

WCA POD DESCRIPTION

A WCA POD is a casual and loosely structured group that convenes regularly around a chosen activity, such as an art share, studio tour, museum/gallery visits, book club, artist critique, or other related pursuits. Meetings can occur in-person or via Zoom.

A Pod operates similarly to a neighborhood book club, in that it is organized by its members and comprises people with similar interests, such as a particular genre of literature. No exchange of money takes place, but group members may take turns hosting gatherings, and the meeting time and place are agreed upon by the group.

One of the advantages of a Pod is its informality, making it easy to manage and requiring minimal volunteer effort to coordinate.

POD GUIDELINES

1. To Start a Pod

- a. Any WCA member may start a Pod. That person will be the leader and report to the local or national board and must be a WCA member
- b. A name and intention must be decided on for the pod. It could be a geographical pod or a special interest pod
- c. Pod formation must be approved by the local or national board
- d. Set up a meeting time and location
- e. Invite WCA members to join
- f. Meeting organization/schedule is decided by the group

2. Pod Members

- a. All pods are started with WCA members
- b. Inviting non-members to attend a pod meeting is a great way to recruit new members.

3. Pod Size

- a. Pods are meant to be inclusive and not exclusive
- b. Two or more people are needed to create a pod
- c. The size of the pod usually depends on the size of the meeting space. For instance, meeting in homes may accommodate 5-10 people but size may not be a problem if the pod is meeting via zoom.

4. Pod Leadership

- a. Pods do not form boards or act as mini-chapters within WCA
- b. One person must be the leader/contact person and report to the local or national board

5. Finances

- a. A pod cannot fundraise, create their own bank accounts or engage in financial transactions
- b. A pod has no budget line item within any local chapter or national budget
- c. Pods cannot fundraise donations for other organizations

6. Exhibits/Programs/Activities

- a. Proposals for exhibit/programs/group activities must be made to the local or national board for approval
- b. Pod members must volunteer their time and work with appropriate committee chairs/board members to organize the approved activity
- c. Pods must operate in accordance with WCA Bylaws and 501c3 guidelines
- d. Pods cannot engage in lobbying activities, raise money or work with political parties or PACs. (this is a 501c3 restriction)

7. WCA Mission Statement

- a. WCA pods must work within and be respectful of WCA's mission statement:
The mission of the Women's Caucus for Art is to create community through art, education, and social activism. WCA is committed to recognizing the contribution of women in the arts; providing women with leadership opportunities and professional development; expanding networking and exhibition opportunities for women; supporting local, national and global art activism; and advocating for equity in the arts for all.

If you have any questions or would like to form a pod please contact Laura Morrison at laura.morrison@nationalwca.org