



League of NH Craftsmen
49 South Main Street, Suite 100
Concord, NH 03303
603-224-3375 nhleague@nhcrafts.org
NHCRAFTS.ORG

The League of New Hampshire Craftsmen consider three primary areas of expertise for State Jury status. As well as technical proficiency and aesthetics, the jurors evaluate "**Spirit of the Maker**".

Spirit of the Maker is what makes each craftsperson's work truly their own.

Spirit of the Maker goes beyond technique and shows attention to detail in every aspect of the work.

Spirit of the Maker is the catalyst that brings technical proficiency and aesthetics to life.

Spirit of the Maker is respect; respect for materials and tools; respect for those who have helped nurture and inspire you and for those who you will help nurture and inspire in the future.

Spirit of the Maker is part dedication, part humanity, part personal vision and all important.

Spirit of the Maker is the heartfelt need to simply make good art. Your creations must come from the heart if you want them to work.

STANDARDS CRITERIA FOR BOTANICALS

League standards for dried floral and herbal arrangements require that the materials used be fundamentally transformed, resulting in finished work which demonstrates technical fluency, integrity of intent and result and a spirited sense of personal vision.

The consideration of dried arrangements as a League juried craft refers to the entire process of growing, preserving, and designing. The emphasis is on hand processing and individual design. Jurors will expect to see examples of work showing proficiency in growing, preserving, and assembling dried plant materials. A heavy reliance on commercial materials and trimming, such as ribbons, bows or commercial components will not be considered appropriate.

A harmony of intent, process and result is the measure of successful work.

Technical Guidelines:

1. Construction methods such as twining, wiring and wrapping are encouraged.
2. While use of glue is not encouraged, it may sometimes be an appropriate method of construction. If glue is used, its use must be carefully controlled and hidden.
3. While floral arrangement is an aspect of this craft, the League looks for, and strongly encourages, work with an individual and personal perspective. The jurors always look for a special presence, unique to the individual maker, which sets the work apart.
4. The balance of color is of great importance, as are the forms and shapes of the plant material, and overall composition of the piece.
5. This craft has both aesthetic and technical considerations. Unlike many other crafts, dried arrangements are not permanent. The League expects that craftspeople will be knowledgeable about the growing habits of plants and skills needed to preserve the materials, and to maximize their durability and color retention.
6. Structural components, such as wreath forms, must be of highest quality, and be carefully camouflaged.

Use of bases:

1. In arrangements where the supporting base (bowl, vase, basket, etc.) is a significant visual component of the piece as a whole, the base must be the work of a juried League craftsperson.
2. In arrangements where the base is primarily hidden, and is used exclusively to support the dried arrangement, the base must be simple and of good quality. No commercially made baskets may be used.

Commercial Production Techniques

The League's focus is on work made by hand by individual craftspeople. Commercial production methods used solely for speed or high volume are not acceptable by League Standards, although exceptions may be made. Craftspeople who utilize machine assisted production methods must maintain an extremely high level of originality and expressiveness of design. The juried craftsperson must create the imagery, color choices, and design.

Truth in Labeling:

Work made by the individual state juried craftsperson may be personally signed or stamped. Craftspeople are encouraged to permanently sign or stamp their work, and to provide supplemental materials that educate the public on craft and process. Labeling must comply with League state and juried standards.

Standards Guidelines for Juried Work - Applicable to all media categories

Components and Accessories

Components or accessories are parts that are not made in the studio of the juried LNHC member, which are incorporated into craft objects. Such components and/or accessories are acceptable and appropriate only if: they are of high-quality construction and materials; they do not visually dominate the finished object; and they would not be reasonably interpreted, based upon appearance, as objects created by juried LNHC members.

Health and Safety Guidelines

The craftsperson is responsible for assurance that craftwork meets all federal, state, and local health and safety requirements.