

# **Delegate Packet for the A.R.T.S. Anonymous World Service Conference - January 2026**

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<b>AGENDA – 2026 WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE on January 10, 11, 17 2026</b>		
<b>Day One Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Order of Business</b>	<b>Presenter and/or Facilitator:</b>
<b>Session One</b> (Two Hours) 4am AEDT/ 9 am PT/12 noon ET/5pm GMT/6pm CET/8pm MSK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Opening and Welcome!</li> <li>-Serenity Prayer</li> <li>-Concepts of Service</li> <li>-Introductions</li> <li>-Review of Community Problem-Solving Method</li> <li>-Etiquette for Participating at the WSC</li> <li>-Quick Review of the Day's Agenda</li> <li>-Delegate Voting Method/Guidelines</li> </ul>	Erica (Conference Chair) and/or Eddie Ed (Conference Vice-Chair)
	<b>Motion #1:</b> Motion to Recognize and Establish the Conference Service and Support Committee	Chris M.
<b>Break (30 minutes)</b>		
<b>Session Two</b> (Two Hours) 6.30 am AEDT/ 11.30am PT /2.30pm ET/7.30pm GMT/8.30pm CET/ 10.30pm MSK	<b>Motion #2:</b> Motion to Recognize and Establish the Recruiting and Nominations Committee  <b>Motion #3:</b> Motion to Develop a 12 Steps Study Guide  <b>Motion #4:</b> Motion to Develop a Publication of Personal Stories	Voytech G.  Literature Committee  Literature Committee
<b>END OF DAY ONE</b>		
<b>Day Two Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Presenter and/or Facilitator:</b>
<b>Session One</b> (Two Hours) 4am AEDT/ 9 am PT/12 noon ET/5pm GMT/6pm CET/8pm MSK	Opening and Welcome! Serenity Prayer Concepts of Service Overview of the Day's Agenda Reminder: Delegate Voting Method/Guidelines	Erica (Conference Chair) and/or Eddie Ed (Conference Vice-Chair)
	<b>Motion #5:</b> Motion to accept "The A.R.T.S. Anonymous Conference Service Manual"	Conference Policy and Procedures Committee

Break (30 minutes)		
<b>Session Two</b> (Two Hours) 6.30 am AEDT/ 11.30am PT /2.30pm ET/7.30pm GMT/8.30pm CET/ 10.30pm MSK	<b>Motion #5</b> (Continued)	
END OF DAY TWO		
<b>Day Three</b> <b>Saturday, January</b> <b>17</b>		<b>Facilitator and/or</b> <b>Presenter</b>
<b>Session One</b> (Two Hours) 4am AEDT/ 9 am PT/12 noon ET/5pm GMT/6pm CET/8pm MSK	Opening Serenity Prayer Concepts of Service Overview of the day's Agenda Reminder: Delegate Voting method/guidelines	Erica (Conference Chair) and/or Eddie Ed (Conference Vice-Chair)
	<b>Motion #5</b> (Continued if necessary)	
	<b>Treasurer's Report</b> <b>Committee Reports</b>	Allegra B. (Treasurer Report) Committee Chairs or Members
Break (30 minutes)		
<b>Session Two</b> (Two Hours) 6.30 am AEDT/ 11.30am PT /2.30pm ET/7.30pm GMT/8.30pm CET/ 10.30pm MSK	<b>Board and Conference Elections</b> <b>Open Forum</b>	Erica (Conference Chair) and/or Eddie Ed (Conference Vice-Chair)
Closing and End of the 2026 World Service Conference		

## GUIDELINES FOR DELEGATE AND PARTICIPANT ETIQUETTE FOR ALL CONFERENCES

*To be read at the opening of the Conference.*

Thank you so much for being here. Thank you for representing your groups and the A.R.T.S. fellowship. We welcome you to the World Service Conference 2026 and we look forward to your participation.

To ensure the integrity of the voting process all sessions will be recorded for documentation purposes. Registered delegates are eligible to vote if they are present and visible on camera. It is good practice that Delegates be present for the entire debate on a motion.

Please try not to repeat questions or comments made by other Delegates or Participants. If this happens the Facilitator will let you know.

Please be mindful that some behaviors work as triggers and may distract others from participating effectively. When your camera is on, please be appropriately dressed and refrain from smoking, drinking alcohol, or eating.

**Non-Delegate Participants:** Anyone who buys a ticket to attend the Conference and is not an elected Delegate may participate. Non-Delegate Participants may ask questions, engage in discussions, help with motion crafting, and offer Pros and Cons. Only Delegates are eligible to vote.

Thank you so much for representing the A.R.T.S fellowship at the World Service Conference!

## A.R.T.S. Anonymous World Service Conference Quorum and Voting Percentages

<b><u>Voting Type</u></b>	<b><u>Required Numbers</u></b>	<b><u>Comments</u></b>
<b>Quorum</b>	<b>Twice the number of non-trustee delegates as trustee delegates.</b>	Passed in 2022 by the Conference
<b>Motions</b>	<b>Simple majority (50%+)</b>	Passed in 2023 by the Conference
<b>Binding Motions</b>	<b>2/3 majority</b>	Binding on Board of Trustees, unless illegal or fiscally irresponsible
<b>Changes to Steps, Traditions, Concepts of Service and Article 10 of Conference Charter</b>	<b>¾ of A.R.T.S. groups by written consent (some exceptions for the Conference Charter applies)</b>	Changes to Steps, Traditions and Concepts of Service, plus Article 10 of the Conference Charter requires ¾ of groups. Changes to Articles 1-9 of the Charter can be made by a simple majority at the Conference.
<b>Literature Approval</b>	<b>2/3 Majority</b>	From 1995 Conference approved Literature Development Process, Retained by the Conference in the updated 2023 Literature Development/Approval Process
<b>Reorganization of Board of Trustees</b>	<b>¾ vote of all Conference Delegates</b>	May add or remove Trustees

**At the 2022 World Service Conference, the following motion was passed:**

*For purposes of conducting business at the World Service Conference, a quorum is met when there are at least twice as many voting delegates from meetings and Committees present as the number of members of the Board of Trustees present.*

**At the 2023 World Service Conference, the following motion was passed:**

*A motion passes if it is accepted by a simple majority of the total number of Voting Members present. If not accepted by the Board of Trustees, justification will be directly provided to the Conference in writing. Exceptions to the simple majority rule are listed throughout the Charter. The Trustees are obligated by the Concepts of Service to provide good stewardship of the Corporation.*

## **Disruptions, Statement for the Safety of the Conference, and Warning Statement**

**Use of the Mute Function:** At the discretion of the Conference Chair, participants who do not have the floor may be muted by the Vice-Chair or another individual designated by the Conference Chair so that Delegates and Participants can speak without interference.

**Statement for the Safety of the Conference:** “To protect the Conference proceedings, we ask that members save questions to the time allotted for questions. Questions or comments about the running of the Conference can be directed to the chat and may, at the discretion of the Conference Chair be addressed. Alternatively, they may be taken to the Conference Policies and Procedures Committee meetings once they resume.

Disruption will not be tolerated. Disruption includes interrupting, asking questions outside the time allotted for questions, making non-procedural motions, speaking out of order, or otherwise interfering with the business of the Conference. Disruption will receive no more than two warnings from the Conference Chair and may lead to removal from the remainder of the Conference.”

**Warning Statement:** *(To be read by the Conference Chair as needed)*

“The Conference is being disrupted. Disruption will not be tolerated. This is a warning. Disruption includes interrupting, asking questions outside the time allotted for questions, making non-procedural motions, speaking out of order, or otherwise interfering with the business of the Conference. Disruption will receive no more than two warnings. Further disruption may lead to removal for the remainder of the Conference.”

## **Motion #1: To accept the establishment of a Conference Service and Support Committee**

**Motion:** The World Service Conference recognizes and establishes the Conference Service and Support Committee for the purpose of preparing the annual WSC meetings, including reviewing motions, setting the agenda, and other tasks as the Conference may require.

**Reasoning:** The Conference Service and Support committee has operated on an ad hoc basis for the past three Conferences. Concept 10 calls for “Clearly defined service authority”, and without authority from the Conference to provide service, its place in the service structure is unclear. The Committee requests that it be recognized in an official capacity.

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## **Motion #2: To accept the establishment of a Recruiting and Nominating Committee**

**Motion:** We move that the Recruiting and Nominations Committee be recognized as a World Service Conference (WSC) Committee, reporting to and accountable to the WSC. The purpose of the Recruiting and Nominations Committee is to support the Fellowship by identifying, encouraging, and recommending trusted servants for key roles in the WSC, its related service structures, and that any further changes to its structure or authority be subject to Conference approval.

**Reasoning:** The Committee’s function is spiritual, structural, and consultative in nature—rooted in the Concepts of World Service. To ensure impartiality, transparency, and alignment with group conscience, it is essential that the committee operate under the spiritual authority of the World Service Conference, rather than the administrative oversight of the Board of Trustees. A formal alignment with the WSC:

- Honors Concept Ten, which states that every service responsibility should be matched by a corresponding authority. This aims to prevent confusion, dual accountability, and structural overreach.
- Upholds Concept Four, which affirms the right of participation for all service bodies.
- Ensures recommendations reflect the conscience of the Fellowship—not the preferences of a single service arm in alignment with Tradition 2. The committee welcomes collaboration with the Board and World Service Office but should remain free

from executive control or appointment authority by the Board, whose own Trustees may at times be subject to nomination or review.

Requested Outcome: That the World Service Conference recognize the Recruiting and Nominations Committee as a WSC-level body, and that any further changes to its structure or authority be subject to Conference approval, so that the bottom up structure of service is ensured.

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### **Motion #3 Develop and Make Ready for Conference Approval a Twelve Step Study Guide**

**Motion 3:** To develop and make ready for Conference Approval a Twelve Step Study Guide, including guidance for sponsors, that follows the Conference-Approved Literature Development/Approval Process.

**Reasoning:**

- Conference members have expressed a desire for Conference-approved Literature in A.R.T.S.
  - Conference approved Step Literature in A.R.T.S. is central to the program, supporting our primary purpose and principles
  - Step Literature can provide a focus for all A.R.T.S. Literature
  - Step work in A.R.T.S. would be more accessible and available to artists who want it
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**Motion 4: Develop and make ready for Conference Approval a publication of personal stories** describing what it was like before becoming a member of A.R.T.S. Anonymous, what it was like after becoming a member, and what it is like now.

**Reasoning:** Conference-approved Literature in A.R.T.S. offers an opportunity for a variety of A.R.T.S. members to express how the program helped them overcome their creative blocks, express their gratitude for what the program has given them, and carry the message of recovery.

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## **Motion #5: To accept “The A.R.T.S. Anonymous Conference Service Manual**

**MOTION:** The World Service Conference adopts the A.R.T.S. Anonymous Manual of Service as a compilation of policies and procedures in order to guide all A.R.T.S. members in their service to the program.

### **Reasoning:**

The A.R.T.S. Anonymous Conference Service Manual, available to all members of A.R.T.S., strives to provide A.R.T.S. Anonymous with guidance, clarity and continuity for its World Service Conference and World Services. It is understood that the Service Manual will evolve as the Conference adopts new policies and procedures.

### **Note:**

Parts of this Manual that have not yet been accepted by the World Service Conference are highlighted in **yellow**.

# **The A.R.T.S. Anonymous Conference Service Manual**

## ***PART 1: CONFERENCE CHARTER***

*(Passed by the 2022 World Service Conference on October 29, 2022, ratified on October 30, 2022)*

### **Articles 1 through 10 of the A.R.T.S. Anonymous World Service Charter**

1. *Purpose:* The members of the Fellowship, represented at the World Service Conference (WSC) of A.R.T.S. Anonymous, and guided by a loving Higher Power, exist to support the (autonomous) groups and A.R.T.S. as a whole. Only matters seriously affecting A.R.T.S. worldwide shall be considered by the Conference. The WSC serves as the group conscience of the Fellowship. As trusted servants they may collectively authorize and establish service committees to carry out their work. The A.R.T.S. World Service Conference safeguards and protects the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. As the collective group conscience of the fellowship, it serves and does not govern A.R.T.S.

2. *Composition:* The WSC is composed of the following groups of Delegates. Each Delegate has one and only one vote per motion at the conference, even if they serve in more than one capacity.

a. Delegates elected to represent their group at the WSC are called Group Service Representatives (GSRs). The conference is authorized to decide upon the number of delegates representing each group. A group with 5 or more members present at a business meeting may elect two GSRs, and no more.

b. Groups may elect alternate GSRs who attend the conference and vote when the GSR is unable to be present.

c. The trustees of the A.R.T.S. Board.

d. A delegate from each committee who is not otherwise a delegate.

3. *Delegates' Role at the Conference:* The Conference will act for A.R.T.S. in the perpetuation and guidance of its world services, and it will also be the vehicle by which A.R.T.S. members express their views upon all vital matters of policy and all potentially hazardous deviations from the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts of Service in A.R.T.S. Anonymous. At the Conference, GSRs, as trusted servants, consult with the members they represent and are free to vote as their conscience dictates; they are also free to decide what questions should be taken to the group level.

Delegates vote on issues affecting the entire Fellowship. They elect Trustees, approve literature, provide guidance for public outreach, establish policies and procedures, and maintain the integrity of the foundational documents\*. Delegates may serve on committees. The group conscience as expressed at the WSC, is binding by program tradition, as long as it does not interfere with A.R.T.S. nonprofit corporate status.

The exception is that no change in Article 10 of the Charter, or in the 12 Traditions of A.R.T.S., or in the 12 Steps of A.R.T.S., can be made with less than the written consent of three-quarters of the A.R.T.S. groups.

4. *The Relation between Conference and the Board of Trustees:* As the group conscience of the A.R.T.S. Anonymous Fellowship, the Conference functions as guide and advisor to the Board of Trustees in perpetuation and growth of the A.R.T.S. Anonymous program. The Conference will be expected to afford a reliable cross section of A.R.T.S. opinion for this purpose.

By tradition, a 2/3 vote of Conference delegates obligates the Board of Trustees to act on its resolutions. However, no such vote can interfere with

the Board of Trustees' obligation to conduct routine business, or financial and legal matters.

By tradition, a 3/4 vote of all Conference delegates may bring about a reorganization of the Board of Trustees and its staff members. The Conference may request resignations, may nominate new trustees, and may make all other necessary arrangements, regardless of the legal rights of the Board of Trustees.

5. *World Service Delegates:* The Conference will determine Delegate terms of office. GSR Delegates may represent only one meeting; members of the Board of Trustees may not also serve as Delegates for a meeting; each Delegate may cast only one vote.
6. *World Service Conference Organization:* The WSC governs itself, although it collaborates with the Board of Trustees. The Conference chooses its election methods and rules for voting, such as percentage of votes required to pass resolutions.

*Conference Committees:* The Conference may choose to establish committees. Any A.R.T.S. member may serve on committees. Each committee may have a Board member serving as Board liaison. The committee will elect a member as committee chair.

*Board Committees:* The Board of Trustees may also establish committees and include Program Members as well as Conference Delegates.

7. *The World Service Conference Meetings:* The Conference will meet yearly through an online platform or in-person, or a hybrid of the two. Special meetings may be called should there be a reason. The Conference may also render advisory opinions at any time by mail, e-mail, telephone or virtual meeting poll in aid of the Board of Trustees or its related services.

For purposes of conducting business at the World Service Conference, a quorum is met when there are at least twice as many voting delegates from meetings and committees present as the number of members of the Board of Trustees present.

8. *The Board of Trustees: Composition, Jurisdiction, Responsibilities:* The Board of Trustees of A.R.T.S. Anonymous shall be an incorporated trusteeship, who elect their own successors. These choices are subject, however, to the approval of the Conference by two-thirds vote. All trustee candidates must submit a written application to the Board, stating their qualifications and understanding of the A.R.T.S. Anonymous Traditions. They pledge to carry the message of A.R.T.S. Anonymous in a manner consistent

with the Traditions. The WSC may also nominate trustees. If approved by the Conference by two-thirds vote, a nominee is then elected to the Board of Trustees, the trustees being obligated by the 12 Traditions to accept the nominee.

The Board of Trustees is primarily responsible for the financial and policy integrity of A.R.T.S. World Service. The Board of Trustees has entire freedom of action in the routine conduct of the policy and business affairs of the A.R.T.S. World Service corporation. The Board of Trustees' executive committee is essentially custodial in character, assuming leadership of the day-to-day operations of the World Service Office.

The Bylaws of the Board of Trustees, or any amendments to it, should always be subject to the approval of the World Service Conference by a two-thirds vote.

Except in a great emergency, neither the Board of Trustees nor any of its related services ought ever take any action liable to greatly affect A.R.T.S. as a whole, without first consulting the Conference. It is understood that the Board shall, in times of grave emergency only, decide whether its actions require prior support from the Conference. Nevertheless, the Conference will be consulted as soon as possible.

9. *The World Service Conference, Its General Procedures:* The Conference will hear the financial and policy reports of the Board of Trustees. The Conference will confer with the trustees and staff members upon all matters presented as affecting A.R.T.S. as a whole, engage in debate, appoint necessary committees, and pass suitable resolutions for the advice or direction of the Board of Trustees.

The Conference may also discuss and recommend appropriate action respecting serious deviations from A.R.T.S. tradition or harmful misuse of the name "ARTS Anonymous."

The Conference, as a self-governing body, may draft any needed bylaws for itself and select its own officers and committees.

The Conference at the close of each yearly session will draft a full report of its proceedings, to be supplied to all delegates and committee members; also, a summary which will be sent to A.R.T.S. groups throughout the world.

10. *General Warranties of the Conference:* In all its proceedings, the World Service Conference shall observe the spirit of the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts of Service of A.R.T.S. Anonymous, taking great care that the

Conference recognizes its role as the group conscience of the A.R.T.S. fellowship as a whole.

*This means:*

- *No service entity ever becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power.*
- *ARTS service entities maintain an ample prudent reserve sufficient for their operations. Any additional funds will be available to carry out the primary purpose of the fellowship, 'to express our creative gifts and help others to achieve artistic freedom'*
- *No member has unchecked authority over any other member.*
- *All group conscience decisions are reached by discussion, vote, and consensus when possible.*
- *No service entity action shall ever be personally punitive or incite public controversy.*
- *ARTS service entities will always remain democratic in thought and action.*

## ***PART 2: THE 12 CONCEPTS OF SERVICE OF A.R.T.S. ANONYMOUS***

*(Passed by the World Service Conference in October 2022 and corrected by the WSC in October 2023)*

### **12 Concepts of Service of A.R.T.S. Anonymous**

**Concept One. The ultimate responsibility and authority for A.R.T.S. world service belongs to the collective conscience of the A.R.T.S. groups.**

*The groups delegate authority to the World Service Conference (WSC) and to the Board of Trustees. The members of the Board of Trustees are entrusted with conducting the day-to-day administration necessary to carry the A.R.T.S. message to the artist who still struggles to express their creativity. Groups are autonomous and World Service has responsibility only for matters that affect the entire fellowship or groups affecting other groups.*

**Concept Two. The A.R.T.S. Anonymous World Service Conference is the voice and conscience of our global fellowship in its world affairs.**

*The WSC is the voice of the groups and has been entrusted with the authority to run the operations of A.R.T.S. world service.*

**Concept Three. The Right of Decision makes effective leadership possible.**

*Meeting officers are chosen to carry out the technicalities of running a meeting and are empowered to make decisions for that purpose. They do not govern and always carry out the group conscience. On the World Service level, the groups have chosen delegates to represent them. The delegates have the responsibility and authority to make decisions that are required by their service positions. Likewise, members of WSC Committees and the Board of Trustees have the right to make decisions. All decisions must be consistent with the 12 Traditions of A.R.T.S. Anonymous. Whenever possible, decisions should be based on the group conscience.*

**Concept Four. Participation is the key to harmony. Voting representation is in reasonable proportion to service responsibilities.**

*In A.R.T.S. leaders are but trusted servants. At the same time, groups choose members to represent their views and to oversee the day-to-day activities of the Fellowship. This seems like a contradiction. The principle of participation blends these two contradictions.*

*When members participate in decisions and know that their voice is heard, they feel included and valued. They feel like part of the group rather than outsiders. This creates harmony and encourages more members to participate in service.*

*Member participation with A.R.T.S. anonymous is inclusive and it is valued. Participation through service positions assist the growth and development of the trusted servant and A.R.T.S. Anonymous as a whole.*

*When participation is lacking it affects the spirit of the group and it affects the balance of shared responsibility for the group to work effectively. What ensures harmonious relations will happen on the extent to which each service player understands and carries his or her proportion of the work. In A.R.T.S. leaders are but trusted servants.*

**Concept Five. Group conscience decision-making requests minority opinions and gives members the opportunity to express them.**

*“The only requirement for A.R.T.S. membership is a desire to function as a creative artist.” Tradition 3. All A.R.T.S. members value their freedom to work the program and participate in their own way within the guidance of the 12 Traditions. Every member can expect respect and consideration when voicing their opinion. Minority views are not “shut down” by the majority.*

**Concept Six. The Conference acknowledges the primary administrative responsibility of the Board of Trustees.**

*As it is not possible for the groups to run the everyday affairs of the World Service Office, they have delegated this responsibility to the WSC. In turn, because the WSC generally meets annually (or more often as needed), the WSC delegates the administrative responsibility to the trustees. At the same time, the WSC oversees the trustees to make sure that the Traditions are observed.*

**Concept Seven. The Board of Trustees has legal rights and obligations while the rights and obligations of the Conference are traditional.**

*The existence of the Board of Trustees is required by the laws of the State of New York, and the Board is recognized as legally responsible to maintain the A.R.T.S. policies and procedures according to those laws. The rights of the WSC are “traditional,” that is, based on the 12 Traditions. In the years in which 12-step programs have been flourishing, the board steps back and allows the traditional democratic principles to guide the Fellowship.*

**Concept Eight. The Board of Trustees delegates full responsibility for the operations of the World Service Office to the executive committee.**

*The board elects an executive committee which takes on the management of the World Service Office in order to respond to day-to-day operations. In case of an emergency, the executive committee will promptly inform the entire board of trustees of any actions taken.*

**Concept Nine. Good leadership at all service levels is essential. In the field of world service, the Board of Trustees assumes the primary leadership.**

*The board of trustees acts as the leadership of the fellowship. In accordance with the Traditions, they do not impose decisions on the fellowship, but rather implement its decisions as expressed in the WSC. Board members are chosen, among other things, for their willingness to serve as collaborative leaders. Trustees are chosen by the World Service Conference.*

**Concept Ten. Service responsibility is balanced by clearly defined service authority. Those with responsibilities are accountable to only one service authority, avoiding conflict.**

*Each service position reports to only one service entity, so that there is not a conflict with competing demands.*

**Concept Eleven. The World Service Office is composed of standing committees, executives, and staff members.**

*The WSO includes standing committees of the board of trustees, the members of the executive committee, and staff members who are employed by the WSO.*

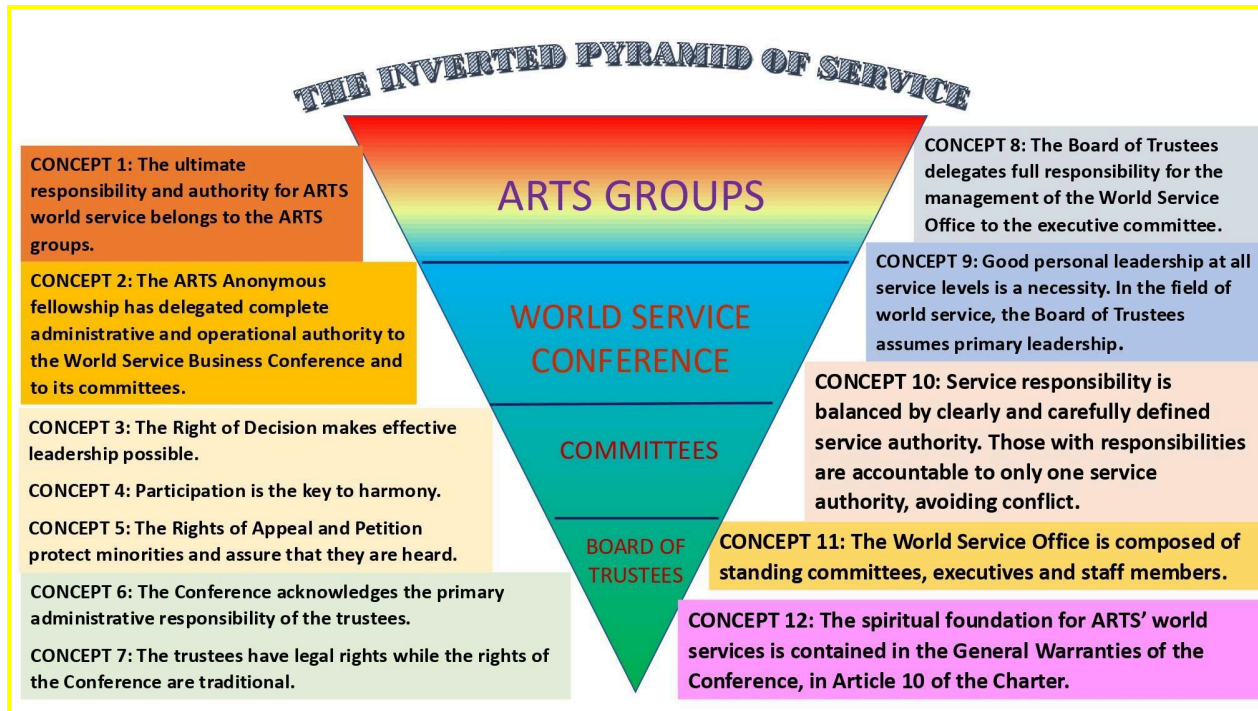
**Concept Twelve. A Loving Higher Power provides the spiritual guidance for A.R.T.S. World Services. This guidance is expressed in the General Warranties of the Conference, in Article 10 of the Charter.**

- a. No service entity ever becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power.
- b. ARTS service entities maintain an ample prudent reserve sufficient for their operations. Any additional funds will be available to carry out the primary purpose of the fellowship, “to express our creative gifts and help others to achieve artistic freedom.”
- c. No member has unchecked authority over any other member.
- d. All group conscience decisions are reached by discussion, vote, and consensus when possible.
- e. No service entity action shall ever be personally punitive or incite public controversy.
- f. ARTS service entities will always remain democratic in thought and action.



## ***PART 3: SERVICE STRUCTURE***

### **The Inverted Pyramid of Service**



## ***PART 4: DELEGATES TO THE WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE***

### **Who is a Delegate**

To allow A.R.T.S. groups one Delegate to represent each meeting with an Alternate Delegate. If the meeting has more than five members who are present at the business meeting where the election occurs, the meeting may elect two Delegates and two Alternates.

At the World Service Conference, each Service Committee has standing to participate, including the election of one delegate from each Committee selected from those who are not board members, or a meeting delegate.

### **Delegate Terms of Office and Right to Vote**

A suggested term limit of two years for meeting GSRs (aka group/meeting delegates), subject to approval or alteration by the meeting the delegate represents.

## **INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES TO THE WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE OF A.R.T.S. ANONYMOUS**

### **Who/What is a Delegate or Alternate Delegate?**

- Delegates are the representatives to the World Service Conference (WSC) who have the right to vote. (In other programs delegates who represent the groups are called “GSRs” or Group Service Representatives.)
- Delegates include:
  - o One or two elected and registered representatives from each A.R.T.S. Anonymous group (GSRs).
  - o One representative from each service committee.
  - o Members of the Board of Trustees

### **What does a Delegate or Alternate Delegate do?**

- Delegates attend the annual World Service Conference (WSC), anticipated to be virtual for the time being, and stay in communication with World Services and the WSC. Additional meetings of the WSC may be called if necessary.

- Delegates are invited to join Conference committees. These are an opportunity to make the voice of the meetings heard as well as to make decisions about how the actual WSC will run. This can really make a difference for the future of A.R.T.S. Anonymous!
- At the WSC meetings, delegates vote on issues affecting the entire Fellowship, such as electing Trustees, approving Literature, establishing Policies and Procedures, and any changes to important documents such as the Steps & Traditions.
- Delegates vote on public outreach efforts and give guidance to the Board of Trustees.
- Delegates do not govern. However, the group conscience as expressed at the WSC is binding by program tradition, as long as the Fellowship of ARTS Anonymous continues to meet the legal requirements of its non-profit designation.
- Delegates represent their own A.R.T.S. Anonymous group (meeting) and consult with the members they represent about important issues. The meetings “delegate” responsibility to the Delegate/GSR to listen to the deliberations of the WSC and make choices.
- Delegates bring back to the group the results of WSC proceedings and keep members informed of what is happening within the world-wide Fellowship.
- Alternate Delegates “stand in” for the Delegate when the Delegate is not available. When an Alternate is standing in for a Delegate, they do everything a Delegate does, including voting.

### **How do you become a Delegate or Alternate Delegate?**

- Delegates and Alternates must be elected by their group.
- Each A.R.T.S. Group elects one Delegate and one alternate delegate to represent it. If the meeting has more than five members who are present at the business meeting where the election occurs, the meeting may elect two Delegates and two Alternates.
- Alternates only vote at the WSC if the Delegate cannot. Of course, all who would like to may attend, but not all have a vote.
- Once the Delegates and Alternate Delegates are elected, please fill out the Delegate/Alternate Delegate Registration Form to let the A.R.T.S. World Service Office know who is representing the group. (One form for each Delegate/Alternate Delegate). This can be found on the A.R.T.S. Anonymous website ([click here](#))
- It is essential that we have contact information, including phone number and email, for all Delegates and Alternates so we can inform them of upcoming meetings, and details and information for the WSC. World Services will send out meeting agendas for the Pre-Conference and the WSC, and information about issues that will be voted on at the WSC. (Delegates may also bring issues to the WSC, and we are establishing a procedure for that.)

## What does the WSC do?

- Each group is autonomous unless their decisions affect other groups, or the entire Fellowship. Therefore, we have something called the World Service Conference (WSC), which has the responsibility to provide guidance to the meetings, the Board of Trustees, and issues affecting A.R.T.S. Anonymous as a whole.
- A.R.T.S. Anonymous follows the structure of Alcoholics Anonymous and other 12-Step programs, using the 12 Traditions as the guide.
- The WSC does not govern. It is the embodiment of the group conscience of all the groups (meetings).
- Examples of things the WSC does (or might do)
  - Approve Trustees elected to the Board
  - Approve Literature (This is what is meant by Conference-approved Literature)
  - Govern itself and set up its own Policies and Procedures. Determine the rules for Delegate selection. The WSC elects its own Chair and Officers
  - The WSC guides the Board of Trustees in all operations of World Service. It asks questions and proposes solutions about financial decisions.
  - Conduct Fellowship events such as workshops and art shares at the WSC and at other times
  - Work with the Board of Trustees on changes to the A.R.T.S. Anonymous By-laws
  - Create/revise/approve the foundational documents of A.R.T.S. (where permitted by copyright): Steps, Traditions, Concepts of Service.
  - Amend the Conference Charter as needed
  - Create and approve efforts and programs such as Outreach.

## Delegate and Alternate Delegate Registration Form

### Meeting Delegate/Alternate Delegate Registration Form

Fields marked with an \* are required

### ARTS Anonymous Group Service Representative or Alternate Group Service Representative Registration Form

Use this form to officially register the Delegate (or Group Service Representative - GSR) and Alternate Delegate (GSR) to represent your meeting. Each Meeting Delegate and Alternate Delegate must fill out a separate form. All information received will be used only by the A.R.T.S. World Service Office for the purpose of conducting the World Service Conference and for communications from the World Service Office throughout the year. Otherwise only your first name and last initial will be used. This form will be collected by World Services using the email you provide in the next box below.

***IMPORTANT NOTE: This form only registers you as your Meeting Delegate and/or Alternate. To attend the annual meeting of World Service Conference, your group or meeting will purchase a ticket for the Conference.***

\* Indicates required question

Email\*

Your email

First and Last Name\*

Your answer

Email Address\*

Your answer

Phone Number\*

Your answer

Select One: Delegate or Alternate\*

Delegate

Alternate

Name of Meeting, Type of Meeting, Date/Time of the Meeting you are Representing: \*

Your answer

**Date you were chosen at group's business meeting (approximate date is acceptable) \***

Your answer

**Number of people at the business meeting when you were chosen \***

Your answer

**Name & email of meeting contact or officer who witnessed you being chosen \***

Your answer

**Are you replacing a former Delegate or Alternate? If so, please tell us who so the list can be kept updated.**

Your answer

**Please indicate a committee if you are interested in serving. See the "Service Info" tab on the [artsanonymous.org](http://artsanonymous.org) website for more information about each Committee.**

- Policies and Procedures for the Conference
- Conference Planning (helping to put on the conference)
- Finance (finance reviews, getting the program solvent)
- Website (reviewing, redesigning)
- Policies and Procedures for World Services
- Outreach (getting the word out)
- LGBTQ
- Literature (development, approval, review, distribution)
- Talents and Skills (surveying and maintaining a list of skills of the members to contribute service)
- Recruiting and Nominating (for Service Positions)
- Sharathon
- Board of Trustees

**A copy of your responses will be emailed to the address you provided.**

## **PART 5: CONFERENCE COMMITTEES**

**Pending Motion: To establish a Conference Service and Support Committee responsible for logistics and organization of the World Service Conference.**

*(The following motion was passed at the 2024 3<sup>rd</sup> Virtual World Service Conference in January 2025)*

That the World Service Conference create a Policies and Procedures Committee for the World Service Conference. Although the Conference Service and Support Committee acknowledges the passage of this motion, it suggests that the Committee be described for purposes of this Manual.

**Pending Motion: To propose to the World Service Conference that it create a Recruiting and Nominating Committee for Conference Service and Board of Trustees positions.**

## **PART 6: CONFERENCE POSITIONS**

### **Conference Chair**

*(The following motion was passed at the 2024 3<sup>rd</sup> Virtual World Service Conference in January 2025)*

To establish a Term Limit of three consecutive World Service Conferences for the position of Conference Chairperson.

The Chair of the A.R.T.S. World Service Conference (WSC) serves as the Facilitator at WSC meetings.

- The WS Conference Chair:
  - Presides over WSC meetings, including mid-year or special sessions.
  - Helps to ensure that the group conscience is developed and expressed in a structured, respectful, and spiritually principled way.
  - Does not debate or advocate during meetings of the WSC or introduce new motions other than procedural motions.
  - Maintains neutrality at all times.
  - Has one vote.

### **How the Conference Chair is nominated.**

- Upon recommendation to and by the Recruitment and Nominations Committee
- By nomination at the time of a WSC meeting.

### **How the Conference Chair is elected.**

- Written or recorded applications will be made available to Delegates two weeks prior to a vote.
- Delegates have the opportunity to interview all candidates before voting.
- WSC Delegates will vote to elect a Chair at a meeting of the WSC.
- The WSC Chair is elected at the end of the Annual WS Conference to serve a term of one year. In the event that a WSC Chair is not elected at the Conference, or is unable to fulfill their duties, a special session of the Conference shall be held for the purpose of electing a WSC Chair.
- In the event that there is no elected Conference Chair or Vice Chair, the Board will organize and facilitate a special session of the Conference to hold elections.

### **Conference Vice-Chair**

To recommend the World Service Conference, WSC:

That they form the position of Vice Chair for the Conference to be elected by the WSC for a one-year term. The Vice Chair may be elected by the WSC for no more than three consecutive one-year terms.

That the position includes:

- That the Vice Chair be available for the meetings the Conference Chair attends or leads
- That the Vice Chair supports and assists the Conference Chair in facilitating, as requested by the Conference Chair
- That the Vice Chair functions as an alternate Conference Chair when necessary
- That the Vice Chair may not be a member of the A.R.T.S. Board of Trustees

## ***PART 7: CONFERENCE MOTIONS***



## **How Motions are Handled for the Conference**

### **Procedures for Motions for the World Service Conference**

#### **Who may submit motions?**

- Individual members (preferably with a group conscience)
- Meeting/group Delegates/GSRs
- Meetings/groups
- Board committees (including the Board of Trustees)
- Conference committees
- The Conference Planning Meeting

#### **How motions may be presented for submission (to be considered for inclusion in the Delegate Conference Packet): Motions may be submitted by any individual member (preferably with a group conscience)**

- Members, delegates and committees may also submit motions at committee meetings to be considered for inclusion in the Delegate Conference Packet.
- All motions proposed for the Conference shall be submitted to the World Service Office through a form available on the A.R.T.S. website.
- There will be a deadline set by the Conference Service and Support Committee so that the motion may be formulated with Background and Reasoning for the Delegate Conference Packet.
- Proposed motions will be considered by the Conference Service and Support Committee for inclusion in upcoming and/or future conferences. Proposed motions may be referred to the appropriate committee. If the committee needs further clarification, they will communicate with the proposer. If a motion is rejected, the proposer has the right to know the reasoning behind the rejection by the Conference Service and Support Committee.

#### **During the Conference:**

As debate and discussion unfold at the Conference, all voting members are free to vote their conscience.

### **After the Conference:**

1. GSRs/Delegates will inform their Group/Meetings about group conscience decisions made at the Conference.
2. Following the Conference, a formal, comprehensive report will be created by the World Service Office in cooperation with the Conference Service and Support Committee. This report will contain all Committee reports, motions as passed and any other relevant information. This report is sent to all delegates and is posted on the website.

## **Literature Development/Approval Process for Conference-Approved Literature**

### **A.R.T.S. Anonymous' Literature Development/Approval Process**

#### ***Introduction***

The purpose of the A.R.T.S. Anonymous Conference Approved Literature Process is to create a body of A.R.T.S. Anonymous Literature that supports members' creative potential. This process enables the A.R.T.S. Anonymous program to gain the right to publish material and/or to post specific pieces of literature for distribution and/or for sale.

A sequence of reviews, successfully conducted is explained below. This will carry a piece of A.R.T.S. Anonymous Literature from draft proposal to final approval, by both the A.R.T.S. Board of Trustees and the A.R.T.S. World Service Conference. The A.R.T.S. literature thus gains the designation of A.R.T.S. Conference Approved Literature.

1. A concept for a piece of A.R.T.S. literature, or a first draft of all or part of an A.R.T.S. literature manuscript, can be submitted by any member, group or service entity of A.R.T.S. Anonymous. All A.R.T.S. Literature seeks support through a collaborative literature development process. A.R.T.S. literature reflects the principles of unity, anonymity and being self-supporting through our own contributions. Therefore a member submitting a concept or draft of all or a part of an A.R.T.S. Literature manuscript is asked to sign a letter of agreement: 1) releasing the manuscript to the "ownership" of A.R.T.S. Anonymous; and 2) willingness to recuse themselves from and defer to any committee's group conscience decision related to their work.

<p>2. The Board of Trustees (BoT) Literature Committee considers the concept or manuscript in relation to overall literature development priorities and projects. Consideration is given to resources, time and skills. After discussing already existing literature, feasibility, and time needed to develop the project, the submission is positioned among other literature development projects.</p>
<p>3. Manuscript Development: The Literature Committee will determine the appropriate way to develop the manuscript. This will include providing writing and/or editorial guidelines. The committee may hire or contract a writer, translator and/or editor to compile and edit member submissions. Forming such a manuscript for the piece of literature is subject to terms approved by the Board of Trustees. The Literature Committee may include the originator of the concept or the manuscript, and also other A.R.T.S. members, to work with them on various aspects of the proposed project.</p>
<p>4. Following independent review by the Literature Committee and the A.R.T.S. Anonymous Board of Trustees, changes are made to the initial manuscript based on their editorial comments. These comments address the manuscript's grammar and mechanics, and also its adherence to the principles of the A.R.T.S. 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and 12 Concepts of Service, while retaining the concepts, intention and voice of the original author.</p>
<p>5. Following the guidance provided by the Literature Committee and the Board of Trustees, a near-final draft is produced for review by the Literature Committee. Additional revisions may still be incorporated.</p>
<p>6. The manuscript approved by the Literature Committee is sent to the A.R.T.S. Board of Trustees for review and approval. By tradition, the Board of Trustees accepts the responsibility to ensure the Fellowship that the spiritual principles of A.R.T.S. Anonymous have been adhered to throughout the work.</p>
<p>7. After having been approved by the A.R.T.S. Board of Trustees, the manuscript is presented by the Literature Committee at the next World Service Conference. To facilitate the feedback process of literature development, a manuscript for which Conference-approval is pending will be sent to registered Meeting Delegates two months before the World Service Conference. This will be accompanied by the <i>Guidelines for Reviewing A.R.T.S. Literature</i>. Comments from A.R.T.S. members are encouraged and will be considered by the Conference.</p>
<p>8. To receive "conference-approval," the manuscript must be approved by a 2/3 vote of all World Service Conference Delegates attending the annual World Service Conference meeting.</p>
<p>9. After considering copyright assignment and/or licensing agreements, and budgetary feasibility, the BoT determines the timing, production and distribution of the conference-approved literature. The final piece of A.R.T.S. Literature will carry a "conference-approved" label. If necessary, the BoT may return a manuscript to the Literature Committee for further development.</p>

### **Guidelines for Reviewing A.R.T.S. Literature**

These guidelines are sent to all those involved in the literature approval process, including the delegates. They are intended as a guide to review new and revised literature proposed to the Conference.

- A. The work is identifiably A.R.T.S. Anonymous in content and tone. It can include a single member's philosophy or point of view and reflects the "collective conscience" of A.R.T.S. Anonymous.
- B. The work is understandable by a broad-based audience.
- C. The work is responsive to identified needs.
- D. The work is grammatically and mechanically correct. Citations are accurate.
- E. The work adheres to the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts of Service.

### **Topics of Discussion at the Conference**

At the Annual Meeting of the WSC, time is reserved for Topics of Discussion. This provides a form for members to share their thoughts and feelings on a topic of concern for the whole of A.R.T.S. These discussions may result in motions, which have the potential to be included in the agenda for future Conferences. Members, groups or committees may submit a topic of discussion using the form on the website. The Conference Service and Support Committee will review proposed topics and add them to the agenda as possible.

### **Submission Form for Motions and Topics of Discussion at the Conference**

(Per a motion passed at the February 2023 Pre-Conference Meeting, the following Google form to submit Motions and Topics of Discussion was developed in 2023 by Matt B. and Allegra B., and updated for 2024)

## January 2025 World Service Conference Motions and Topics Submission Form

Do you, your group, or committee have a motion to bring to the World Service Conference? Even if you don't want to or aren't ready to propose a motion, perhaps you would like to request that the Conference discuss an important topic. All submissions will be forwarded to the relevant Committee for review and may be returned for further clarification as appropriate. Please understand there is limited capacity and time for the Conference to address everything that may be submitted. If a motion or topic is not accepted for the Conference, reasoning will be provided. The deadline date for submitting motions or topics is set by the Service and Support Committee. *(Please provide only one motion or topic for discussion per form, and begin with the email of the person filling in this form.)*

Email

Valid email

1. Is this a motion, or a topic for discussion?

- Motion (If you select this, please answer Questions 2-5)
- Topic for Discussion (If you select this, please go directly to Question 6)

A motion is a clear statement of the specific action you are asking the Conference to take. For example, "Members must wear Halloween costumes or fancy dress at meetings," is specific and actionable. "I think we need to have a dress code for meetings" is vague.

2. Please state the motion here:

3. Please provide the rationale or the background information in support of the Motion. For example, the issue or concern the motion addresses, or instances of how A.R.T.S. Anonymous can benefit from the Motion.

4. Name of A.R.T.S. Member or Committee who will present the Motion at the World Service Conference. *(The person or Committee must be willing to present the motion at the Conference and work with a Committee or the Board to further develop the motion and/or rationale as needed).*

5. Email address of A.R.T.S. Member presenting the motion at Conference:

6. Please provide the Topic for Discussion you wish to bring to the World Service Conference. For example, "the use of outside literature in meetings" or "finances".

7. In 250 words or less, please provide the reasons for suggesting this Topic:

8. Who may be contacted regarding the Topic for Discussion? (This may be an A.R.T.S. member, Delegate, Group Contact or Committee member.)

9. Email of A.R.T.S. Member, Delegate, Group Contact or Committee member regarding the Topic for Discussion:

10. Is there anything else you wish to add?

Thank you for your contribution and service to A.R.T.S. Anonymous. For questions, please email [conference@artsanonymous.org](mailto:conference@artsanonymous.org)

## ***PART 8: WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE MEETINGS***

### **Frequency of Meetings**

*(Article 7 of the World Service Conference Charter)*

7. *The World Service Conference Meetings:* The Conference will meet yearly through an online platform or in-person, or a hybrid of the two. Special meetings may be called should there be a reason. The Conference may also render advisory opinions at any time by mail, e-mail, telephone or virtual meeting poll in aid of the Board of Trustees or its related services.

**Advisory Opinions:** The Conference Chair or the Board of Trustees may request advisory opinions from the Delegates at any time. Any member may request that the Conference call for an advisory opinion, and it is at the discretion of the Conference Chair as to whether to hold the event. If the Conference Chair is not available, the Vice Chair makes the determination, and if the Vice Chair and the Conference Chair are not available, then the Board of Trustees will make the determination.

## **Quorum at the World Service Conference**

(Passed by the World Service Conference in October 2022)

For purposes of conducting business at the World Service Conference, a quorum is met when there are at least twice as many voting delegates from meetings and Committees present as the number of members of the Board of Trustees present.

## **Guidelines for Delegate and Participant Etiquette for all Conferences**

*To be read at the opening of the Conference.*

Thank you so much for being here. Thank you for representing your groups and the A.R.T.S. fellowship. We welcome you to the World Service Conference 20\_\_ and we look forward to your participation.

To ensure the integrity of the voting process all sessions will be recorded for documentation purposes. Registered delegates are eligible to vote if they are present and visible on camera. It is good practice that Delegates be present for the entire debate on a motion.

Please try not to repeat questions or comments made by other Delegates or Participants. If this happens the Facilitator will let you know.

Please be mindful that some behaviors work as triggers and may distract others from participating effectively. When your camera is on, please be appropriately dressed and refrain from smoking, drinking alcohol, or eating.

Non-Delegate Participants: Anyone who buys a ticket to attend the Conference and is not an elected Delegate may participate. Non-Delegate Participants may ask questions, engage in discussions, help with motion crafting, and offer Pros and Cons. Only Delegates are eligible to vote.

Thank you so much for representing the A.R.T.S fellowship at the World Service Conference!

## **Disruptions, Statement for the Safety of the Conference, and Warning Statement**

**Use of the Mute Function:** At the discretion of the Conference Chair, participants who do not have the floor may be muted by the Vice-Chair or another individual designated by the Conference Chair so that Delegates and Participants can speak without interference.

**Statement for the Safety of the Conference:** “To protect the Conference proceedings, we ask that members save questions to the time allotted for questions. Questions or comments about the running of the Conference can be directed to the chat and may, at the discretion of the Conference Chair be addressed. Alternatively, they may be taken to the Conference Policies and Procedures Committee meetings once they resume.

Disruption will not be tolerated. Disruption includes interrupting, asking questions outside the time allotted for questions, making non-procedural motions, speaking out of order, or otherwise interfering with the business of the Conference. Disruption will receive no more than two warnings from the Conference Chair and may lead to removal from the remainder of the Conference.”

**Warning Statement:** *(To be read by the Conference Chair as needed)*

“The Conference is being disrupted. Disruption will not be tolerated. This is a warning. Disruption includes interrupting, asking questions outside the time allotted for questions, making non-procedural motions, speaking out of order, or otherwise interfering with the business of the Conference. Disruption will receive no more than two warnings. Further disruption may lead to removal for the remainder of the Conference.”



## Community Problem-Solving Method

<b>Bringing a Motion to Vote (“Community Problem-Solving Method”)</b>	
NOTE: Facilitator and Presenter have the option to manage the time limits	
2 minutes	Presenter puts a preliminary motion on the floor, and gives the reasoning in favor of the motion, including who has proposed it why this particular solution is recommended by a committee or the Board (or by a meeting or individual)
4 minutes	Facilitator asks for questions about the meaning of the motion; presenter answers or may ask others to help answer them.
10 minutes	Participants may also comment regarding the motion. Participants are limited to 2 minutes each.
8 -12 min.	Four Pros and Four Cons are offered from the floor, in alternating format. Facilitator asks that points already made not be offered again.
8 minutes	Facilitator asks for questions and comments about the motion. Presenter answers or may ask others to help answer them. Participants may also comment regarding the motion.

6 minutes	Crafting. Participants on the floor may suggest changes to the original motion, and the Presenter decides whether or not to take them, one by one, as offered.
1 minute	The amended motion is read back to everyone  Facilitator calls for a “time out” in silence for all to reflect before a final vote
1 minute	Serenity Prayer  Facilitator calls for the final vote.
1 minute	One additional speaker on the minority opinion
Vote Count:	
In favor:	
Opposed:	
Abstentions:	
Motion Passes?	
Minority Opinion:	

## Percentage to Pass a Motion

A motion passes if it is accepted by a simple majority of the total number of Voting Members present. If not accepted by the Board of Trustees, justification will be directly provided to the Conference in writing. Exceptions to the simple majority rule are listed

throughout the Charter. The Trustees are obligated by the Concepts of Service to provide good stewardship of the Corporation.

## **Exceptions to the Simple Majority Rule**

*(Compiled from the A.R.T.S. World Service Charter)*

<b><u>Voting Type</u></b>	<b><u>Required Numbers</u></b>	<b><u>Comments</u></b>
<b>Binding Motions</b>	<b>2/3 majority</b>	Binding on Board of Trustees, unless illegal or fiscally irresponsible
<b>Changes to Steps, Traditions, Concepts of Service and Article 10 of Conference Charter</b>	<b>¾ of A.R.T.S. groups by written consent (some exceptions for the Conference Charter applies)</b>	Changes to Steps, Traditions and Concepts of Service, plus Article 10 of the Conference Charter requires ¾ of groups. Changes to Articles 1-9 of the Charter can be made by a simple majority at the Conference.
<b>Literature Approval</b>	<b>2/3 Majority</b>	From 1995 Conference approved Literature Development Process, Retained by the Conference in the updated 2023 Literature Development/Approval Process
<b>Reorganization of Board of Trustees</b>	<b>¾ vote of all Conference Delegates</b>	May add or remove Trustees

## **Preamble for Round Robin Open Forum and Topics of Discussion**

To be read by the Facilitator:

**Preamble for Round Robin Topics:** In order for everyone to speak their thoughts and feelings freely, the 30-second rule will be suspended during the Topic of Discussion. We accept what others have to say as being true for them without fear of judgment. This is a time to listen to each other not to make motions. People will be muted and then unmuted for their turn. We will not be using raised hands, instead we will call people in

turn by the order on my screen until everyone has had a chance to speak. The time allotted will be divided by the number of participants.

[END OF MOTIONS]

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## 2025 Board of Trustees Report to the WSC in 2026

The A.R.T.S. Anonymous Board of Trustees is grateful for the trust and confidence that the meetings and the Conference have placed in us. The Board continues to protect, serve, and administer the operations of World Services, including A.R.T.S.'s legal and financial responsibilities. As an integral part of the Conference and the service structure, the Board remains committed to the responsibility of making its decisions within the principles as laid out in the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts of Service of A.R.T.S. Anonymous.

Board officers are Allegra B., Chair, and Vickie D., Secretary. Galina B. and Harvey D. joined the Board in November 2025 and hope to be endorsed by the World Service Conference in January 2026. Five members of the Board of Trustees are ending their first three-year terms of service, and all five have chosen to rejoin the Board for a second three-year term. In cooperation with the ad hoc Recruiting and Nominating Committee, the Board still hopes to attract a Board Treasurer or other officer to oversee A.R.T.S. finances.

### Major Board Actions:

- With the *pro bono* (meaning free of charge) services of White and Case, the “A.R.T.S. Anonymous” and “Artists Recovering through the Twelve Steps” names have been successfully trademarked by the U.S. Trademark Office. This applies in all relevant categories, including the website, in print, electronically, etc. Trademark registration helps to protect the A.R.T.S. name and its primary purpose from being misappropriated or misused by any other person or enterprise.
- Members of the Board are undertaking research and development of licensing agreements, policies and guidelines for the translation and use of A.R.T.S. literature in other languages.
- A fundraising campaign to increase donations from meetings and members was launched in June (with mixed results)
- A.R.T.S. members were invited to an “A.R.T.S. Magic Open House” in March, and Delegates were invited to the Board meeting in September. The purpose was to find out what the questions and issues might be for the health and growth of the A.R.T.S. and its meetings, and how the Board can support the meetings in carrying the message

### World Services Actions:

- Organized and led a Conference meeting to elect a Conference Chair and Vice-Chair
- Board liaison participation on the Conference Policies and Procedures Committee, the Recruiting and Nominating Committee, and the Conference Service and Support Committee
- Supporting the development of Conference-approved Literature for A.R.T.S.
- Developed and led a series of Step Study Workshops, which concluded in the spring
- Continues to communicate with the members through a monthly newsletter and regular updates to the website and with Delegates through email updates
- Supports the Sharathon Planning meetings and Seasonal Sharathon events 4 times a year
- Supports efforts to create an A.R.T.S. recovery, service and fellowship Celebration Convention

- The Executive Committee has oversight of the day-to-day operations of the World Service Office, including emergency situations. Office operations in 2025 included (but are not limited to): tracking and reporting income, expenses and cost analyses; bookkeeping; communications for the Conference and other events; producing and sending out the monthly newsletter; posting and updating information on the website; updating the meeting list and information; meeting with potential service committees, training and supporting members who volunteer for WSO activities.

**Next Steps:** With the closing of the business from which A.R.T.S. has been renting office space, the Board is undertaking Strategic Planning to set short-term and longer-term priorities for A.R.T.S. World Services. This includes possibilities for reducing World Services given limited resources in money, time, and volunteers.

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### Conference Service and Support Committee Report to the 2026 World Service Conference

The Conference Service and Support Committee (CSSC) began its weekly meetings at the start of September 2025. Committee tasks included: setting dates and times for the World Service Conference (WSC), reading and responding to motions submitted for the WSC, preparing and sharing the Agenda and Delegate Packet with membership, and recruiting volunteers to run the WSC. We also coordinate with the WSC Chair and Vice-Chair in the lead-up to the WSC. Additionally, the CSSC will create a Final Conference Report once the WSC has concluded. Service on the committee was given by Donna D., Noah S., Allegra B., Board Liaison, and Chris M., Secretary.

Thanks, one and all, for your contributions to a successful 2026 WSC!

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### Conference Policies and Procedures Committee Report to the 2026 World Service Conference

The Conference Policies and Procedures Committee met weekly over several months in 2025 to review, where needed clarify, and finalize a Conference Service Manual. Work was done to compile policies that have previously been adopted by the Conference and include policies and procedures that have been in practice. This manual is a starting point and can be amended and added to by future Conferences. It is intended to form a vital part of the Delegate Packet prepared for the annual meeting of the World Service Conference (WSC), and be made available to all members of A.R.T.S.

The purpose of the Manual is to ensure transparency and make sure that all A.R.T.S. members can participate in service at all levels.

The Committee has submitted the Conference Service Manual as a motion to be considered at the 2026 World Service Conference.

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## **Recruiting and Nominating Committee Report to the 2026 World Service Conference**

### **Recruitment and Nominations Committee Report**

To: A.R.T.S. Anonymous World Service Conference  
From: Recruitment and Nominations Committee  
Submitted by: Voytech, Committee Chair  
Date: 11/17/2025

#### **Our Primary Purpose**

The purpose of this committee is to help connect members of the Fellowship with opportunities to be of service — not from a place of authority or position, but from a willingness to give back what's been freely given. Our role is to prayerfully support the process of identifying trusted servants for roles at the World Service Conference level and related service structures, in a way that honors our Traditions and Concepts.

#### **Spiritual Structure**

In the spirit of Tradition Two, we recognize that a loving Higher Power expresses itself through our group conscience. As such, the committee voted unanimously to define itself as a Conference Committee, accountable to the WSC and guided by the collective conscience of the Fellowship — not by any single service arm or administrative body.

A motion affirming this alignment has been submitted to the WSC for consideration.

#### **Highlights from This Service Year**

- **Reaching Out, Not Reaching Down:** We reached out to many members across the Fellowship — not to fill positions, but to listen for willingness. Many of those we contacted demonstrated a deep sense of integrity, humility, and spiritual commitment.
- **Supporting Trusted Servants:** We offered support and encouragement to individuals who were uncertain about stepping into service — especially in roles like WSC Chair, Treasurer, and various Conference Committees.

- Spiritual Reflection: We held conversations around the nature of service — emphasizing that leadership in A.R.T.S. is always service, never governance. These reflections were sometimes spirited, but always grounded in our shared desire to keep the program strong and spiritually safe.

#### Where We Are Growing

We've learned a lot this year. One lesson is that clarity around service structure is essential if we want to invite more participation. When responsibilities and lines of accountability are unclear, people hesitate to step forward. When they're clear, service becomes not only more effective — but more healing.

We've also witnessed the importance of collaboration. While different service bodies may carry different roles, we are all bound by the same Steps, the same Traditions, and the same Concepts. Unity doesn't mean uniformity — it means working together in love and tolerance, even when we don't fully agree.

#### Next Steps and Ongoing Intentions

- Continue inviting new trusted servants to WSC and related roles
- Provide guidance and support for those who are new to service
- Work with transparency, spiritual accountability, and humility
- Encourage thoughtful dialogue about how we serve each other as equals

#### Closing Thoughts

This committee is still growing into its role — and so are each of us. But the spirit of service has been present throughout our work. We remain grateful for the opportunity to serve, and we continue to listen closely for the voice of a Higher Power as expressed through the group conscience of the Fellowship.

We hope our work has been useful. We welcome guidance and feedback from the Conference, and we offer this report in the spirit of unity, love, and recovery.

In service and gratitude,  
 Voytech  
 Chair, Recruitment and Nominations Committee  
 A.R.T.S. Anonymous

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## 2025 Literature Committee Report - World Service Conference - January 2026

The Conference adopted the Conference-Approved Literature Development/Approval Process (CAL-DAP) in November 2023, and finalized updates to the Traits, Talents and Tools in January 2024. The Literature Committee has been exploring possibilities of developing new Literature for A.R.T.S., and creating Editorial Policies for A.R.T.S. Literature.



The Literature Committee is currently operating with three Subcommittees, the Steps Subcommittee, the Members Stories Subcommittee, and the Editorial Policies Subcommittee.

**Steps Subcommittee:** A guide for working the Twelve Steps in A.R.T.S. is being explored. Initial drafts are drawn from the work done and feedback given from the A.R.T.S. Twelve Steps workshops held in 2024 and 2025. The full Literature Committee has been reviewing proposed drafts and giving feedback for further revisions. The Literature Committee is confident that this step guide could be ready in time to seek Conference approval sometime in 2026.

**Members Stories Subcommittee:** The subcommittee continues to collect stories of personal experience, strength and hope from A.R.T.S. Members. After fielding questions and concerns about an Author's Release Form, a set of answers to Frequently Asked Questions was developed and posted on the website. A Members Stories workshop was held in September. So far A.R.T.S. has permission to use 16 stories that have been collected from members.

**Editorial Policies Subcommittee:** This subcommittee was formed in April to develop Editorial Policies. The purpose is to give all who develop and review Literature, including writers and committees, some guidance in editorial considerations for Conference-approved Literature. It will also offer a statement as to the purpose of editing and possible qualifications for an editor.

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### Sharathon Report to the 2026 World Service Conference

The A.R.T.S. SHARATHON events are quarterly fundraisers timed to coincide with the change in U.S. seasons. The events utilize the Zoom platform supported by A.R.T.S. World Service to bring A.R.T.S. members from around the world for global ARTShares. Through your generous donations and support for this event, SHARATHON has raised an average of about \$200.00 per event. Our 4th event is happening on December 6, 2025, bringing the total fundraising contribution to A.R.T.S. Anonymous this year to about \$800.00. Thank you A.R.T.S. members. We couldn't do this without you.

A committee currently exists for the planning and execution of the events. Planning meetings are roughly once a month and all are welcome to attend. Current members serving the SHARATHON planning meetings and events are: Cindyann W., Eddie-Ed O'B., Erica L., Marcie O'B., and Jay M.

Details about SHARATHON events are on the A.R.T.S. website page or contact us via email [Sharathon@artsanonymous.org](mailto:Sharathon@artsanonymous.org).

# 2025 World Service Conference of A.R.T.S. Anonymous

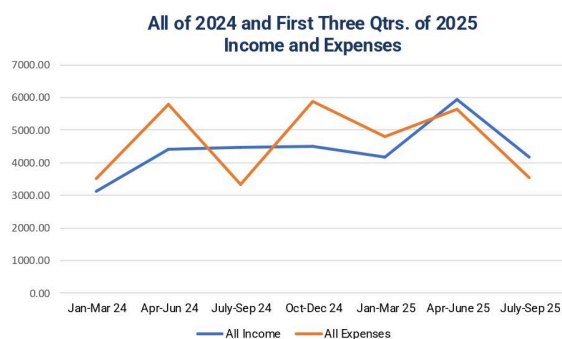
## Treasurer's Report

11-18-2025

### All of 2024 & First, Second & Third Qtr. 2025 by Fiscal Quarter Income and Expenses

Category	Jan-Mar 24	Apr-Jun 24	July-Sep 24	Oct-Dec 24	Jan-Mar 25	Apr-June 25	July-Sep 25
All Income	3123.71	4399.44	4483.47	4518.15	4175.27	5930.37	4171.31
All Expenses	3506.00	5805.58	3329.24	5894.26	4796.17	5645.00	3533.04

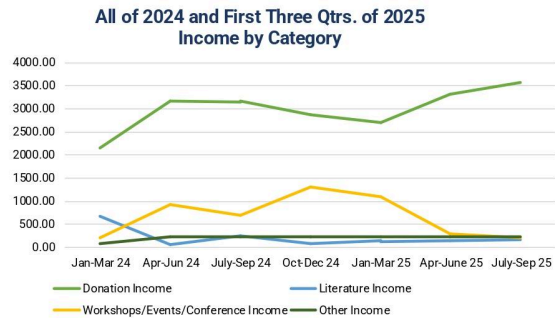
- The launch of a fundraising campaign in mid-2025 resulted in a rise of donations, which has since dropped to pre-campaign levels
- Expenses in 2025 included \$1,700 in trademark application and registration fees
- The final quarter of 2025 is anticipated to show a significant drop in net income



## All of 2024 & First, Second & Third Qtr. 2025 by Fiscal Quarter Income by Category

Category	Jan-Mar 24	Apr-Jun 24	July-Sep 24	Oct-Dec 24	Jan-Mar 25	Apr-June 25	July-Sep 25
Donation Income	2164.36	3175.92	3158.62	2882.59	2703.49	3306.49	3565.41
Literature Income	674.84	63.85	249.76	91.56	149.78	153.88	166.90
Workshops/Events/Conference Income	209.51	934.67	696.00	1319.00	1097.00	295.00	214.00
Other Income	75.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00

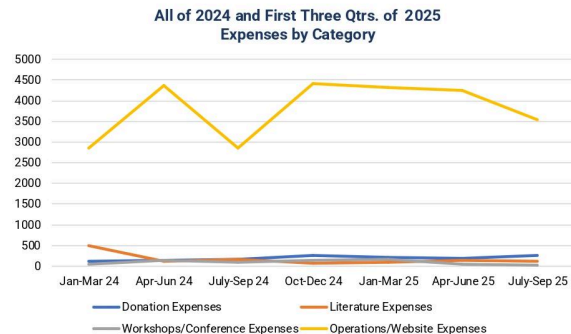
- Donations remain the largest source of income
- "Other income" is coming from a desk share arrangement at the office.



## All of 2024 & First, Second & Third Qtr. 2025 by Fiscal Quarter Expenses by Category

Category	Jan-Mar 24	Apr-Jun 24	July-Sep 24	Oct-Dec 24	Jan-Mar 25	Apr-June 25	July-Sep 25
Donation Expenses	129.01	149.23	175.05	266.24	210.51	179.03	255.14
Literature Expenses	490.26	108.34	161.9	58.37	97.09	134.75	108.19
Workshops/Conference Expenses	39.96	136.3	99.7	151.7	159.42	41.48	35.48
Operations/Website Expenses	2846.77	4361.71	2846.39	4417.95	4329.15	4239.74	3538.26

- Operations and the Website are the largest expenses.
- Operations includes rent, special worker salary, website costs, trademark fees, online software, fees for credit cards and ticket sales

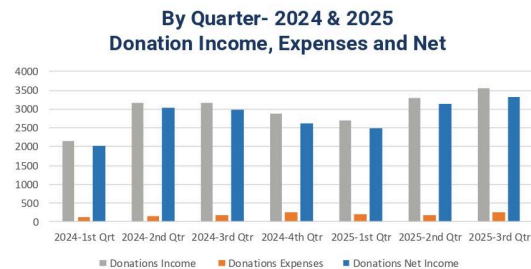


## All of 2024 & First, Second & Third Qtr. 2025 by Fiscal Quarter

### Donation Income/Expenses & Net Income

Category	2024-1st Qtr	2024-2nd Qtr	2024-3rd Qtr	2024-4th Qtr	2025-1st Qtr	2025-2nd Qtr	2025-3rd Qtr
Donations Income	2164.36	3175.92	3158.62	2882.59	2703.49	3306.49	3565.41
Donations Expenses	129.01	149.23	175.05	266.24	210.51	179.03	255.14
Donations Net Income	2035.35	3026.69	2983.57	2616.35	2492.98	3127.46	3310.27

- The difference between donation income and donation expenses is large.
- Tracking and accounting for donations takes most of the bookkeeping time in the office

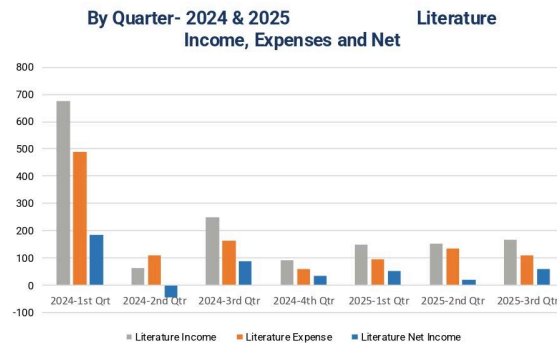


## All of 2024 & First, Second & Third Qtr. 2025 by Fiscal Quarter

### Literature Income/Expenses & Net Income

Category	2024-1st Qtr	2024-2nd Qtr	2024-3rd Qtr	2024-4th Qtr	2025-1st Qtr	2025-2nd Qtr	2025-3rd Qtr
Literature Income	674.84	63.85	249.76	91.56	149.78	153.88	166.9
Literature Expense	490.26	108.34	161.9	58.37	97.09	134.75	108.19
Literature Net Income	184.58	-44.49	87.86	33.19	52.69	19.13	58.71

- Income from Literature currently comes from the electronic sale of pamphlets
- A.R.T.S. receives 30 cents from each electronic pamphlet sale

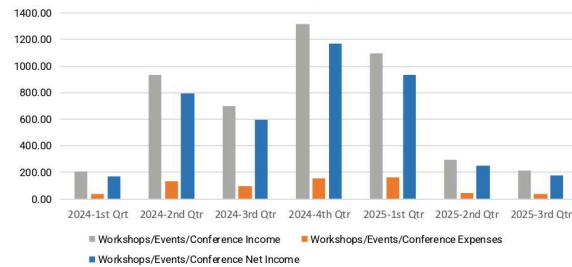


## All of 2024 & First, Second & Third Qtr. 2025 Workshops/Events/Conference Income/Expenses & Net Income

Category	2024-1st Qtr	2024-2nd Qtr	2024-3rd Qtr	2024-4th Qtr	2025-1st Qtr	2025-2nd Qtr	2025-3rd Qtr
Workshops/Events/Conference Income	209.51	934.67	696.00	1319.00	1097.00	295.00	214.00
Workshops/Events/Conference Expenses	39.96	136.30	99.70	151.70	159.42	41.48	35.48
Workshops/Events/Conference Net Income	169.55	798.37	596.30	1167.30	937.58	253.52	178.52

- Income from workshops and events has gone down since the monthly 12-Step workshop series ended.
- The 40th Birthday Celebration in November 2024 and the World Service Conference last January were vital sources of income.

By Quarter- 2024 & 2025  
Events Income, Expenses and Net

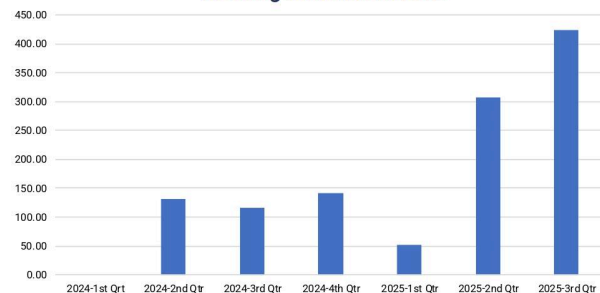


## All of 2024 & First, Second & Third Qtr. 2025 by Fiscal Quarter Meeting Donations Income

Category	2024-1st Qtr	2024-2nd Qtr	2024-3rd Qtr	2024-4th Qtr	2025-1st Qtr	2025-2nd Qtr	2025-3rd Qtr
Meeting Donation Income	0.00	131.96	116.24	142.21	50.91	306.82	424.30

- Donations from Meetings have risen substantially in the past 6 months
- Donations from Meetings currently make up 8.5% of donation income

By Quarter- 2024 & 2025  
Meeting Donation Income



## Final Notes

- The World Service office has moved to a new location due as its current arrangement ended. A.R.T.S. is grateful to its special worker Chinu, who used her personal contacts to find a desk with internet at the same rate of \$250 per month.
  - The Board is holding Strategy Planning meetings at the end of December and in early January to determine priorities based on a stagnant financial situation. As A.R.T.S. is not growing, the Board's focus may need to change, affecting World Services.
  - The hope is that trusted servant members with skills and commitment can fill the gap where resources in time, energy and money is burning out.
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## Elections

**The Board of Trustees offers for approval by the World Service Conference the following members of the Board of Trustees of A.R.T.S. Anonymous to serve for three-year terms:**

Allegra B. (2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term)

Cindyann W. (2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term)

Galina B. (1<sup>st</sup> three-year term)

Harvey D. (1<sup>st</sup> three-year term)

Jay M. (2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term)

Pat Q. (2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term)

Vickie D. (2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term)

**Applications to the Board of Trustees are below.**

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DATE: November 2, 2025

NAME: Allegra B.

- Describe your experience, strength and hope with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of A.R.T.S. Anonymous and of any other 12-Step Fellowship Program.

The past 4 plus years of service in A.R.T.S. Anonymous has deepened and broadened my experience, strength and hope with the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions of A.R.T.S. Anonymous. I am aware of how the Steps and Traditions affect me and my life, and how they apply “in all my affairs”. The opportunity to apply them in service beyond the scope of a meeting or daily life was just the beginning. I began service on the Board of Trustees in 2020 and am witnessing in immediate and visceral ways how critical the Traditions are to the health of all aspects of service. My understanding of the Twelve Concepts of Service still feels “novice”, but I enjoy the process of learning another whole legacy and how it can work for my benefit. Every challenge on the Board of Trustees is one that asks me to take a look at myself in new ways, find ways to support others, and give back to this fellowship in even better ways. I have completed the Steps in A.R.T.S. Anonymous, and multiple times in A.A.

- Why do you want to serve the Fellowship as a member of the Board of Trustees? What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the Board? Include your vision for A.R.T.S. Anonymous.

I serve on the Board because a healthy and vital 12-Step program deserves strong, reliable, skilled leadership, consistent respect for the Traditions and Concepts, and deep appreciation for the expression of the group conscience throughout service. I take our non-profit status and the obligations and duties associated with it seriously, even as I learn to simultaneously engage in my art and my life. My hope for A.R.T.S. is that we grow our membership and spread our message so that the world is full of people joyfully engaged in their creative expression and in what they have to give.” I hope to serve at least one more term after the upcoming one, and that by the end A.R.T.S. is financially viable, has literature that carries the message, and that the membership has grown substantially.

- Describe any service work you do or have done for A.R.T.S. Anonymous and any other 12-Step Fellowship Programs, starting at the meeting level. Including attendance at past service conferences.

My service work includes:

- Leading meetings, chairing group business meetings
- Served as a Group Service Representative and District Secretary in A.A.
- Served on the A.R.T.S. Board of Trustees since 2020, and as Chair since 2021
- Chairing the A.R.T.S. Literature Committee since 2021
- Participating in various other A.R.T.S. Committees at times
- Assisting the Conference Chair in organizing and running the Conference
- Overseeing the operations of the A.R.T.S. World Service Office, including finances, the website, Microsoft Office, legal affairs, communications, email correspondence, Conference organizing, and providing support for events.
- Supervising the A.R.T.S. office special worker.
- Helping to produce the monthly A.R.T.S. newsletter, a series of Step workshops for A.R.T.S, the Conference, a Convention, and other events
- Describe any personal or professional background that you think would benefit the health of A. R. T. S. Anonymous, such as legal, IT, financial, general business administration, or any other relevant skills or training.

My personal and professional background includes:



- Law degree
  - School fundraising
  - Teaching drama and US history
  - Board of Trustees at a private school and with art organizations, including A.R.T.S.
  - Small business owner
  - Property management
  - Editor, researcher, newsletters
  - Executive Assistant – major global not-for-profit organization
  - Finance Committee – small business
  - Sales and marketing
  - Print shop operations
- Share your thoughts with the group conscience process, your courage to express yourself, and ability to listen and communicate effectively. How do you manage interpersonal differences, and accomplish goals as a group member?

I feel that the past several years has been an evolution in my understanding of this process. I have learned that both thoughts and feelings contribute to the understanding and knowledge of an issue. That there is value in ensuring an equal voice for everyone. That my position can naturally influence the decisions of others, and so to be mindful when and how I speak. How to speak up when others are no longer participating in group harmony but disrupting the group conscience process. That the Concepts of Service and the warranties of service support the group conscience of the entire fellowship.

6) The job of Trustee has varying time demands. What is your availability?

I have been contributing about 15-25 hours a week to my service to A.R.T.S. (at times more). This may not be as sustainable going forward, but for now it is manageable. My hope is that growing the Board, and that tapping the talents and skills of the members can help.

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DATE: October, 2025

NAME: Cindyann W

- Describe your experience, strength and hope with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of A.R.T.S. Anonymous and of any other 12-Step Fellowship Program.

In the mid-eighties, I had just completed the requirements to serve an inner-city school as a public high school teacher. However, before I could make that commitment, I needed to learn how to manage the personal chaos within me. After some prayer, I found a book that advised me I needed to attend 12-Step meetings for codependency. I attended meetings, selected a sponsor and worked the steps for a year with this person to completion. I learned how to make peace with the chaos in my head. As a result, I got hired at a local city school district and completed my teaching assignment until retirement. When asked what I planned to do with my time, I said, "I'm going to paint." But the 12-Step program that supported me for much of my life, did not support my desire to create. I again needed a 12-Step program to help me manage and meet this desire. A Google search helped me find A.R.T.S. Anonymous. Attending Arts meetings helped me to heal my creative heart. Again, I selected a sponsor, spent over a year learning how the 12 Concepts of Service work to support "our primary purpose" at all levels of service in A.R.T.S. Anonymous. I learned how the 12 Traditions guide the support provided in Arts meetings to share our struggles, how the 12 Steps guide our recovery and our victories. Working the 12 Steps of A.R.T.S. Anonymous continues to help me identify what my creativity means to me and how I really wanted to respond to that.

- Why do you want to serve the Fellowship as a member of the Board of Trustees? What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the Board? Include your vision for A.R.T.S. Anonymous.

I enjoy participating in the decision-making process serving as a trustee on the Board that permits me to be part of. I value how we work together to meet the desires and needs expressed by the fellowship at conference participation. Completing my first 3-year term of trustee service on the board provided an education and experience that will assist me to serve more effectively this second 3-year term. I value the traditions that guide us to "help others to achieve artistic freedom." I honor the tools of solution that work to encourage the self-expression of creativity. I believe "the sacred responsibility of sharing our gifts is vital to a world of joy, abundance and love" (A.R.T.S. Vision). Serving as a trustee on the board permits me to participate in this purpose.

- Describe any service work you do or have done for A.R.T.S. Anonymous and any other 12-Step Fellowship Programs, starting at the meeting level. Including attendance at past service conferences.

My service to A.R.T.S. Anonymous evolved quickly as Zoom meetings opened up during the 2020 pandemic shut down. Prior to that, I had attended the Sunday Morning meeting in Los Angeles, California. My gratitude to be able to attend an arts meeting again, inspired me to serve that meeting where ever needed. I continue to serve and support that meeting, as I feel it is my second home. Zoom arts meetings opened throughout the U.S. and across the world, like stars popping up in the night sky as the sun disappears into the far-off horizon. This effect opened up new lines of communication and desires not heard from the fellowship before. Service went to work to meet them. Committees formed that invited me to attend. The Board of Trustees went through changes, and I was encouraged to join them, and so I did. But the benefit to my own personal recovery serving on the board surprised me. I was unaware of character defects needing further development until they surfaced. Thank goodness I had a wise sponsor and my fellow trustees had faith in me. I grew up some. That myth about old dogs might be true, but this

old cat has already lived through a few lives and, through service work, is still learning new tricks on how to live this one.

4) Describe any personal or professional background that you think would benefit the health of A.R.T.S. Anonymous, such as legal, IT, financial, general business administration, or any other relevant skills or training.

Standing in front of inner-city high school kids 180 days per year demanded I learn quickly how to be prepared and ready to meet this unpredictable group of creative young humans full of energy, curiosity and rebellion. Through the course of this career, I developed skills that included: communication, interpersonal communication, behavior management, organization, flexible adaptability, cultural competence, critical thinking, technological proficiency, patience and resilience. Serving A.R.T.S. Anonymous might ask me to develop these further.

5) Share your thoughts with the group conscience process, your courage to express yourself, and ability to listen and communicate effectively. How do you manage interpersonal differences, and accomplish goals as a group member?

Group conscience happens at our 12-Step ARTS meetings, service group meetings, Board of Trustees meetings, at the annual World Service Conference, or whenever a conference is called. Except for political forums, for which I have attended few, nowhere in my life am I given the opportunity to participate in this fair and just process. In addition, this unique place is where I am fully encouraged to express my thoughts, feelings and opinions honestly, and without fear. Further, I get to experience my contributions to this process to be heard and valued. This happens because there is an agreement among us to respect the guidelines for group conscience to take place effectively. This involves a certain amount of self-awareness, and personal accountability to not trespass the space of others with crosstalk, or interruptions. This results in civil conversations where all ideas are heard and considered as we prepare to conclude a decision through a voting process. I have developed a certain amount of self-discipline to respect the opinions of others, especially those opinions I disagree with. The benefit to me results in further self-growth toward greater maturity, and raises my self-esteem. I am fortunate through service to participate often with the group conscience.

6) The job of Trustee has varying time demands. What is your availability?

Because 12-Step programs assisted my personal and character development, I was able to meet many of my life's values, and goals. Personal and character development continued with my participation with A.R.T.S. Anonymous further. I am now more financially, emotionally, spiritually, and physically sober than I was 5 years ago. As I enjoy a generous retirement, I am blessed with abundant space and time to paint and to serve what I value.

7) Please add any additional information you feel may be helpful in the selection process, including service experience in other Twelve Step programs.

Thank you for making good use of my time and permitting me to grow and develop in so many ways doing service. I am submitting this request to serve, I hope, with less arrogance than I did the first time around. I am committed to doing my best to practice self-acceptance, forgiveness and humility.

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DATE: September 20, 2025

NAME: Galina B.

- Describe your experience, strength and hope with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of A.R.T.S. Anonymous and of any other 12-Step Fellowship Program.

I came to A.R.T.S. Anonymous through my own struggle with blocks in creativity and self-expression, and I also participate in other 12-Step fellowships. Working the Steps has given me freedom from perfectionism, fear, and self-doubt, and restored a sense of spiritual guidance in my creative life. The Traditions have helped me understand humility, unity, and service, principles I now try to live not only in meetings but also in my academic, professional, and community work. My hope is that by continuing to apply these principles, I can be of service to others who are seeking recovery and creative freedom.

- Why do you want to serve the Fellowship as a member of the Board of Trustees? What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the Board? Include your vision for A.R.T.S. Anonymous.

I want to serve because A.R.T.S. Anonymous has given me tools for healing, and I feel a responsibility to give back. My vision is for the fellowship to grow in accessibility and visibility so that more artists and creative people can find recovery. I hope to help strengthen our organizational structure, ensure inclusivity across different disciplines and backgrounds, and contribute to outreach that balances anonymity with visibility of the program's gifts.

- Describe any service work you do or have done for A.R.T.S. Anonymous and any other 12-Step Fellowship Programs, starting at the meeting level. Including attendance at past service conferences.

At the meeting level, I have served as chair, secretary, and group representative in different 12-Step programs. I have also facilitated creative recovery workshops, participated in literature study groups, and contributed to drafting service documents. In other fellowships, I have attended intergroup meetings and conferences, learning firsthand how group conscience translates into effective action.

- Describe any personal or professional background that you think would benefit the health of A. R. T. S. Anonymous, such as legal, IT, financial, general business administration, or any other relevant skills or training.

Professionally, I am a Visiting Assistant Professor and a nonprofit founder. I bring experience in administration, budgeting, grant management, public speaking, and communications. I have organized conferences, chaired committees, and led nonprofit initiatives. These skills, especially nonprofit governance, are directly applicable to strengthening A.R.T.S. Anonymous.

- Share your thoughts with the group conscience process, your courage to express yourself, and ability to listen and communicate effectively. How do you manage interpersonal differences, and accomplish goals as a group member?

I deeply value the group conscience process. I see it as a spiritual practice of listening with humility, speaking truthfully, and discerning Higher Power's will for the group. I am not afraid to express my views, but I also work to hear and respect others. When conflicts arise, I try to focus on principles over personalities and to seek unity in diversity. In academic and NGO work, I have had to navigate disagreements in committees and boards, and I have learned to facilitate dialogue toward collective decisions.

- The job of Trustee has varying time demands. What is your availability?

I am able to commit regular time each week for trustee responsibilities, including attending board meetings, serving on committees, and completing tasks between meetings. I understand the varying time demands and can adjust my schedule to meet them.

- Please add any additional information you feel may be helpful in the selection process, including service experience in other Twelve Step programs.

I am active in multiple 12-Step fellowships and have long-term recovery. My service experience spans groups and levels of service. I bring both lived experience of recovery and professional expertise in nonprofit governance and education. I feel strongly that A.R.T.S. Anonymous is uniquely positioned to help artists worldwide recover their creative voice, and I would be honored to help steward that vision as a trustee.

DATE: September 21, 2025

NAME: Harvey D.

- Describe your experience, strength and hope with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of A.R.T.S. Anonymous and of any other 12-Step Fellowship Program.

My experience with the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions of ARTS Anonymous has been a very practical one. The very process of letting go and letting God gets me out of the way of my creativity. The Traditions allow me to safely participate in the program, by doing service. It's safe because of the lack of negativity in the Program, because the Traditions, when they're followed, are protective. In fact, one of the ways I work the program is by doing service. I don't seem to be able to work the program without doing service and giving of myself. For example, when I attend a meeting, I want to be my home one I immediately look for an opportunity to give service, whether it be keeping the contact list or being a delegate to the World Service Conference.

- Why do you want to serve the Fellowship as a member of the Board of Trustees? What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the Board? Include your vision for A.R.T.S. Anonymous.

I have served before, at the beginning of ARTS, and feel that I can probably be of some minimal benefit, especially given my background outside of ARTS in organizational work (in the arts). For example, I have been the editor of several magazines and started an international scholarly organization in my chosen field. This organization has prospered and been very effective in advocating for its members.

- Describe any service work you do or have done for A.R.T.S. Anonymous and any other 12-Step Fellowship Programs, starting at the meeting level. Including attendance at past service conferences.

I want to be a voice for pragmatism. I would hope to be able to take on projects that are perhaps less than earthshaking, but which might make a difference. For instance, using my skills as a librarian to organize a speakers' list. Something that could well help smaller meetings grow and feel less isolated.

- Describe any personal or professional background that you think would benefit the health of A.R.T.S. Anonymous, such as legal, IT, financial, general business administration, or any other relevant skills or training.

I started in ARTS in 1985. Before that I came to the 12 Steps through Al-Anon and then later Debtors Anonymous.

a. In Al-Anon in NYC, during my days of unemployment, I volunteered answering telephones at the officers and helped newcomers.

b. In DA I was a founding member of the Los Angeles Intergroup and edited their newsletter.

c. I have held many offices for meetings, secretary, treasurer, delegate, contact list person, etc. Too numerous to count.

d. I attended ARTS World Service Conferences from the beginning. I have attended all WSC's since they were resumed in 2022.

e. In the last few years, I have served on the Tools, Traits and Talents subcommittee of the Literature Committee, participating in their revision.

I was the founder and first president of an international organization for animation scholars and practitioners (animators). I was editor of a magazine, and was publisher and editor of an industry newsletter. I had an editing service. I'm also a professional librarian and was an archivist for a film institute.

- Share your thoughts with the group conscience process, your courage to express yourself, and ability to listen and communicate effectively. How do you manage interpersonal differences, and accomplish goals as a group member?

The group conscience process is vital to any organization with a diverse membership. Eventually, some decisions have to be made. I will support that group decision, even if I disagree with it. I manage interpersonal differences by talking it out and not being too obstinate about my point of view

- The job of Trustee has varying time demands. What is your availability?

My availability is fairly open within limits. I'm retired and have health issues which may require me to be unavailable at certain times during the week. Weekends are mostly free, except when obligations to the Animation Educators Forum, a group which I serve on the steering committee of, meets on occasional Sundays.

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DATE: September 21, 2025

NAME: Jay M.

- Describe your experience, strength and hope with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of A.R.T.S. Anonymous and of any other 12-Step Fellowship Program.

I fell into ARTS accidentally – I had been going to ACOA meetings and someone mentioned ARTS so I took a look. I was not having a problem doing my art, having had the great good fortune (and I guess ability) to have spent most of my life doing my art (details below). But I “kept coming back” just because I liked the meetings. Then a couple of interesting things happened. Once a month we had “ARTShares” but I had nothing to share (unless I were to play records I had worked on, but I never even considered that). However, I did have a guitar that had lain dormant for years, so I started bringing that in for ARTShares. Well, to make that long story short, I wound up playing with other ARTS members at open mics, did a few solo shows, and even made a CD as my project in a P.L.A.N. meeting. The other significant thing that happened was that I found myself constantly raising my hand whenever our meeting needed help. So without any conscious attempt to follow the Steps and Traditions I found myself more or less living the 12-Step life, especially with regard to service. (Eventually I did do a two-year 4<sup>th</sup> Step, mentioned below).

- Why do you want to serve the Fellowship as a member of the Board of Trustees? What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the Board? Include your vision for A.R.T.S. Anonymous.

I noticed that I was already doing service at a number of levels so I figured I’d help ARTS going forward by placing myself in a more substantial position, where my experience and innate nature and abilities could serve a larger population. Plus, I have time-in-grade. As you can see from my “resume” I’ve served in possibly more positions than any other single ARTS member over my almost 30 years in and out of the fellowship.

- Describe any service work you do or have done for A.R.T.S. Anonymous and any other 12-Step Fellowship Programs, starting at the meeting level. Including attendance at past service conferences.

As you have already seen, as a result of my election to and stewardship of the Websight committee, I possess leadership abilities and a willingness to tackle problems. In the preceding



three years I have served on a number of committees, am a founding member of the Sharathon committee, wrote and administer our sorted meeting list, and administer the online versions of our newsletters and service calendars.

In general, “what I hope to accomplish” is anything I put my mind to, according to the wants and needs of the fellowship.

My vision for A.R.T.S. Anonymous is spreading the word worldwide, which already has momentum, thanks to Zoom.

- Describe any personal or professional background that you think would benefit the health of A.R.T.S. Anonymous, such as legal, IT, financial, general business administration, or any other relevant skills or training.

#### Summary of A.R.T.S. Service (1995 to 2006)

- Local meeting chairman
- Local Business meeting chairman
- Local meeting WSMR (World Service Meeting Representative)
- Corporate Secretary  
Took minutes and recorded on cassette the proceedings of the 1995 and 1996 Conferences; prepared daily summaries at the Conferences; typed up official minutes after the Conferences.
- Corporate Treasurer  
Was A.R.T.S.’ first Corporate Treasurer and held the position for four years. Performed all the duties outlined in the Bylaws including preparing financial reports, reconciling bank statements, supporting office staff on financial matters, paying expense reports, updating Quicken accounting system, searching out and transferring funds to a new bank when our former bank’s rates went up, documenting changes to the accounting system as they occurred. Also wrote BASIC programs enabling us to break down literature sales and WSO donations by state.
- Convention Committee Chairman  
Oversaw and coordinated all Convention activities for the 1999 and 2000 Conventions in Ocean Grove, NJ. The list of responsibilities is far too long to present here, but included all interactions with hotels, registrants, the office, the Tabernacle, making and mailing flyers and literature, and computer data entry and generation of reports
- Intergroup Hotline coordinator  
Recorded the A.R.T.S. outgoing Hotline messages, and for a considerable length of time, retrieved and responded to them as well. These tasks are now handled by the office.

- NY "Update" newsletter co-editor  
The New York Intergroup, when it was in existence, occasionally put together a 4-page newsletter called "Update." I was the overall editor for these projects, assisted by another person who edited the poetry sections.
- Local Meeting List editor  
For four years I was responsible for updating and printing the NY-NJ-CT meeting list. I also revised the format so that the current lists have a complete Literature order form on the back.
- International Meeting List co-Editor  
Worked with Kathy V. to completely overhaul and bring up to date the A.R.T.S. Worldwide Meeting List.
- General Manager (formerly called Executive Director)  
Actually two jobs in one (Office Manager and General Manager), which I did on a temporary basis whenever we lost our paid office help. It includes all the responsibilities associated with running the Office – filling Literature orders, answering Hotline requests, sending Thank You notes, maintaining our Literature inventory, posting income and expenses in Quicken, making bank deposits, etc.
- Fund-raising committee co-chairman  
In July and August of 1997, and in November of 1998 (at our 14<sup>th</sup> Birthday party) we held White Elephant sales to raise money for A.R.T.S. Abby (A.R.T.S.'s Founder) and I were co-chairpersons, and we picked the locations, promoted the events, and created the flyers.
- Birthday party co-chairman  
In 1997 and 1998, along with Abby, I helped plan, promote and oversee the operation of our 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Birthday parties.
- Web page creator and editor  
Designed and implemented the original A.R.T.S. web site and found an inexpensive (\$6.95/month) ISP to host it. I updated the web site meeting list whenever new information came in. I also implemented the A.R.T.S. domain name change to [www.artsanonymous.org](http://www.artsanonymous.org).
- Convention database system creator  
Wrote and implemented an application to combine all of our Convention information into one database, thus enabling us to generate instant reports on funds received and owed, name, address and phone data on all attendees, hotel information, ARTShare and Creative Process share data, etc. I also wrote a 17-page instruction manual to go with the program.
- Sustaining Trustee  
From May to November 1998, and again from May 1999 to December 2000, I served as

a Sustaining Trustee, overseeing all Standing Committee functions taking place in New York.

- Vice Chair

In addition to my regular duties as a Sustaining Trustee, I was also Vice Chair of the Board from May 1999 to December 2000. I was also nominated to be Board Chair in October, 2000 but declined.

- Convention data entry person

Reviewed the week's Convention registration forms and entered the data into our Convention database. I also contacted attendees when required if there were problems or questions with their forms.

- Convention ARTShare co-emcee from 1997 to 2006.

- Convention ARTShare sound man from 1997 to 2006.

#### Recent activity (2016 to present)

- In 2016, Along with Val, Ellen and Kevin, established the Monday Beginners meeting in New York. Remained a regular co-chair until 2022, when we encouraged other members to assume service positions on a bi-monthly basis.
- In 2020, in response to the pandemic, offered my personal Zoom account for use by NY ARTS meetings on Monday, Tuesday and Saturday.
- Offered to be the coordinator for the ad hoc Websight committee.
- Represented NYC Monday meeting in Zoomathons.
- Participated in Pre-conference meetings.
- Elected as one of two Monday meeting delegates to 2022 Conference.
- Created and maintain the sortable version of our meeting list.
- Administer online versions of our newsletters and service calendars.
- Am a founding member of the Sharathon committee.

#### Personal A.R.T.S. - related Service

- ARTSonline Founder and Moderator. ARTSonline was an online A.R.T.S. "meeting" which I founded in 1999 and moderated. It had about 100 members worldwide and provided both A.R.T.S. and non-A.R.T.S. members with an online "meeting." ARTSonline was my own project and was not affiliated with A.R.T.S. Anonymous, Inc.
- ARTS-on-the-net Founder and Host. This is a site I created in 2000 where A.R.T.S. members (and non-members) could share their art or post links to their own

sites. ARTS-on-the-net was my own project and was not affiliated with A.R.T.S. Anonymous, Inc.

Perhaps the most relevant position was as Manager & Chief Engineer of Sigma Sound Studios in New York. However, I also had successful careers as a radio disk jockey and Production Director (Atlantic City and Philadelphia), Supervisor/engineer of the Convention Hall Sound Department (Atlantic City), recording engineer (San Francisco, Philadelphia and New York), TV live on-air music mixer (The View), and Production audio mixer for Good Morning America (New York). I'm sure there's some experience in there that ARTS can use.

- Share your thoughts with the group conscience process, your courage to express yourself, and ability to listen and communicate effectively. How do you manage interpersonal differences, and accomplish goals as a group member?

My strong suits are insight, honesty and fairness. Those of you who have worked with me already know this. As far as Group Conscience goes, it's a great exercise in fairness and an observably viable process for making decisions in real time (e.g., at meetings). I'm for it.

- The job of Trustee has varying time demands. What is your availability?  
I'm pretty available most of the time, but it may wax and wane according to the number of tasks and other facets of my life. As of this writing I don't think I have said "No" to any requests for service.
- Please add any additional information you feel may be helpful in the selection process, including service experience in other Twelve Step programs.

I've only been in one other program, ACOA, and only briefly, until I discovered A.R.T.S. So I am NOT a dyed-in-the-wool Program guy. It's been my experience though, that my life values pretty much coincide with the Traditions. I did do a comprehensive 2-year long 4<sup>th</sup> Step, but that was in association with the International Step Foundation, which you've probably never heard of. (I was also selected to be the Northeast Regional Coordinator of that program.)

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DATE: September 30, 2025

NAME: Pat Q.

- Describe your experience, strength and hope with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of A.R.T.S. Anonymous and of any other 12-Step Fellowship Program.

My experience with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of A.R.T.S. Anonymous began with my first A.R.T.S. meeting in Seattle during September, 1989. I had already worked the 12 Steps in Al-Anon beginning in 1984. After listening to my frustrations due to a creative block that derailed my career as a writer and editor, my Al-Anon sponsor suggested I try a new Twelve Step program called A.R.T.S. Anonymous.

The Twelve Steps of A.R.T.S. Anonymous gave me insights into my predicament by helping me accept my powerlessness over creativity. It also assured me that there must be a very good reason why I couldn't finish the writing projects that I was assigned. Those ideas gave me hope, which launched my search for understanding and healing. The efforts of fellow A.R.T.S. members to understand the reasons for their creative blocks gave me a process and a supportive environment to delve into the mystery that was blocking my ability to finish writing and editing articles and stories for magazines.

The Twelve Steps and Traditions gave me directions to follow so I could resume my career. I was able to continue working as a writer and editor for another 30 years until I retired in 2018. The Twelve Traditions gave me a way to communicate with my fellow A.R.T.S. members so we could encourage and support each other along the way. I experienced a personal version of the technique that Dr. Bob and Bill W. discovered when they formed A.A. They discovered that the best way to maintain their sobriety was to help someone else get sober. The best way for me to become unblocked and to remain unblocked is to help other artists to express their creativity.

I will be forever grateful to the A.R.T.S. Anonymous program for restoring my ability to finish creative projects and to help other artists as well. My hope is that more struggling artists will find the help they need in the A.R.T.S. program and that their willingness to do service and donate financially will help A.R.T.S. reach more and more artists who are still struggling to express their creativity.

- Why do you want to serve the Fellowship as a member of the Board of Trustees? What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the Board? Include your vision for A.R.T.S. Anonymous.

I would like to continue serving on the A.R.T.S. Board of Trustees so I can continue to express my creativity and help other artists to do the same. I believe in the process discovered by Dr. Bob and Bill W. when they founded Alcoholics Anonymous. It helps me continue to be productive as a writer when I can share my experience, strength and hope with other blocked artists.

The opportunity to serve a second term as an A.R.T.S. Trustee is a chance to help carry the A.R.T.S. Anonymous message of recovery to more artists who are still struggling. I believe the most important purposes for our fellowship are clearly stated in Tradition Five and Step Twelve. I believe we can be far more effective in our efforts to carry the message of recovery to artists when we practice these principles in all our affairs.

- Describe any service work you do or have done for A.R.T.S. Anonymous and any other 12-Step Fellowship Programs, starting at the meeting level. Including attendance at past service conferences.

I continue to serve as an A.R.T.S. sponsor and an Al-Anon sponsor. Occasionally, I lead meetings and share my recovery story in both programs. Currently, I am completing the third year of my first term as a member of the A.R.T.S. Board of Trustees. I have served on several committees during my service on the board, including Executive, Literature, Bylaws, Members Stories, and Editorial Policies. In Al-Anon, I also served on committees including Policy, Literature, the Forum Magazine, and Public Outreach.

This is the third World Service Conference I have participated in for A.R.T.S. and I have done the same for 22 World Service Conferences in Al-Anon. When I moved from Seattle to Virginia Beach, I started new A.R.T.S. meetings in Virginia. In the process of overcoming my writer's block, I discovered that it helped me be productive as a writer and editor when I shared my experience, strength, and hope with other blocked artists. I hope to continue my service as a member of the A.R.T.S. Board of Trustees for the same reason.

The opportunity to continue to serve as a Trustee is another chance to help carry the A.R.T.S. Anonymous message of recovery to many more artists who are still struggling to express their creativity. I believe the most important accomplishments of our fellowship are still to come. I believe we can be far more effective in our efforts to carry the message of recovery to suffering artists when we practice these principles in all our affairs.

- Describe any personal or professional background that you think would benefit the health of A.R.T.S. Anonymous, such as legal, IT, financial, general business administration, or any other relevant skills or training.

As an Air Traffic Controller in the Air Force, a Public Information Officer for the state of Washington, and as Associate Director of Communications at the Al-Anon World Service Office, I

received many speaking, writing and editing opportunities to help people communicate with each other and to understand someone else's point of view. Although members of A.R.T.S. Anonymous represent a wide variety of creative talents, all of us want the freedom and support to express our own creativity. I believe when we help each other, we are helping ourselves. Unfortunately, service is a vastly misunderstood and underused tool for successful recovery.

I believe my experience writing and editing flyers, pamphlets, magazines, books, public service announcements, DVDs, and podcasts can be useful to the ongoing development of A.R.T.S. Anonymous.

- Share your thoughts with the group conscience process, your courage to express yourself, and ability to listen and communicate effectively. How do you manage interpersonal differences, and accomplish goals as a group member?

The Twelve Traditions and Concepts of Service guide my participation in the Twelve Step communication process. My commitment to the decisions that a group makes using this process is complete. While I commit to following and supporting the group's decisions, I also commit to participating in discussions that safeguard other people's rights to do the same. I have seen a majority at the Board level, after voting, invite a minority voice to explain their reasoning behind a no vote; the result was another vote to unanimously overturn the first decision.

My early training as an Air Traffic Controller taught me to speak clearly and confidently, because people's lives and very expensive aircraft were at stake.

My journalism training encouraged me to write clearly and confidently, because vague and flimsy language bores people and sometimes leaves them so confused that they stop reading. I don't mind when people disagree with me, but I try to make it easy for them to understand my message. I feel a responsibility to use language to communicate thoughts and feelings, rather than as a way to avoid telling someone an uncomfortable but necessary truth.

Interpersonal differences sometimes lead me to change my mind. My tendency is to ask questions so that I can improve my understanding of what someone is trying to say. Sometimes I ask the person to give me an example to help me see what they mean. It isn't easy for me to agree with something I don't understand, but if the majority votes against me and I am given the opportunity to explain my opposition, then I will accept and support the majority decision. I believe in the wisdom of Tradition One and the importance of group unity.

- The job of Trustee has varying time demands. What is your availability?

Thanks to technology and the unfortunate experiences brought on by Covid 19, I am more available than ever. I am retired and I attend weekly A.R.T.S. meetings and weekly meetings of Al-Anon on Zoom. I sponsor several people in both programs. I accept speaking engagements on a fairly regular basis. My hobbies include seasonal activities that I can reschedule to make room for extra work. Reasonable advance notice will enable me to change my plans and attend the vast majority of all virtual meetings of the Board of Trustees. Emergency situations receive my top priority.

- Please add any additional information you feel may be helpful in the selection process, including service experience in other Twelve Step programs.

There are substantial reasons for being a 501-c3 organization beyond the ways that Twelve-Step programs have been using their nonprofit status. For example, it is possible to faithfully follow the Twelve Steps and Traditions while operating as a fully functioning nonprofit organization. One of the ways has been the development and use of the Twelve Concepts of Service. The A.R.T.S. Concepts of Service can guide members in helpful ways to perform our art as well as to do service. Rather than focusing on problems and the mistakes we might make, we can agree to do the best we can and then to move forward. For example, I believe as members we can effectively use the media, including commercial and social media, while maintaining the principles of anonymity and attraction versus promotion, to encourage and support more creative expression throughout the world.

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DATE: November 4, 2025

NAME: Vickie D.

- Describe your experience, strength and hope with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of A.R.T.S. Anonymous and of any other 12-Step Fellowship Program.

I came to the 12 Steps and Traditions in 1978 during a crisis brought about by the family disease of alcoholism. I believe it saved my life, and that of my family members. When 12 Step programs started getting trendy in the 1980's, I was worried. It seemed to me that some of the simplicity and rigor of the Steps would be lost. My feeling was that the program was getting watered down with pop psychology. IMHO the 12 Steps are not about feeling good about ourselves. They are



an exercise in humility and faith. They are rooted in deep spirituality, complete surrender to a Higher Power.

I started going to ARTS in 1986 and thrived in the program. I had already been a member of Al-Anon since 1978, and worked the 12 steps and traditions with the help of a couple of different sponsors.

When I was introduced to ARTS, I was ready to admit my powerlessness over my creativity. It seems to me in ARTS there are 3 parts to the first step. We are powerless over having our creative drives and need for expression, and we are also powerless over our avoidance and fear about doing it. The third part is my life is unmanageable, *by me*. But as the *Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous* says, “But there is one who has all power. That one is God. May you find Him(/Her/It) now.”

I see the 12 Steps as a cycle. Over more than 40 years I have gone back to Step 1 multiple times as my Higher Power called my attention to new issues which were holding me back. It’s kind of built in—in Step 12 we practice these principles in all our affairs. That means going back to Step 1. I consider the ARTS program to be an opportunity to practice the principles in yet another affair.

I know this is somewhat of a different perspective than many ARTS members have. It doesn’t trouble me that the steps in ARTS are about doing something positive rather than stopping something negative. I don’t see it as any different than practicing the principles.

And even better, in ARTS I get to be with other creative people. ARTS people are my people. We understand each other on a deep level.

As for the Traditions, I am a fiercely democratic person. I don’t want any authority figure telling me what to do, nor do I want to tell anyone else what to do. Of course, my opinions can be strong, but I am always willing to accept that I may be wrong, and to accept and support the group conscience. As a board member, I would always try to keep in mind that our purpose is to help the artist who still struggles to express their creativity. Although I think every artist struggles. That’s why I stay in ARTS. Still struggling after all these years.

I haven’t talked about the other traditions, but I don’t want to write a dissertation here. I hope you get the idea that I’m committed to all of them.

- Why do you want to serve the Fellowship as a member of the Board of Trustees? What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the Board? Include your vision for A.R.T.S.  
Anonymous.

I don't particularly want to be on the Board of Trustees. I don't really have time and would rather make art. But I also know that doing my art has been a gift of the program, and I want to be of whatever service I can.

My vision for ARTS that it will become truly democratic and fully transparent, and I want to participate in that vision coming to fruition. My vision also includes that artists of all sorts will find the spiritual principles of ARTS.

When I was elected to the board 3 years ago, I enthusiastically shared my experience, strength and hope with artist friends. (My experience is that all my artist friends are spiritual seekers.) However, when I showed them the website of A.R.T.S. Anonymous they were turned off by the emphasis on dysfunction rather recovery. It was embarrassing. One of the first actions of the board after it was reconstituted 3 ½ years ago was to provide a different focus to the website. The website still needs a lot of work. We just haven't had the funds or the expertise to fix it.

I actually think the World Service Conference is more important than the board. Since the Conference has no real history in providing guidance to the Fellowship, and in fact had no Annual Meeting since 2016, it will take some time for the Conference to assume a more active role. I think they call that capacity-building.

Moreover, somebody has to be on the board. My early sponsors instilled in me the principle of saying yes to service. It's an adage of all 12 Step programs: "You can't keep it until you give it away."

The board has 2 bottom-line duties: to safeguard the Steps, Traditions and Concepts; and to responsibly shepherd the program's finances so that it can continue to support the artist who still struggles to express their creativity.

- Describe any service work you do or have done for A.R.T.S. Anonymous and any other 12-Step Fellowship Programs, starting at the meeting level. Including attendance at past service conferences.

My service work in A.R.T.S.:

- Along with other board members, we, somehow, with the help of a Higher Power, managed to put on the first World Service Conference in 7 or 8 years in 2023. We did this against the advice of our wonderful consultant from another 12 Step program, who told us we weren't ready and it was unlikely that we could pull it off. I might have been annoying to some, but I insisted that we try, because to me the reestablishment of the Conference was and still is the most important first step for the A.R.T.S. Program.

- I served the Conference in 2022 or 23 (the dates are getting fuzzy now) by chairing a committee to write drafts of the A.R.T.S. Anonymous 12 Concepts of Service and a charter for the World Service Conference. We worked together for more than 6 months to draft these documents, which our consultant called “foundational documents.” They had previously been lifted directly from Alcoholics Anonymous, which is a program quite different from ours in history and size.
- I started an ARTS meeting, which is still going. Because of the principle of rotation of leadership, I stepped back and let others carry the responsibility.
- I was part of a committee that designed and wrote for a series of workshops on the 12 Steps of ARTS anonymous. 2024.
- I participated in all the Conferences that have been held since 2023, although I have to say during the last one I stepped back some because of stress from family problems, recognizing that it was very difficult for me to be patient, therefore thinking it was better to remove myself.
- I continue to push for the Conference to be self-sustaining, more transparent, and to grow. At the 2025 Conference I urged the Delegates to form a Conference Policies & Procedures Committee, a motion which passed. This committee has met for the last 6-8 months to develop a Conference Service Manual. Since I’m on the board of trustees, it felt it would be inappropriate for me to chair it. Partially from being overstressed and partially from my desire to see the Conference become less dependent on the Board, I stepped back and let others do a lot of the heavy lifting. I didn’t feel it was right for Board members to do everything, and I was very pleased that others stepped up and did some really hard work together. The result is the draft ARTS Anonymous Manual of Service which is presented to the Conference for approval.
- I’m currently Board of Trustees Secretary, a job I’m not particularly good at. However, we need a secretary. So I’m happy to be of service in this way. It’s a good exercise in humility.
- I have to say that serving on the board has been an opportunity for spiritual growth. I am focusing on being more careful about what I say, and listening more.
- Describe any personal or professional background that you think would benefit the health of A.R.T.S. Anonymous, such as legal, IT, financial, general business administration, or any other relevant skills or training.

I was a college professor, doing research and writing about it education. My field was anthropology of education, and I tried to understand the subtexts and nuances of what is happening when students and teachers talk about science. This training makes me very alert

when I listen to conversations, and able to understand what is going on underneath. I'm also a good writer. Since as a teacher I had to explain things to students, I'm pretty good at writing explanations of the ARTS program.

Part of my research was about "activity structures." This sort of means routines people have for getting work done. I always think about what tasks will support people in having conversations. Conversation is where the real work of learning takes place. And participating in service in ARTS is part of recovering.

I'm getting better about interpersonal differences, trying to manage impatience when others don't see things the way I do. I am learning to avoid accusations and say nothing. I think I've made progress on this, but the level of stress in my life right now makes it challenging at times.

- Share your thoughts with the group conscience process, your courage to express yourself, and ability to listen and communicate effectively. How do you manage interpersonal differences, and accomplish goals as a group member?

The group conscience is the voice of our Higher Power. I always give my views, even if I am the only one who thinks a certain way. I am well able to listen (see above) but ironically have trouble finding the words to express myself clearly. It often comes out the wrong way and others don't understand. I very much appreciate their willingness to try to figure out what I'm talking about. I manage interpersonal differences by trying to repair them. I hope I am learning to be humble and accept my part in conflicts. I try to be alert to my own ego, and to put it aside for the benefit of the group. I accept and support the decisions of the group conscience.

- The job of Trustee has varying time demands. What is your availability?

I'm doing the best I can. I attend board meetings on Saturday. Right now, I have made the decision to avoid as many other Saturday meetings as possible, because of the demands of my M-F job and being a caregiver on the weekends.

- Please add any additional information you feel may be helpful in the selection process, including service experience in other Twelve Step programs.

I think I've said enough or perhaps too much. I did service in Al-Anon at the group and Intergroup level, and in Debtors Anonymous as LA Intergroup board member and publications chair. I did service at the DA World Service Convention. If elected, I will serve the Board to the best of my ability.

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## **Preamble for Round Robin Open Forum**

To be read by the Facilitator:

**Preamble for Round Robin Topics:** In order for everyone to speak their thoughts and feelings freely, the 30-second rule will be suspended during the Topic of Discussion. We accept what others have to say as being true for them without fear of judgment. This is a time to listen to each other not to make motions. People will be muted and then unmuted for their turn. We will not be using raised hands, instead we will call people in turn by the order on my screen until everyone has had a chance to speak. The time allotted will be divided by the number of participants.