

Herkimer County Arts & Crafts Fair Awards Jury Information

1. The jury piece must be available, and priced, for sale.
2. The red jury ribbon included in your vendor packet, which you received at registration, must be attached to the piece to be juried.
3. The jury piece must be prominently displayed, tagged and in place by 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning. Juried pieces must be displayed in full view and easily accessible.
4. Judging for awards will be in the following categories:

▶ Please note: Music, food, candy and wine are exempt from jury, with the exception of **Best Booth**
Best In Show—one award (single booth fee, plus electricity, waived for 2016 show—max. value \$170)
Juror’s Award of Excellence—one award to the runner up (\$100 in booth fees waived for 2016 show)
Awards of Distinction—up to 4 special merit awards (\$50 in booth fees waived for 2016 show)
Best Booth—one award (\$25 in booth fees waived for 2016 show) **see award guidelines below

The following are suggested guidelines that our panel of jurors will consider as they judge arts and crafts entries for Best In Show, Juror’s Award of Excellence, and Awards of Distinction:

Artist’s goals

- a. What is the artist trying to do?

Explore the material. Express something seen or felt. Construct a form. Use a specific technique. Tryout or explore a design concept. Practice or perfect a skill.

- b. What level of response was needed?

Was it a simple task, such as following specific directions? Did it require a complex combination of thought, personal expression, and skill, such as figuring out the design and construction of a unique item in a new medium?

Artistic idea or creative process

- a. Is the idea imaginative, unique or original?

Are the materials used in a unique manner? Has the idea been borrowed but used in a unique way?

- b. Does the total object make a single, unified statement?

Do all parts add support to the whole?

- c. How complex are the ideas exhibited?

- d. Is the piece exploratory?

Has the artist experienced and solved a variety of problems in construction, design and expression?

Craftsmanship

- a. Does the piece show an awareness and conscious use of the elements and principles of design?

For example:

- *Variety of line quality*
- *Repetition and variation of shapes*
- *Balance without monotony*
- *Proportions appropriate to the whole*

- *Space consciously and expressively used*
- *Texture in variation and repetition*
- *Range of value*
- *Color harmony*

b. Is the object suitable for the purpose intended?

Is it utilitarian, such as a vase? Does it contain aesthetic appeal, such as a vase or painting? Is it durable, such as a leather belt or a piece of jewelry?

c. Functional pieces should be physically examined.

For example: Is a teapot properly balanced or just decorative? Is a piece of jewelry finished on the back? Are the seams on a piece of textile sufficiently durable?

d. Does the artist show technical knowledge and skill?

Does the piece represent the full body of the artist's work? Or, is the piece merely for show (i.e. a WOW piece)?

e. Does the piece show the individual's uniqueness or style?

f. Is it presented appropriately (*matting, framing, base, etc.*)?

Other considerations

a. What more could the artist have done or could s/he do in the future?

b. How does this person's piece compare with other work (*their own or another's work*)?

**** Suggested Guidelines for Best Booth award**

Booths should adhere to the 10' x 6' or 20' x 6' space allocated and a height limitation of 7'.

Please respect your fellow exhibitor's space allocations.

Booths should have a back drop (no banners, unless they are used creatively as part of the whole).

Booth should allow for smooth flow of pedestrian traffic.

Do not block or impede pedestrian traffic areas with chairs, displays, etc...

Booths should have a cohesive look, functionality and be aesthetically pleasing.

Back stock, packing materials, etc... must be stored out of sight.