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If you're like me, you're constantly getting asked things like, "Why on earth did you paint that toaster purple and install it on the ceiling?" or "Why do you drive a hearse that looks like a zebra?" Of course, the answer is all too simple: I'm an artist. I'm taking license to make this weirdness. It's called **Artistic License**.

But somehow it always felt like a hollow statement. After all, I didn't have an art degree, let alone a physical "artistic license", whatever that would be. But an answer was close at hand -- dang it, I'm an *artist*, a creator! When the world doesn't fit, I change the world! And so I created my very own Artistic License. I more or less yonked the style of a Cali driver's license but added things like the medium of the artist, and I made a checklist of "Artistic and Behavior Codes" on the back. I also put an unexplained, mysterious "TYPE: X". [H](#)

[ere's a zoom so you can see it all.](#)

I've been extremely happy with the results. Now when I show up at art openings, I just flash my ID -- I'm an artist! More [free](#) wine, please! Even at clubs I present my license as my identification... because, by gum, I'm an *artist*, just the kind of artist who would be fully licensed. Although this is not legal identification in the government's eyes, I have presented it on many occasions to security personnel who want "valid ID". More times than not, they take it! So, it must be valid.

How about you? Are there people in your life who just *don't get it*: Parents, unhip friends, stodgy authority figures, and humorless conservative talk showhosts? "Oh c'mon," you tell them, "It's Artistic License!" (brace yourself, here comes the skill...)

Now **YOU** can carry ID to back that claim up. \$20 buys you your very own US Artistic License with your photo and info on it. It is laminated and looks a wholelotta legal. Interested?

[Order one at this web page](#)

!

And yes, for your information, I *do* have the authority to issue artistic licenses. Do you wanna see my license?

- TradeMark G.