



NURTURING THE VERMONT ARTIST SINCE 1955

Welcome to the Vermont Hand Crafters Jury Process

VERMONT HAND CRAFTERS was incorporated in 1955 and is the oldest and largest juried craft organization in the state. This 200 member not-for-profit organization of Vermont residents is dedicated to the education, promotion and sale of high quality Vermont crafts. The current membership represents a broad spectrum of artisans. Many of our members are full or part-time professional artisans while others enjoy their craft as a creative outlet or moneymaking hobby.

WHAT WE DO:

HOLIDAY FINE CRAFT & ART SHOW: Vermont Hand Crafters produces this premier three-day, annual event the week before Thanksgiving at the Sheraton Conference Center, South Burlington, Vermont. This is the largest and oldest Juried Show of Vermont-only artists in the state. The quality and reputation of this event draws thousands of customers from across the state and greater New England.

WEBSITE: Our website provides the consumer with year round access to our members by providing contact information, product pictures and links to members' sites.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Vermont Hand Crafters offers college scholarships to Vermont residents wishing to continue their education in an arts-related field. These scholarships are offered in cooperation with the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation.

MARKETING & PROMOTION: Vermont Hand Crafters works to develop and coordinate marketing opportunities for its members. We provide public education and promotion about crafts and their value to the economy.

NEWSLETTER: A newsletter is mailed to members three to four times a year and monthly Board of Directors minutes, keeping members up to date on the organization, member activities, and marketing opportunities throughout the state of Vermont.

Vermont Hand Crafters Board of Directors

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JURY CRITERIA

The members of Vermont Hand Crafters support and encourage high quality work. Customers at VHC sales venues expect high quality, and support these standards with their continued attendance and purchases.

**The following criteria must be met:*

Applicants must be legal residents of Vermont.

Work must be original, show artistic proficiency, quality workmanship, and knowledgeable use of materials.

Work must fit within an acceptable medium category. See the medium category list below.

Designs must be original and must be developed by the applicant. An exception is made for traditional work, such as quilt and other needlework patterns.

Work must be produced by the applicant, and no more than two production employees or assistants.

Work which is one-of-a-kind or limited edition is encouraged.

**The following criteria describes unacceptable work:*

Work produced using commercial kits, commercially-produced pre-assembled elements, or reproductions of other artists' designs, whether copyrighted or not.

Work executed in a manner that indicates unsuccessful processing steps or incomplete finishing details.

Work that may raise health or safety concerns in relation to normal or recommended use for the item.



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MEDIA CATEGORIES:

Botanicals, dried flowers (products made from materials found in nature)

Pottery

Digital Art (still and moving)

Fiber Decorative (includes fiber arts, basketry)

Fiber Wearable (includes clothing and accessories)

Fine Art

Glass (includes functional and decorative products)

Jewelry

Leather (includes functional and decorative products)

Metal (includes functional and decorative products)

Mixed Media (includes alternative or recycled materials)

Paper

Personal care products (includes soaps, lotions)

Photography

Print-making

Specialty foods, including edible art

Wax (includes functional and decorative products)

Wood (includes functional and decorative products)



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JURY PROCESS:

After the applications are examined, notification of results will be sent within two weeks. The next jury session will be held on June 14, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Conference Center in South Burlington. Applicants who are invited to participate in the VHC hands-on jury will receive more detailed information, including location.

Applicants who are invited to the hands-on jury should bring *no less than five* and *no more than eight* pieces. The pieces presented do not have to be the same ones submitted with the application, but must be in the same medium.

The hands-on jury consists of members of VHC who work in the mediums under consideration. Discussion during the jury process and jury results are always confidential.

While the jury is in session, new applicants meet with the Show Director for an information and orientation session. Information will be provided about membership and show participation. There will be plenty of time for questions. Applicants are encouraged to bring lunch, snacks and beverages, as the jury session may last for a few hours. When the jury completes its evaluation, applicants leave with their products.

Results will be mailed within two weeks. Applicants who are successfully juried in will receive a membership application. Membership dues are \$60 per year. When the membership application and fee are received new members will then receive show applications, which include booth information and costs. Show placement is determined by postmark date of show applications.

Applicants not selected for the hands-on jury, or applicants denied acceptance after the hands-on jury, will be offered suggestions and feedback that may be helpful in order to reapply. In some instances a conditional acceptance is offered, with specific recommendations and criteria.



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JURY APPLICATION:

Completed applications are accepted at any time and jury sessions will be announced as they are scheduled. A \$40.00 non-refundable jury fee, in check or money order, must accompany the application. Current members must send a \$20.00 non-refundable jury fee.

Applications must be accompanied by a detailed description of materials and processes, on a separate sheet. Applicants must describe the tools and materials that are used, each step in the design and production process, and the function of any paid or unpaid employees or assistants.

Applications must include one set of five photos showing examples of the work produced by the materials and processes described above. The photos do not need to be professionally done, but should be clear representations of the work. Slides and CDs are not acceptable. Photos will not be returned.

Applications must include a biography which should describe education, apprenticeships, awards, and other pertinent information that illustrates progression of the applicant's skills.

Completed applications must be sent to **Vermont Hand Crafters, P.O. Box 1184, Williston, VT 05495.**

Applications must be typed or printed legibly.

NAME (as it is to appear in all VHC materials) _____

Business/studio name _____

Mailing address _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Web site _____

Media Category _____

(If applying in more than one category, a separate application, fee and process description sheet must be submitted for each category.)

Product Description _____

Number of Production Employees _____

Are you a current member of VHC? _____

Have you ever applied to VHC before? _____ If yes, when? _____ What medium or product? _____

Have you ever been a member of VHC before? _____ If yes, when? _____ What medium or product? _____

How did you find out about us? _____

Do you belong to any other art organizations? _____ If yes, please list: _____

TESTAMENT:

PO BOX 1184 WILLISTON, VERMONT 05495
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I certify that the items submitted by me for this jury are representative of the products and quality of work that I would be exhibiting for sale during any marketing opportunities offered by Vermont Hand Crafters. I further attest that the work presented is crafted by me and does not originate from a kit nor is it made from commercially available patterns or molds.

I understand that upon acceptance as a member of VHC, I would be allowed to sell or exhibit only the craft and products presented here for the jury. Should I wish to produce a substantially different craft within the same medium, or work in a different medium, I would be required to present that work for jury. I agree the products I submit for jury into VHC may be photographed at the jury and that these, and the photos that I submit with my VHC membership application, may be used for promotional purposes.

I also certify that I am a legal resident of the state of Vermont.

Signature _____ Date _____

Postmark date _____

Check or money order number _____