



League of NH Craftsmen  
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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 RUG BRAIDING

League standards for rug braiding require that the materials be fundamentally transformed by the craftsperson into finished work that demonstrates technical fluency, integrity of intent and result, and a spirited sense of personal vision.

These guidelines cover rugs, mats and trivets, wall hangings, accessories, or other objects. Requirements vary based on the type, design, and intended use.

Successful rug braiding pieces are made from high quality materials appropriate for their primary function whether expressive, decorative or utilitarian. The League accepts both traditional and innovative rug braiding.

### Technical Guidelines:

1. Applicants must present pieces which demonstrate a good sense of color, technical mastery (spiral method and/or all-butted method) as well as an individual style. If one's body of work includes rugs, one of the pieces must be a rug at least a total of 6 sq. ft. and demonstrate a shape other than oval or round. If the applicant uses both the spiral method and the all-butted method, then each technique must be well represented in the pieces brought to jury.
2. Pieces must demonstrate evenness, consistency, control, and mastery of braiding, lacing and finishing. The outside edges should be even and straight and not show any open folds.
3. The finished product must be made from high quality materials suitable for the intended purpose. Enhancements to the finished piece (hanging supports, garment findings, purchased components) must be well made and not dominate the work.

### 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. 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.