

Creative Hand 2008

Information and Guidelines for NEW Creative Hand Artists

CREATIVE HAND OBJECTIVES: The show's objective is to highlight the unique work of individuals within the guild. The show has developed a loyal following of customers that have come to appreciate and expect from our membership the highest quality of hand crafted, artistically superior products. To maintain this reputation, the focus of our sale is on high quality of work in terms of both artistic expression and craftsmanship. In general, the show emphasizes items that are unique, not items that are mass-produced. This is not a mall craft show; it is an artistic show exemplifying the artist's Creative Hand.

CREATIVE HAND PRODUCT GUIDELINES: The show is primarily a fiber show but other items are acceptable.

- **Fiber-related items** include (but are not limited to):
 1. hand woven fabric, garments, accessories, home décor
 2. hand knitted, crocheted, tatted, and/or other needle-worked garments, trims, accessories, home décor
 3. felted fabric, garments, accessories, home décor
 4. sewn and/or quilted garments, accessories, home décor
 5. hand spun yarns
 6. natural color fibers and roving
 7. hand dyed fibers, roving, yarns, fabric, garments, accessories
 8. original fiber art or wall hangings.
- **Other items:** Our customer base has come to expect the availability of items such as: Jewelry, Hand Made Soaps, Ceramics, Baskets, and Note Cards/Stationery. These items will be accepted into the show assuming these items follow the same quality and artistic guidelines as the fiber-related products. Guild members are encouraged to submit a variety of items to the sale, both fiber-related and non fiber-related. This will create a well-rounded offering to our customer base.
- **Re-packaging:** Simply re-packaging fiber raw materials and/or products is not acceptable.
- **KITS offered for sale:** Kits can be offered for sale if the contents of the kit are the original creation of the artist (example: instructions must be the artist's own interpretation, not just copied from the Internet or other printed material, list of web-sites is ok, follow copyright laws as outlined below in "Copyright Law"). Kits must be packaged attractively and must not compete with other fiber products for sale (example: displaying the kit in a purchased basket competes with the hand-made baskets offered for sale). Using plastic bags to package kits is acceptable; just pick the plain ones with no brand names printed on them.

CREATIVE HAND PRODUCT DISCUSSION: As a new Artist to Creative Hand, your products will be evaluated by the Jury Committee to ensure your products will fit appropriately within the Creative Hand show. This will ensure Creative Hand can maintain our goal of providing our customers with high-quality artistic products (see "Creative Hand Objectives" above.) Sometime before the show, Sandy Cahill will contact you to schedule this evaluation. If you desire the evaluation before you submit your application, please contact Sandy to arrange a meeting:

- Sandy Cahill: (816) 505-5507 home cahill5505@sbcglobal.net; sandycahill@beweaveme.net; (913) 709-1923 cell.

Sandy and the Set-Up Chairperson will also review items as they are brought to the show.

COPYRIGHT LAW: Creative Hand requires all show entrants to observe restrictions of published copyright laws. It is the responsibility of the show entrant to look for the published copyright restrictions and follow them. Generally, copyright restrictions state that a commercial pattern is for personal use, not intended for re-sale; or that the published instructions cannot be re-produced without permission of the copyright holder.

1. Commercial sewing patterns may have copyright restrictions published within the company literature: example Vogue "This pattern is to be used for home sewing only."
2. Knitting patterns may have a copyright restriction like this Alice Starmore pattern: "The knitwear designs contained in this book are not to be knitted for resale or any other commercial purpose."
3. Published instructions may have a copyright restriction something like: "These instructions may not be re-produced without expressed written consent from the copyright holder."

CREATIVE HAND PRODUCT GUIDELINES:

- **Original Work:** Products offered for sale will be created by the artist featuring creative and artistic expressions that make our products unique as outlined in the show objectives on page 1. This is the most important aspect of our show. Commercial fabrics and patterns may be used, but caution must be observed with respect to copyright laws as outlined on page 1. Items made from commercial kits or molds will not be accepted.
 1. Example of UNACCEPTABLE: Purchase commercial fabric, commercial vest pattern and buttons, make a vest using the pattern pieces provided and following the pattern instructions exactly.
 2. Example of ACCEPTABLE: Improve the artistic value of the finished vest by altering the pattern and adding your own artistic expression, such as: use hand woven, hand dyed, or hand felted fabric; add artistic embellishments or hand made buttons, alter the pattern and/or combine with other patterns.
- **Craftsmanship:** Products offered for sale must be made by the artist using a level of competent workmanship and craftsmanship. The quality of craftsmanship for EVERY ITEM reflects upon the entire show. Products brought to the show that exhibit an excellent level of workmanship will be offered for sale; items of inferior level of workmanship will not be displayed.
- **Raw Materials:** Products offered for sale must be made using high quality raw materials. With new technologies, “natural” fibers are not the only acceptable high quality materials. Typically, materials purchased from fiber arts suppliers can safely be considered high quality and acceptable. If you use inferior quality raw materials, you quite often get what you pay for. Where possible, purchase the highest quality raw materials available. Products made using high quality materials will be offered for sale; products made using inferior quality materials will not be displayed.
 1. Example of UNACCEPTABLE: replicating a mass-market scarf by hand knitting it in the exact in-expensive yarn and technique of this commercially available product. If a customer wants one of these scarves, they can buy it at Target or even the grocery store.
 2. Example of ACCEPTABLE: Improve the artistic value of the finished scarf by using that less expensive yarn and add your own artistic expression, such as: change the knitting technique exemplifying its character, add another accent yarn to the knitting, add embellishments to the scarf, create hand woven fabric using the yarn with another accent yarn.
 3. Example of ACCEPTABLE: Use the high quality yarns available from a fiber arts supplier. Assuming proper technique and adequate skill are applied to these high quality raw materials, your end product will be successful.
- **Technique:** Products offered for sale must be made with techniques and tools appropriate for the materials chosen by the artist. The combination of technique and material should fulfill the function of the finished article, such as durability and wear-ability. Products brought to the show that combine materials and techniques appropriately will be offered for sale; products that combine materials and techniques inappropriately will not be displayed.
 1. Example of UNACCEPTABLE: Socks knitted with a loosely spun yarn, felted bag that has large spaces in the felting, handwoven fabric that is too loose or too firm for the product it is made into, fringe that is untidy or “corkscrews”.
 2. Example of ACCEPTABLE: Appropriately matching the technique with the materials to make successful end products: Socks knitted with durable yarn in a small enough gauge to make the socks durable, make “tight” felt or put a lining in the “holey” bag, densely woven fabrics made into vests or pillows, loosely woven fabrics stabilized with interfacing, trim the fringe or hem the item.
- **Product Sale-ability:** Products offered for sale must be completely finished and ready for sale. It is the individual artist’s responsibility to present their products in the best possible sale-able condition. If the items need to be pressed, do this before bringing them to the show. Products will be clean and free of any offensive odors. Products brought to the show that are ready for sale will be offered for sale; those that are not ready for sale will not be displayed.
 1. Example of UNACCEPTABLE: threads hanging, unfinished edges, loose buttons; products that are dusty, dirty, or have an odor of smoke or moth balls.
 2. Example of ACCEPTABLE: finishing details completed; products free of dust and dirt; products free of offensive odors (please air-out or use FABREEZE before bringing items to the show).