

Appalachian Arts Craft Center

Jurying into the Appalachian Arts Craft Center

Welcome

About Our Organization:

The Appalachian Arts Craft Shop is operated by the Community Craft Center, Inc. We are a non-profit craft organization dedicated to educating the public to the process and appreciation of art crafts and to offering sales opportunities to our members to support their artistic efforts. Our members are involved with the day to day operations of the shop, as well as the policy making, classes, and workshops. Our Board of Directors is comprised of nine elected officers who are nominated from and elected by the general membership. There are three paid, part-time staff people. The Education Coordinator arranges classes and workshops for the Center and publishes the monthly newsletter. The Center Administrator serves to coordinate shop, committee, and Center operations. The Bookkeeper maintains accounts payable and writes commission checks once near the beginning of each month. We are the oldest craft co-op in Tennessee and offer more than just an outlet to sell your work.

Guidelines for acceptance:

We have a Standards and Acceptance Committee that meets quarterly to jury new members. They function under guidelines that have been set up over the years by experienced crafters with the approval of the Center's Board. The guidelines are reviewed and updated periodically, but continually emphasize the importance of quality workmanship and exhibition of creativity.

We accept both traditional and contemporary crafts with emphasis on the use of natural materials. **We do not accept plastic craft components (beads in particular), kits, pre-stamped "quilt look" fabrics, silk flowers, purchased and assembled crafts, purchased and embellished items that conflict with handcrafts in the shop. There may be additional stipulations specific to each craft category.** Please read, understand, and agree to comply with standards guidelines of the category before applying for the jury process.

Jurying In:

Request a copy of the jury packet in the category in which you plan to apply. You may apply for acceptance in up to two categories per quarterly review. Completely fill out jury application and artist biography forms.

Deliver the forms along with three (3) examples of your finished work which have been created within the current twelve months. Items are to be delivered to the shop five days before the actual jury date. Dates may be confirmed by calling the Craft Center. All items must be picked up within two weeks following that date.

The jury fee is a **\$25.00**. It is non-refundable. Current juried members in good standing may jury into a different category for a **\$10.00** non-refundable fee. Members who have juried in before, but have stopped selling for a period of time, can re-jury and pay only the **\$10.00 fee**, if they have maintained their membership during the time span they were not selling.

You will be notified in writing of acceptance or non-acceptance as soon as possible, usually within two weeks. Every effort will be made to forward any pertinent comments, however all decisions of the Standards Committee are final.

Membership Obligations:

Accepted applicants who wish to sell items through the Center's retail shop must become a member of the Center. Membership levels include Regular (\$40), Family (\$60), Sustaining (\$100), and Life (\$500) levels. You will be asked to fill out and sign a membership card, which not only records the date of membership, but also explains the requirements and conditions of selling of items through the Shop. Your signature verifies that you have read, understood, and agree to the requirements of participating in the Shop.

The Center receives 30% commission on all sales. Sales tax is collected and paid on sales and sales records are maintained for each vendor. Each vendor is required to keep his/her own inventory records.

Each selling member is also required to work at the desk four (4) hours per month for a total of 48 hours per year, unless other arrangements are made with the Shop Administrator. If you cannot work, it will be your responsibility to find a replacement or to pay the Center **\$25.00** by the end of the month for each missed shift. There will be an orientation session conducted by the Shop Administrator and the first time you are scheduled to work you will be with another experienced worker.

As a member, you will be required to **read** your monthly newsletter, **monitor** your inventory, and **maintain** high quality of workmanship in your craft.

Displaying your work:

All displays are set up and arranged by the Shop Committee. If you need a special display or if you have one made exclusively for your work, you must check with the committee for compliance and arrangement. Shop Committee has final say re: displays, amount of space needed and how your work will be presented.

If you have unsold items that have been in the shop for one year, you will be asked to rotate those items from the sales floor. Items valued at over \$200 may remain in the shop for up to 18 months.

Thank you.

We appreciate your interest in the Appalachian Arts Craft Center and look forward to the opportunity to work with you and to assist you in your artistic endeavors.

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Jury Form

Make sure you have read through the guidelines for the category(ies) you wish to jury into, as well as the General Acceptance Guidelines.

You must fill out separate jury form for each category that you wish to enter.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Phone Number with Area Code: _____

These items that I am submitting are of my own work, handcrafted, and not the products of kits. I understand that any parts that are purchased pre-made may not be acceptable.

Signature _____

CATEGORY: _____

Description: (Materials used, processes involved, etc.)

Item #

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Are there any components to your crafted items that are pre-made? If yes, please explain:

How long have you been working in this craft? _____

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Artist/Crafter Biographical and Contact Information

Name: _____

*Address: _____

*Telephone: _____

*E-mail: _____

Website: _____

Please photograph the following two items already in the craft shop:

Crafter # _____ Item # _____ Item # _____

I will bring in items to be photographed. Item description: _____

I have attached photographs or digital medium of my work: _____

Please complete the following (use additional paper if necessary)

Describe your art or craft.

How did you begin your art or craft? What classes have you taken?

What techniques do you use (materials, processes?)

What are your primary themes or subjects and why do you prefer them?

*This information will not be released unless you give us permission to do so.

What would you like others to know about your work?

Please include a brief artist statement (50-75 words)

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General Guidelines for Acceptance

1. Quality of workmanship is the foremost criteria.
2. The safety of the customer should be a primary concern of each crafter.
3. Originality is important. The use of existing patterns, traditional or recent, shows the mind of the crafter in the use of materials and colors.
4. **NOT ACCEPTED:**
 - a. Kits, precut or preformed materials (unless designed and/or made by a selling Shop member)
 - b. Molds, unless designed and made by the crafter
 - c. Pre-stamped "quilted" fabric
 - d. Copyrighted items, unless a signed release from the copyright holder is presented and placed in the Center office
 - e. Plastic beads or excessive use of other plastic materials in final product
5. Crafts should be clean, and made of high quality natural materials.
6. When articles are made of fabric, the fabric should be pre-washed.
7. When plastic or metal fixtures are necessary for the function of an item (such as lamp fixtures, lotion bottle pump, night lights), they should be as unobtrusive as possible.
8. Labels should identify the item and primary materials used, and should include instructions for care or any special precautions for use.
9. **Glue gun adhesive is not allowed.**
10. Work must be current, made in the last year (two for quilts).
11. Applicants must put items for sale in the shop within two months of acceptance.

GUIDELINES FOR SEPARATE CATEGORIES:

1. Natural Products: Baskets, Brooms, Candles, Corn Shuck Dolls, Leather, Nature Products, Soap & Wood

BASKETS:

1. Functional baskets should be tightly woven, with strong bottoms, and strong handles securely attached.
2. Baskets must be carefully finished, edges tucked in neatly, hairs removed. If reed is used, it should not be split, rough or hairy.
3. Any added decorations must be of a natural material.
4. Labels must include materials used, type of basket and care instructions.

BROOMS:

1. Uniform stitches, tightly woven.
2. Broom corn should be uniform in tone.
3. Broom should be fastened securely to the handle, we prefer natural handcrafted handles.
4. Floor brooms should sweep well.

CANDLES:

1. Candles must be handmade and either molded, poured or free form. Sand molded candles are acceptable.
2. Beeswax, paraffin, soy wax are accepted.
3. If synthetic fragrance is used, candles must be wrapped. Natural oils (essential oils) preferred.
4. Safety label must be on every piece (... do not leave burning candle unattended, etc.)
5. No melt and pour kits accepted. Handmade means ingredients mixed by craftsperson.

CORN SHUCK DOLLS:

1. Dolls must be made from real corn husks. Paper is not allowed.
2. Filler in skirt should be entirely corn husk and full in shape.
3. Hair can be of corn silk, wool or other natural material.
4. Dolls should be firmly constructed.
5. The doll can be constructed using pipe cleaners or wire for insides of arms. Dolls must not be glued together. Thread or wire can be used to tie the doll. Wires or pipe cleaners cannot show.
6. Accessories cannot make up more than 10% of final product. Glue application should be kept to a minimum and the glue must not show.

LEATHER:

1. Good quality hides with no barbed wire scratches should be used.
2. Pairs of items should be made from the same hide.
3. Edges must be neatly finished.

4. Glue, if used, must be secure and well concealed.
5. Background material used for foundation should not show unless part of design.

NATURE PRODUCTS (Dried Arrangements) :

1. All visible materials used should be natural.
2. Items should not shed or shatter.
3. The article should be securely assembled with no loose parts.
4. Materials should be de-bugged.
5. Glue should not show.
6. Background material used for foundation should not show unless incorporated into the design.
7. If item is made to set on a surface, the bottom should be carefully finished as not to damage fine surfaces.

SOAPS AND LOTIONS:

1. No kits or melt and pour products.
2. Preferable essential oil with a light fragrant be used.
3. Each bar must be wrapped and all other products need to be in clear acrylic or glass containers.
4. The State of Tennessee requires that soaps, solid lotions, body sprays, etc., list **all** ingredients on the product.

WOOD INCLUDING WOODEN TOYS & SCULPTURE:

1. Original, creative or traditional designs are required. NO kits. No copyright designs unless a release for the original copyright holder is on file in the shop's office.
2. Sanded surfaces including end grain, should be smooth to the touch before a finish is applied. Joints should be tight and held with screws, nails, or permanent wood glue. Exposed sharp edges must be softened by sanding. Outdoor items must use "water proof" glue products.
3. Finishes containing toxic material are not allowed. No visible drips, sags, or brush marks. Insides of items like boxes should be of same quality as outside. "Salad oil" finishes are preferred for item that will come in contact with food. A label should be attached to items that will be in contact with food to indicate washing instructions and care.
4. Toys: Particular care should be paid to the safety of toys. Toys, or toys with removable parts, or parts that could break off **MUST** have a tag indicating "Not recommended for children under age 5". **Remember that any toy or removable part that can pass through a toilet paper tube can cause choking.**
5. Functional items must be labeled as to their use. Label all items giving care instructions
6. Carving from duplicating machines is not allowed.
7. Rough out blanks are not allowed unless the Carver has more than 50% of finish carving to complete. Materials, like Corian, can be used only if the finished items are made with wood working tools.

2. Textiles: Dolls and Stuffed Toys, Crocheted or Knitted Articles, Quilting, Sewing & Embroidery, Weaving & Needle Felting

DOLLS AND STUFFED TOYS:

1. SAFETY FIRST: There must be NO LOOSE parts. Loose parts can cause choking.
2. Sturdy construction is required. NO GLUED ON PARTS.
3. NO KITS.
4. Copyrighted designs are not allowed unless owned by the crafter, or the crafter has a letter of release from the copyright holder, a copy to be kept on file in the Shop's office.
5. Faces should be attractive. Cross stitched, embroidered, or neatly painted with non-toxic paints. Punch or safety eyes and/or nose do not show originality and are not acceptable.
6. Dolls and stuffed toys must be evenly and adequately stuffed.
7. Clothing must be neatly sewn. Unless it is part of the design, all loose threads and raveling must be trimmed or pinked.
8. Embellishments MUST be securely SEWN on. NO GLUED on parts.
9. Molded parts are permissible ONLY if the crafter used a mold to form the part, not a purchased part.
10. All toys or dolls with small parts or pieces, MUST be labeled with tag "NOT RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN UNDER AGE 5." **Remember that any toy or removable part that can pass through a toilet paper tube can cause choking.**
11. Label with fiber and care instructions.

DOLLS AND STUFFED TOYS INTENDED FOR COLLECTING:

Requirements are the same as for Dolls and Stuffed Toys 2 through 9.

A labeled tag must indicate that the item is "COLLECTORS ITEM NOT INTENDED FOR PLAY."

CROCHETED OR KNITTED ARTICLES:

1. Natural fibers are preferred, but high quality synthetics that have a natural appearance can be used. No synthetic fibers may be used if the item comes in contact with heat, ie: hot pads must be of natural fibers.
2. Even tension should be maintained.
3. Items must be neatly finished, with ends worked in nicely.
4. Items should show good proportions and sizing.
5. Labels must show fiber content, size, and care instructions.

QUILTING and SEWING

THESE STANDARDS APPLY TO BOTH HAND AND MACHINE MADE ITEMS. MACHINE QUILTING INDICATES A SEWING MACHINE.

1. All articles submitted must be clean, newly completed and entirely the work of the person(s) submitting them.
2. The articles must be original designs or adaptations of traditional patterns. Copyrighted patterns may not be used, unless a letter of release from the original copyright holder is

presented and filed in the Shop's office. Kits or stamped designs, pillow or pillow panels are not allowed.

3. Fabrics must be washed before the project is cut out. 100 % natural fiber is required for the top and backing.
4. Piecing the fabric must be neatly and accurately done with consistent use of fabric grain lines. Blocks must be true and square and consistent in size. Press seams toward the darker or denser fabric to avoid shadowing.
5. Quilting designs should be spaced to adequately hold the layers together. Three to four inches is the maximum spacing for polyester batting, and one and half inches to two inches for cotton.
6. No marking lines should be visible in the finished item.
7. No knots or tails of thread should be visible front or back.
8. Stitches should be regular and even, with no pleats, puckers, or gathering of the layers. Good quality thread should be used, NO plastic thread.
9. Edges and corners should be neatly finished, preferably with separate binding attached.
10. The use of polyester batting is discouraged in items intended to handle or hold hot objects (potholders, mug rugs, casserole carriers). If polyester batting is used, it must be sandwiched between layers of cotton batting.
11. Hand or machine appliqué must be secured to the backing fabric. A bonding material may be used to secure the pieces but **MUST** also be sewn down around the outside edges of the appliqué (unless a frayed design is part of the overall design).
12. All quilts, wall hangings and sewn items should be labeled to include size, pattern name, fiber content, washing instructions, and techniques used (hand or machine pieced, hand or machine quilted).

WEAVING AND EMBROIDERY:

1. Quilting and sewing standards apply to all piecework items.
2. Pre-stamped designs, kits, or pillow panels are not allowed.
3. Stitches should be even, with starting and ending threads properly finished.
4. Embroidery thread should not show through from underneath (as crossing from one place to another).
5. Loose threads should be clipped and the finished article well pressed and clean.
6. When two or more pieces of fabric are to be joined, they are to be joined by sewing together. When work is mounted, no puckers should be visible.
7. Labels should include materials and care instructions.
8. Selvages must be even.
9. Pattern mistakes must be properly corrected
10. Natural fibers are preferred, but high quality synthetics having a natural appearance may be used.
11. Place mats should be prewashed. Sets of 2, 4, 6, or 8 sell better.
12. Clothing should be neatly constructed and finished.
13. Pieces should be labeled: type of yarn, cleaning and drying instructions, pattern name and size.

NEEDLE FELTING/ FELTING

1. Items must be neatly finished and constructed.
2. Items should show good proportions and sizing.
3. Labels must show fiber content and care instructions.
4. Items should show expertise and knowledge of technique of needle felting and the felting process.

3. Other Arts/Crafts: Books, 2-D Art (Photographs, Painting, & Prints), Jewelry, Stained Glass, Toile/Decorative Painting,

BOOKS OR OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS

1. Items must be of original writing by artist and art work must not be computer clip art. Art work needs to reflect the subject of the writing.
2. Paper must be of good quality and weight (Min 25lb weight)
Preferably all items should be hand bound, but this is not required for cookbooks.

2-D ART (PHOTOGRAPHS, PAINTING, PRINTS)

1. The size of framed work accepted depends on the available wall space in the shop.
2. Unframed works needs to be displayed on a larger size foam or heavy poster board and needs plastic wrap or self-sealing cellophane for protection.
3. No visible eraser marks.
4. All items must be signed by artist.
5. Due to space constraints, no duplicate image should be displayed.
6. All work must be original by the artist.

JEWELRY:

1. Plastic beads are NOT allowed.
2. Materials must be of good quality, including fitting. No chips, ragged or broken edges.
3. Stringing materials must be of good, strong quality.
4. Strung materials must be snug and sturdy.
5. Beaded jewelry must be securely tied so that it will not come apart.
6. Contents must be stated on each item, i.e. sterling, nickel, gold. Stones must be identified.
7. All fasteners must be secure and easy to open and close.
8. Jewelry made with fabric, or using fabric as a part, must have the fastener sewn to the fabric. Glue is not allowed to join fabric to metal.

STAINED GLASS:

1. Designs should show originality, kits are not allowed. Copyrighted designs are not allowed unless a letter of release from the copyright holder is on file in the Shop's office.
2. Pieces must be free from sharp edges on foil or solder.
3. Glass should be free from chips or cracks.
4. Smooth solder joints are required.
5. Came should fit glass tightly or be puttied so no holes show.

6. Plastic is allowed but only as a functional part of the item such as a night light.
7. Design painted on glass is permitted if it is artist's original work.

DECORATIVE PAINTING/SURFACE DESIGN:

1. Paint in large areas must be smooth and evenly applied.
2. Details should show a consistent point of light, and colors should be well blended. Amount of detail should be adequate to show realism but should not be overdone.
3. There should not be stray brush marks.
4. Line work should be straight and of consistent thickness.
5. All strokes in tole painting should have good tails.
6. The subject of the painting should be appropriate to the material on which it is painted.
7. The label should indicate whether or not the item can be safely displayed outdoor, as well as give care instructions.
8. Tole painting is done on metal, wood, cloth, stone and other natural medium. Items may be purchased by the Crafter, but must be of obvious high quality in keeping in like items in shop.
9. Items should demonstrate high level of expertise in brush stroke and floating of color.

FRAMING

1. Wood or metal only- no plastic or press wood.
2. We prefer dark shades of wood or metal for the color of frames.
3. All frames must hang with picture wire.

4. Pottery/Sculptural

POTTERY: WHEEL-THROWN, AND HANDBUILT: FUNCTIONAL:

1. Bottoms should be carefully finished, trimmed and smooth, with no cracks.
2. All rims and edges must be smooth, including those on carved designs.
3. Look for sharp "pills" of clay on the surfaces that might cut and file down. On glazed and stilted bottoms, stilt marks must be removed.
4. Aim for even thickness in the walls and bottom.
5. Any handles must be strong enough to support the weight of the pot and the weight of its contents.
6. Pots should be signed by the potter with a smooth signature.
7. The use of any **lead, lead frits, barium carbonate or metallic compounds** in the glaze is strictly forbidden. The ONLY exception to this is RAKU where these elements are a part of the process and responsible for the characteristics of this ware. Raku pots, low-fired clay, earthenware, cone 5 and under must be labeled "NOT FOR USE WITH FOOD." They should be labeled to "Dry Completely before Storing and Protect all Fine Surfaces because of Sweating".
8. Strive for a good relationship between weight and design. In other words: after looking at a piece, does the weight of it coincide with your visual presumption?
9. Should indicate if, or if not, microwave, dishwasher and oven safe.

SCULPTURAL:

1. This would include anything made with clay/wood and other medium that is intended to only serve as a visual piece of artwork.
2. The bottoms must be smooth, so as not to scratch any surface with which they may come in contact.
3. All surfaces and edges should be smooth enough that they would not easily cut.
4. Any bases used with the piece need to be securely attached to the sculpture.
5. The subject matter must be deemed appropriate by the Acceptance and Standards Committee for our sales floor.

5. Polymer Clay Guidelines

1. No cracks, gaps, burn marks or blistering.
2. Objects that are added to a piece must be made of a natural material, i.e. wood, glass or clay.
3. Free-standing sculptures must not wobble or rock.
4. Painting on a piece can be done for only very small detail, i.e. eyelashes, eye highlights. The skill to work in polymer clay is reflected in the use of the colored clays as the source of the color and detail, not paint.
5. Cane-working should have little distortion or smearing.
6. If wire or foil are used for armatures in a sculpted piece, they should not be at all visible in the finished product.
7. All pieces must be properly cured in an oven in full accordance with instructions for the type of polymer clay you are using.

6. Mixed Media:

1. Mixed media items must meet pre-existing standards for previously described categories.
2. Any material used that are not previously described must be approved by standards committee.
3. Any example of mixed media may include collage, embellished paper or fabric, and may contain metal, ceramics, stone, natural material, etc.