



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 CONTEMPORARY ARTIST DOLLS

League standards for artist dolls require that the materials be fundamentally transformed by the artist; resulting finished work demonstrates technical fluency, integrity of intent and result and a spirited sense of personal vision.

An artist doll is an artistic expression of an animate form, conceived by the artist and constructed in a variety of media. The resulting work should meet the criteria of other fine craft pieces, a pleasurable combination of line form and color, or a visual social statement, an expression of the artist's intent.

The League recognizes that artist dolls are often multimedia in nature, and may come in a variety of materials, including, but not limited to clay, wood, synthetic clays, wax, composition, resin, cloth, paper, corn husks and other natural materials. Regardless of the material, the criteria above will apply.

Technical Guidelines:

1. Dolls should reflect a strong, consistent, and original stylistic development. Applicant should present a body of work (6-12 pieces) that demonstrates range and ability.
2. Clothing and accessories should fit and enhance the form in a way that is integral to the function and expression of the piece.
3. Any purchased parts used must be necessary to the work, be of highly quality, and not dominate the work.
4. No commercial molds or commercial patterns may be used. The original must be made by the artist.
5. The doll must demonstrate overall quality craftsmanship, construction, and materials. Dolls that are meant to be moveable or posable should function as intended.
6. Toys and children's dolls must meet Federal safety guidelines.

Limited Editions:

The League's focus is on work made by hand by individual craftspeople. Commercial production methods used solely for highly volume are not acceptable for League standards, although exceptions may be made. especially if the following criteria are met:

The work has an extremely high level of originality and expressiveness in design. The original model for the master mold must be made by the state juried craftspeople. Items are numbered and limited in quantity. Handcrafted accessories (i.e. baskets) created for individual artist dolls do not need to be separately juried. However, if they are to be produce separately from the doll they must meet the standards criteria for that category of craftwork and be approved by the appropriate state media jury.

Truth in Labeling:

All artist dolls should be signed by the artist. Labeling must comply with League state and juried standards. Crafts people are encouraged to provided supplemental materials that educate the public on craft and process.

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