Article I. NAME. The name of this organization shall be the Visual Resources Association Southern California Regional Chapter, hereafter referred to as the Chapter. The central VRA organization shall be hereafter referred to as the Association.

Article II. PURPOSE. The purpose of the Chapter shall be to promote communication among, and to provide support and professional enrichment opportunities for, members of the Visual Resources Association or other information professionals residing or professionally active in Southern California. The Chapter will also promote and support the Visual Resources Association as an international professional organization.

Article III. MEMBERSHIP.
A. Eligibility. Membership is open to all current members in good standing of the Visual Resources Association, as well as non-members at the Regional Membership level. Potential members are encouraged to join the central organization designating membership in the Southern California Regional Chapter.

B. Membership Categories. Visual Resources Association central member (including Institutional, Student, & Retired) and Regional Chapter member.

Institutional members: Any of the three designated individuals of an Institutional Membership of the central VRA shall be eligible for Chapter membership at the Chapter's regular membership rate.

Student members: The Chapter may allow central Association student members to apply for Chapter student memberships at a reduced rate from that paid by regular members. An individual applying for student membership may be asked to provide verification of current student status.

Retired members: The Chapter may allow central Association retired members to apply for Chapter retiree memberships at a reduced rate from that paid by regular members.

Other discounted membership categories: The Chapter may allow other individuals eligible for discounted rate VRA membership to apply also for central Chapter membership at a reduced rate from that paid by regular members.

Regional members: Regional Chapter only memberships are intended for potential members, who primarily want to participate in regional activities, but may not yet want to be as involved in the central Association.

C. Membership year. The Chapter membership year shall be twelve
months from the date of payment.

D. Dues.

1. Determining dues amounts. Dues amounts for the various categories of Chapter membership shall be proposed by the Chapter officers and ratified by a plurality of the written (including electronic) vote of the Chapter membership.
   - Chapter Membership Dues (plus central Association dues): $20
   - Chapter Student/Retiree Membership Dues (plus central Association dues): $10
   - Regional Chapter Dues (without central Association dues): $25

Note: There are differences in the benefits of full VRA central Association membership and Chapter only membership.

2. Payment of dues. Eligible individuals may enroll in the Southern California Regional Chapter at any time by using any one of the following options:

   a. Making a “bundled membership” transaction using the member’s online MemberClicks account (accessed through VRAWEB); registration and payment of Chapter dues can be made with the same transaction as registration and payment of central Association annual membership dues. Registration and payment of Chapter dues can also be made as a separate MemberClicks transaction from registration and payment of Association membership dues.

   b. Sending membership application and dues to the Chapter Secretary/Treasurer.

   c. Registering in person and paying dues directly to the Secretary/Treasurer at a Chapter meeting.

E. Special assessments and fees. The Chapter may propose the assessment of additional fees to recover the per capita cost of participation in a specific Chapter-sponsored event or project, subject to the approval of the membership. Participants will pay these fees directly to the Chapter Secretary/Treasurer.

F. Privileges.

1. Only Chapter members may vote in Chapter elections or hold elective Chapter office.

2. All members shall be entitled to receive minutes, announcements of meetings, and other notices of general interest to the membership.

Article IV. OFFICERS.
A. Chapter officers shall consist of three, those being Chairperson, Chairperson Elect/Vice Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer.

B. Qualifications for office. Officers must be Chapter members in good standing.

C. Terms of office. The terms of office shall be two calendar years, staggered, with the Chair and Secretary/Treasurer elected the first year, and the Chairperson/Vice Chair elected the second year. The terms of office shall be two calendar years.

D. Duties of officers.
   1. The Chapter Chairperson and Chairperson/Vice Chair shall:
      a. Act as the representative of the Chapter in its official business.
      b. Conduct business and serve as program chair at Chapter meetings.
      c. Make arrangements with host sites for meetings.
      d. Develop programs and agendas with other officers.
      e. Write and submit the Chapter’s annual and midyear reports to the VRA Executive Board.
   2. The Chapter Secretary/Treasurer shall:
      a. Keep Minutes of Chapter meetings and be responsible for Chapter correspondence.
      b. Produce and distribute notices of meetings and announcements.
      c. Maintain a Chapter mailing list.
      d. Conduct meetings in the absence of the Chairperson.
      e. Keep Chapter financial records and report to the Chapter on a regular basis.
      f. Collect and process Chapter dues paid to the Association through bundled membership transactions.
      g. Authorize payments from Chapter funds held in the Chapter Bursary.
      h. Receive and review periodic disbursement reports of payments made from Chapter funds held in the Chapter Bursary.

E. Replacement of officers.
   1. Any Chapter officer unable to perform the duties of his/her office should submit a written resignation in the form of a letter or electronic communication to the Chapter Chair; or, if the Chair resigns, the written resignation is tendered to the Secretary/Treasurer. The designated recipient will inform the Chapter membership of the resignation and its effective date.

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2. Should any Chapter office be vacated mid-term, the other officer(s) may recommend a qualified successor (with that individual’s consent) from the membership to fill the remainder of the vacated term, to which action a majority of the membership must assent by a vote of affirmation (in person, written, or electronic).

Article V. ELECTIONS.

A. Officers shall be elected by a plurality of votes cast by the members (in person, written, or electronic).

B. Nominations. A nominating committee of at least two members shall be responsible for nominating a slate of officers and presenting them in written or electronic form to the Chapter. Potential candidates should be informed by the committee of all duties of the position they are being asked to fill.

C. Elections should be staggered to provide for continuity of leadership. The terms of office for Chairperson shall begin in odd-numbered years. The terms of office for Secretary shall begin in even-numbered years.

Article VI. MEETINGS.

A. Chapter meetings shall be called by the Chairperson.

B. There shall be a minimum of two Chapter meetings each year, one in the spring and one in the fall.

C. Members may invite guests to meetings and encourage them to become members. Members of associated professional organizations shall be encouraged to attend.

Article VII. AMENDMENTS.

A. Proposed amendments to the Bylaws may be submitted to the Chapter in writing or electronic communication by any voting member.

B. Approval by a two-thirds majority of voting members (in person, written, or electronic) shall be necessary to amend the Bylaws.

C. The Bylaws shall be submitted to the Visual Resources Association Executive Board for approval.
D. The Bylaws shall be reviewed at least once in every five years.

Article VIII. DISSOLUTION OF THE CHAPTER.

A. The Visual Resources Association shall authorize the dissolution of the Chapter upon the request of its members or when in the opinion of the Executive Board the Chapter’s effectiveness and viability have ceased.

B. All just liabilities and obligations of the Chapter shall be paid, satisfied, and discharged, or adequate provision shall be made therefore.

C. All other assets shall be transferred or conveyed to the Visual Resources Association.

Article IX. IMPLEMENTATION.

A. These Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon approval by the Chapter membership and the Visual Resources Association Executive Board.

B. Officers elected under any previous Bylaws shall remain in office until the conclusion of their terms.

Ratified by the membership March 30, 1995.
Accepted by the VRA Executive Board February 21, 1996. Revision ratified by the membership May 10, 1996.
Accepted by the VRA Executive Board May 31, 1996. Revision ratified by the membership July 12, 2002.
Accepted with qualifications by the VRA Executive Board September 9, 2002. Final revision version approved by VRA Executive Board July 7, 2003.
Revision ratified by the membership June 12, 2009. Accepted by the VRA Executive Board August 5, 2009. Revision ratified by the membership November 5, 2010.
Revision ratified by the membership August 15, 2017.