year.

All members shall be notified of a pending election at least one month in advance and have the month to submit an application. All voting members and Officers running for officer positions must submit at least the following information: (A) why they are interested in the particular position and (B) any background they have that is relevant.

Election shall occur by secret ballot of voting members at a meeting or online, the President and Vice President being chosen first and then the remaining officers subsequently. The candidate with the most votes wins. Uncontested members must still participate in the election. Terms shall begin at the beginning of the first summer semester following the election, and shall last until the terms of the next officers begin. There is no limit on the number of terms an individual may hold office and may last until the date of graduation of that officer's third year. Board members are to be trained by the outgoing board members.

Section 3.

If for any reason an officer is unable or unwilling to fulfill their commitments, they may resign and the remaining elected officers may appoint, via majority vote, replacement(s) who will serve until the next election period.

Section 4.

Officers must not commit any material academic and/or disciplinary violations. If an officer commits a material academic and/or disciplinary violation, the procedure set out in Section 3 of this article should be followed.

Section 5.

Elected Officers are,

A. President:

1. Oversees all Fordham Art Law Society events and initiatives.

2. Sets annual goals for the organization.
3. Serves as the liaison between students and university administration, alumni, and outside organizations.
4. Meets periodically with the organization's faculty advisor regarding special initiatives and concerns.
5. Represents the organization at non-Fordham events
6. Develops relationships with other Fordham Law student groups.
7. Prepares agendas for meetings and events.

B. Vice President:

1. Acts as the President's right hand person.
2. Executes new endeavors and special projects as needed.
3. Oversees the day-to-day operations of the organization.
4. Consults with Board members to gain feedback and ensure that the organization maintains a well-balanced schedule of events;
5. Reports any problems or concerns to the President;
6. Assists with executive decisions.
7. Attends NY Bar and NYC Bar association meetings
8. Helps to strengthen and facilitate communication with alumni.
9. Assists and helps plan Fordham Art Law Society related events such as panel discussions, symposia, and fundraising drives.
10. Serves in absence of the President.

C. Treasurer:

1. Works with the organization's President(s) and Vice President in developing an annual budget proposal to submit to the SBA.
2. Maintains the organization's budget in a spreadsheet.
3. Keeps track of all proceeds earned from school fundraising efforts.
4. Handles and processes all reimbursements.
5. Attends all SBA Student Leaders Meetings.
6. Assists with Fordham Art Law Society related events such as panel discussions, symposia, and fundraising drives.

D. Publications Director:

1. Maintains all social media databases, including but not limited to Facebook, FALS website, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

2. Serves as Editor-in-Chief of the FALS Blog.
3. Outreaches to students and professionals for blog submissions, together with 1L Representative, and tracks professional outreach.
4. Promotes club events and blog posts through social media channels.
5. Photographs club events for social media posts.
6. Organizes and uploads a list of art and cultural heritage events in New York City per semester.

E. Secretary:

1. Checks and manages the Fordham Art Law Society email bi-weekly; forwards pressing emails to the President.
2. Prepares a monthly newsletter for alumni, students, and other subscribing art law practitioners highlighting upcoming events as well as scholarship and employment opportunities.
3. Keeps minutes of both board meetings and general body meetings.
4. Assists with Fordham Art Law Society related events such as panel discussions, symposia, fundraising drives.
5. Maintains a membership and alumni e-mail directory.
6. Publicizes events by obtaining flyer approval from the Office of Student Affairs, posting flyers throughout the school, and emailing the membership.
7. Picks up organization's mail, if any.
8. Checks organization's voicemail, if any.
9. Manages organization's Google & Fordham Law Calendars, if any.
10. Manages organization supplies and office space, if any.

Section 6.

An appointed officer may be removed by unanimous vote of the elected officers. Officers and members shall have the opportunity to present their sides at the removal meeting, before the vote. If the officer is removed, a new officer shall be appointed as quickly as possible.

Section 7.

An elected officer may be removed by a majority vote of the membership. Officers and members shall have the opportunity to present their sides at the meeting, before the vote. If the elected officer is removed, a new officer shall be appointed as quickly as possible by majority vote of the remaining elected officers.

Article IV: Meetings & Events

Section 1.

General meetings shall occur at the discretion of the elected officers. A schedule of events and meetings shall be created over the summer and revised for the spring semester over winter break.

Section 2.

Officers may call special meetings at any time for important matters. Prior notice should be given to all members as soon as possible.

Article V: Committees

Section 1.

Possible purposes of committees will be to 1) take care of distributing out work equally on any given issue the committee is created to address, 2) brainstorm and create new ideas to present at the organization meetings, 3) work through different ideas and issues, focusing them so they can be presented to the general membership to be voted on.

Section 2.

Any member or officer may propose the formation of a committee. The elected officers may create, structure, and dissolve committees through a majority vote.

Article VI: Amendments to the By-Laws

Any voting member may propose an amendment. Board members must, by majority vote, agree to consider the proposed amendment. Should the board decline to consider it, an email response to the suggesting voting member is required. Voting members shall be notified at least two weeks in advance of a pending amendment. The amendment shall be emailed and posted to the website. Amendments will be adopted by a majority vote of voting members, which may be conducted via a meeting or via an online vote.

Article VII: Advisor

Section 1.

The advisor(s) must be a member of the Fordham Law School faculty or administrative staff. If the elected officers deem it appropriate, they may appoint two full-time faculty or administrative staff members as co-advisors.

Section 2.

The advisor shall determine the nature of the advisor's role. However, the authority of the Board and the general membership of the organization trump the authority of the advisor.

Section 3.

The advisor may be removed by a majority vote among the elected officers. The advisor can voluntarily remove herself or himself. Prospects for a new advisor would then be contacted and the elected officers would decide upon a new advisor.

Section 4.

Prospective advisors must be agreed upon by a majority of board members.

Article VIII: Non-Discrimination & Indemnification

This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individuals for reasons of creed or worldview, race, color, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.