



League of N.H. Craftsmen

League of NH Craftsmen

Standards Policies

Last Revised 2021

I. Introduction

- A. The purpose of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen (LNHC) Standards Program is to promote excellence in craftsmanship among individual independent craftspeople.
- B. The Standards Committee of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen is responsible for oversight of:
 - 1 The League of New Hampshire Craftsmen Standards Policies;
 - 2 The LNHC Standards Guidelines for each media as determined by the Standards Committee;
 - 3 The jury process; and
 - 4 The Review and the relevant Grievance Procedures.
- C. The Board of Trustees of the League of NH Craftsmen will only accept recommendations for changes to the Standards Policies from the Standards Committee. [Amending Standards Policies shall require a majority vote of the Board of Trustees and a 2/3 majority of the votes cast in a referendum of the juried members. A ballot presenting the desired amendments shall be mailed to said members no later than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Votes must be received at LNHC headquarters at least three (3) days before the date of the Annual Meeting. The results shall be announced at the Annual Meeting] as written in the Bylaws of April 1999.

II. Production Methods

- A. A craft studio/workshop is a place where objects are made by a juried member with or without assistants/apprentices via a process that allows individuals an opportunity to use their talent, skills, and intuition in the making of a craft object under the direction of a juried member.
- B. Juried members shall maintain significant hands-on involvement in the creation and production of each piece.
- C. The League's focus is on work made by hand by individual craftspeople. Commercial production methods, technological advancements, or automation used solely for high volume are not acceptable by LNHC standards; exceptions may be made if the juried member's work meets the criteria outlined in the LNHC Standards Guidelines for his/her media.
- D. LNHC defines a factory in two ways:
 - 1 A factory is a place where objects are produced using a system of division of labor and often employing automatic machines for production or assembly; and/or
 - 2 A factory is a place where manufactured elements are acquired by subcontract and assembled through an arbitrary system, which relies on a system of division of labor.
- E. Objects produced in a factory shall not be judged acceptable by a jury even if the item appears to be a "craft object" that adheres to the quality standards of that jury.
- F. Kits and objects made from kits are not acceptable craft objects, may not be juried, and, consequently, may not be presented through LNHC programs.
- G. A Juried partnership is defined as two or more craftspeople working together to create craft objects.

III. Jury Process

- A. Juried member status is awarded to craftspeople whose work is accepted by a jury of their peers.
- B. Jurors shall review the work of craftspeople to ensure adherence to LNHC Standards Policies and Media Guidelines and recommend for Conditional Acceptance to juried member status those craftspeople whose work meets or exceeds LNHC Standards. For those craftspeople whose work does not meet LNHC Standards, the jurors shall recommend Non-Acceptance. For those craftspeople whose work does not meet Standards, but shows exceptional promise, the jurors shall recommend Deferral. The jury provides an educational opportunity to craftspeople via the jurors' recommendations to improve the quality of their work.

- C. A jury comprises no fewer than two juried members who are accomplished craftspeople within a media which is relevant to the jury candidate. Whenever possible, three juried members shall sit on a jury or review panel.
- D. When a consultant juror is needed, he or she must be a current juried member with expert knowledge of a specialized field.
- E. The first two shipments of work of a newly juried member shall be reviewed and approved by jurors in an appropriate media. Conditional Acceptance will become Full acceptance after the successful reviews of all shipments.
- F. All work shown or sold under the name "League of New Hampshire Craftsmen" may be reviewed for cause to ensure adherence to LNHC Standards Policies and Media Guidelines by the Executive Director in accordance with the LNHC Review Procedure and the Response to Substandard Work protocol.
- G. Any craftsperson who feels he or she has been treated unfairly during the jury process may appeal the decision in a process outlined in the LNHC Grievance Procedure.
- H. If the work of a juried member changes significantly in technique or materials, that juried member must submit new work for review.
- I. If a juried member has not participated in the LNHC's exhibition or marketing programs for three years, that juried member is considered Inactive.
- J. Inactive juried members who wish to exhibit or market again must submit work to a jury for review.
- K. In the event of the dissolution of a juried partnership, each member must submit work for jury to continue juried member status.
- L. Juried member status is not transferable.
- M. If a juried member allows membership dues to become past due by four months or more, that membership will be considered lapsed.
- N. A juried member whose membership has lapsed is not considered a member in good standing and is not entitled to membership benefits.
- O. A juried member whose membership has lapsed for two years or more will lose juried member status.

IV. Participation by Juried Members

- A. Agreements between the League of NH Craftsmen, Inc. and the LNHC Local Councils/ Retail Galleries state that only juried members in good standing may participate in LNHC programs.
- B. Statewide member status is required in order to participate in more than one LNHC gallery or council.
- C. Local members may market their work only through the retail gallery of their Sponsor Local Council.

V. Residency

- A. To be eligible for juried member status, a craftsperson must be a primary, legal resident of New Hampshire or reside year-round in a town in Maine, Massachusetts, or Vermont, that has part of its town limits within ten miles of the New Hampshire border.
- B. State juried members who move outside of the LNHC residence requirement area may continue to maintain juried status if they have been active in LNHC programs at least ten years. State juried members who move outside of the LNHC residence-requirement area and who have not met the ten-year status requirement may be granted continued membership at the discretion of the Standards Committee. State juried members must submit a request in writing to the Standards Committee Chairperson. Consideration will be given to juried members who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the League. Criteria that would warrant consideration include: participation in more than one of the marketing venues (Exhibitions at LNHC Headquarters, any of the Retail Galleries, the Annual Fair at Mt. Sunapee; the Capital Arts Fest); membership and participation on one of the LNHC Committees; serving as a Juror in their respective medium.
- C. Juried members who have been active in the LNHC's exhibition programs who no longer meet residence requirements are given a grace period of eighteen months to remove their work from the LNHC marketing system.