



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 HOOKING

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

League standards look for originality in all craft media. The work must demonstrate more than technical proficiency, more than the reproduction of a recognized style; it should express the personal aesthetic and vision of the maker, and demonstrate a coherent stylistic development, with every attention to color, detail, design, function, and finish.

Technical Guidelines:

1. Materials chosen for a hooked piece, whether intended for hanging or placed on the floor, should be of good quality and appropriate for the purpose.
2. The surface should be consistent with the pattern motif.
3. To insure long wearing quality, edges of the hooked piece must be finished, i.e. whipped and/or bound, especially for rugs.
4. Hand dyeing of hooking materials is strongly encouraged.
5. Although using pre-printed patterns is allowable, for reasons listed in the first two paragraphs, their use is discouraged.

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.