

Society of Southern Maine Craftsmen

Category and Criteria Listing

Introduction

Hand crafted items exhibited for sale at all SSMC venues will be held to the following criteria:

- Quality craftsmanship demonstrated within the medium
- Products are created by or under direct supervision by the primary member(s) within their own work environment.
- The practice of simple alteration of purchased times is unacceptable
- No kits, strung beads, manufactured or resale items
- Accessories may be used to show functionality of product, but may not be the primary portion of the final product sold.

Following is a list of all craft categories and the criteria SSMC follows surrounding each category.

BASKETRY

Baskets constructed of various materials. Quality design and durability emphasized. No unintentional loose ends. NO KITS.

CERAMICS

A clean finish with no rough edges, originality in design, painting and color sense. As of April 1994 new crafters in ceramics will NOT be allowed to sell bisque ware. Crafters juried prior to April 1994 are grand-fathered.

CLAY

Freeform, Porcelain, Pottery, Slab built, Tiles, Wheel Thrown. Non-toxic glazes only. Pleasing original designs that are durable. Functional pieces should have comfortable handles, well fitting lids, smooth even bottoms and rims. The public must be informed of proper use and care of the item.

DECORATIVE ARTS

Batik, Bead Weaving, Fabric Covered items NOT SEWN, Silk Arrangements. This is a mixed media category. What is done must significantly enhance the appearance of the original objects. Aim is for a well finished product with a professional look, where the creativity of the craftsmen is clearly prominent. NO KITS or simple assembled store bought products.

DECORATIVE PAINTING

Folk Art, Tole Painting, Faux Finishing, Hand Painted Clothing, Hand Painted Reproductions, Stenciling. Theorem. This is a multi surface media. What is done must significantly alter the appearance of the original object. There should be a clean finish, front and back with no rough edges. Product should be well designed.

Category and Criteria Listing, Continued

FIBER ART	Macramé, Rugs, Spinning, Weaving, Woven Fabrics. Quality designs and durability of construction a must, pleasing mixtures of color and texture are important. NO KITS. Pieces must be finished inside and out, no loose ends. Proper content and care labeling made available to the public. Stress placed on originality of patterns or well executed traditional patterns.
FINE ART	Original Artwork, Oils, Acrylic and Watercolor. Matted or framed.
FOOD	Proper licenses must be obtained and product must be labeled and packaged. If samples are given at a show, the crafter must provide a waste receptacle at the booth.
GLASS	Etched, Hand Blown, Stained. Original design, quality of color sense. Must be of professional workmanship, sturdy construction, smooth soldering and stable framing and hooking.
GRAPHICS	Air Brushing, Bookmarks, Calligraphy, Cartoons, Engraving, Lithography, Note Cards, Note Paper, Pen and Ink, Plaques, Portraits, Prints Silk Screens, Signs. Original designs a must. Products should have a finished and professional look.
JEWELRY- METAL/GEMSTONE	Copper, Enameling, Gemstone, Lapidary, Pewter, Silver, Gold and other metals. Emphasis on originality and quality of construction and finish. All cast pieces must be your own. No items made solely of commercial beads or drilled nuggets allowed. No commercial chains sold separately.
JEWELRY- NON-METAL	Ceramic, Fabric, Glass, Paper, Polymer, Porcelain, Scrimshaw, Wampum and Wood. Emphasis on originality and quality of construction and finish. All cast pieces must be your own. No items made solely of commercial beads or drilled nuggets allowed. No commercial chains sold separately.
LEATHER	Must be durable construction, neat staining and uniform stitching. No purchased buckles can be sold without belts.

Category and Criteria Listing, Continued

METAL WORK	Brass, Copper, Pewter, Wrought Iron, Tin Punch, Musical Instruments, Non-Jewelry metal work. Original design with clean finish, musical instruments.
MUSIC	Original recordings.
NATURAL MATERIALS	Dried Flowers, Everlasting, Floral Wreaths, Herbs, potpourri, pressed Flowers, Sea Shells, Spices, Mushroom Carving, Eggery. Purchased natural materials can't be sold unless incorporated into original product. Emphasis is on original home grown products.
NATURAL MATERIALS/ PERSONAL CARE	Effective as of April 1, 2010: All products must be produced from single raw ingredients and not purchased kits or bases for lotion, soaps (both bars and liquid soaps), shampoos, shower gels, lip balms and hand sanitizers. Purchasing such bases, then adding coloring and scent constitutes "simple assembly" and is not accepted. Previously accepted members using this method will be "grandfathered" (so long as memberships are renewed each year by the March 1 st deadline for renewal before being required to re-jury). In addition, by law the crafters product must have all ingredients plainly marked on the product label or packaging.
NEEDLECRAFT - HAND	Appliquè, Crochet, Cross Stitch, Embroidery, Knitting, Quilting, Tatting, Tapestry. Product is produced through needle manipulation, by hand. NO KITS. Articles must be finished inside and out. Pieces must be durable, quality workmanship. Clothing must have care instructions made available to the public. Quilting and patchwork must be piece work.
NEEDLECRAFT- MACHINE	Appliqué, Baby Items, Clothing Dolls, Doll Clothes, Fabric Sculpture, Fashion Accessories, Flags, Knitted items, Lace, Lawn Ornaments, Quilting, Pet Products, Potholders, Stuffed Animals, Teddy Bears, Tote Bags, Toys. Fabric is used to construct product. Method done predominately by machine. NO KITS. Stuffing license if applicable. Articles must be finished inside and out. Pieces must be durable, quality workmanship. Clothing must have care instructions available to the public. Quilting and patchwork must be piece work.
PAPERCRAFT	Handmade, cut/pierced Lampshades, origami, sculpted. Quality construction in functional pieces emphasized.

Category and Criteria Listing, Continued

PHOTOGRAPHY	Black/White, Color, Hand Painted, Framed, Matted, Unframed. All Photos must be taken by the craftsman. Clear, well composed work is a must. All photos must be permanently mounted.
POLYMER CLAY	Polymer based clay medium used in decorative pieces, excluding jewelry. Quality construction emphasized.
WAX PRODUCTS	Candles. Molded Wax. Originality and quality of color is stressed. Candles must burn properly.
WOOD	Carving, Clocks, Decorations, Dolls, Frames, Fretwork, Furniture, Hiking Sticks, Lawn Ornaments, Musical Instruments, Novelties, Sculpture, Toys, Turnings, Unfinished, Walking Sticks, Wood Burning, Woodworking. Stress is on quality of construction and design. There should be no gaps in joints, smooth finish, no rough edges or glue stains.