



Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen

Standards Jury Session Information

Standards Jury Session Schedule:

Spring 2024 - May 13, 2024

**Application, samples and jury fee
must be received by **May 1, 2024****

Fall 2024 – September 9, 2024

**Application, samples and jury fee
must be received by **August 30, 2024****

Shipping Address:

Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen
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STANDARDS JURY INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

The Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen is an organization of professional level artists and craftspeople. Exacting standards of excellence are required for Exhibiting Membership.

KGAC's jury process is intended to *include* those whose work is of exemplary quality. The standards level applied to jurying is solely that of this organization and its jurors. It is not based on the levels of any other organizations or groups.

KGAC may hold several Standards Jury Sessions per year. Special sessions may be held at the discretion of the Board. Additional application forms, complete current Standards policies, and specific information about delivery and return of work can be requested from the KGAC.

Each submission to the KGAC Standards Jury process is judged on its own merit. Consistent design, workmanship and overall excellence are essential. The submitted work must be representative of the applicants' best efforts, both creatively and technically.

**** Applicants to the KGAC Standards Jury process must live in Kentucky or within 50 miles one of Kentucky's border states.**

Application is made in one of the following categories – select the one that best describes how you work:

Individual – A single artist or craftsperson producing his/her own work.

Designer/Craftsperson – A single artist or craftsperson who employs a limited number of people who work directly under his/her supervision in the production of work to be sold under the artist's/craftsperson's name

Associated – A group of individuals who work together to produce a single type of work.
(This does not include families in which various members are involved with different media

KGAC Standards Jury Procedure:

Jurors are selected from among the KGAC Exhibiting Membership by the Standards Committee and approved by the KGAC Board of Trustees. The Standards Committee and/or the Board may select jurors from outside KGAC as needed.

To be accepted as an Exhibiting Member, work must meet established levels for both design and craftsmanship. An entry that does not pass **may** be recommended for the KGAC Mentor Program.

- **Design** (creativity) – Basic design excellence – function, personal expression, honesty, suitability, creativity, innovation and aesthetic quality; established design integrity.
- **Craftsmanship** (technical expertise) – Technical competency required of all artists and craftspeople – skill, integrity, presentation, finishing and other aspects of good workmanship.

The Application Process involves filling out **two** forms:

- 1) **Standards Application** – to be submitted with \$35.00 entry fee, to be postmarked no later than the deadline date.
- 2) **Standards Jury Session Entry Form** – to be submitted with work when it is shipped or delivered for jurying.

You must submit these **two** forms and a \$35.00 Jury Fee **FOR EACH MEDIUM/CATEGORY YOU WISH TO JURY.**

Recommended Guidelines for Submitting Entries:

You should submit what you consider to be samples of your **BEST** work to the **KGAC Standards Jury Session**. Jurors will assume that your entry represents your best work. An entry is **five** sample items or **sets of items (see below)** of your work that are made in the same medium and category, using the same technique. Submit **additional** entries when technique or design is substantially different, even if they are in the same medium and category.

2D artists who work in more than one medium should submit five pieces for each medium, i.e. five watercolors, five oils, five pastels, acrylics, drawings, etc. **Each entry of five pieces is an additional application form and jury fee.**

Work employing techniques, styles, or materials that vary greatly should not be mixed within a single entry. As examples, the following should be submitted as two separate entries of five pieces each: weaving vs. knitting (techniques); large sculptural pieces vs. functional pottery (styles); jewelry created from wood vs. jewelry created from metal (materials).

Applicants who severely limit their entry by submitting five very similar pieces (i.e. all mugs, all scarves, etc.) may be passed, but the applicant will be advised that these item(s), (mugs, scarves), are the only item(s) for which the applicant has received KGAC Exhibiting status.

Sets of items, i.e. a pair of gloves or a necklace and earring set, would be considered one piece. Sets may consist of **up to three items** per set. Entries consisting of more than five pieces will not be juried, except as noted here. ****Submission of sets is not required; however, it is an option for applicants who feel submission of sets would better represent their work. *The total number of pieces or sets MUST always equal five (5). For example, an entry may consist of two SETS plus three individual pieces. Please call or email the KGAC Office if you need guidance regarding submission of SETS.***

Examples of Sets: 2D Triptychs; a set of jewelry (coordinated necklace and bracelet); a pottery place setting in the same glaze (plate, bowl, cup); coordinated clothing (hat, scarf, mittens OR jacket, skirt).

For Bath & Body Products: you may submit a set of five. Example: up to three soaps, up to three lotions, up to three bath salts, up to three body butter, up to three lip balms for a total of five sets of items.

Additional Suggestions:

1. **Enter five items that coordinate together as a cohesive grouping.**
Example: chest, table, chair, settee, rocker (all pieces of furniture)
2. **Balance variety with the showing of consistent craftsmanship.**
Example: Various color combinations of yarns.
Example: Different types of felted wearables, such as a hat, vest, tie, scarf, belt.

REMEMBER: If you submit only one type of item, such as hats, you will be allowed to exhibit *only* hats.

3. **Pay attention to details.**
Example: Make sure edges are finished.
Example: Clean off extraneous glue, solvents, etc.
Example: Send new pieces.

4. **Include written explanations of your work.**

Example: Give a complete written explanation of your work and attach it to the entry form. Include information about color inspirations, techniques used, explanations of any unusual use of common forms or techniques. This information helps the jurors interpret your work.

Example: The use of a patina on jewelry could be mistaken for tarnished work which could make the entry look old and not fresh. An explanation of the use of patina for effect will be understood and juried on its merits.

Displaying Work for Jurying:

1. **Keep the display simple but effective.**

Example: Use a velvet pad or colored paper as a background for jewelry. Keep the background neutral.

Example: If you have beautiful packaging as a part of your sales presentation, send a box for each entry. This is also a shipping benefit.

Note: Jurors need to see the back side of jewelry pieces, so putting jewelry on cards may be a hindrance to viewing the piece.

2. **Consider stands for sculptural pieces.**

Example: Include stands or displays used to support structural works or pieces that will be sold together.

Example: Send sculptural garden stakes in large clay pots filled with earth.

3. **Include frames with 2 Dimensional work.**

Example: Send frames that are professionally done and enhance the work. Jurors want to see your final presentation.

Additional Important Do's and Don'ts:

1. **Submit actual work only – slides are NOT accepted.**

2. **Remove identifying marks.** To assure, as much as possible, an anonymous jury process, KGAC requests that identifying marks (a signature or business name on any part of the piece), **must be removed or covered by the applicant.** If this is not done suitably, the pieces will not be juried.

3. **KGAC will accept 2D reproductions for jurying under the following circumstances:**

a. Exhibiting Members who are currently juried for 2D work (excluding Photography), may submit one reproduction and the original in their juried field to the **Derivative Work Review.**

The reproduction will be judged against the original for quality of printing workmanship.

b. Individuals who are not currently juried for 2D work and wish to be juried for reproductions must first pass the KGAC Standards Jury procedure with their original 2D work. Applicants should submit five pieces of original 2D work and a reproduction of *one* of those five. The five pieces of original work will be juried first. If this work passes, then the reproduction will be juried for its quality. **If you have included a reproduction along with your five originals to be juried, please complete a copy of the Standards Jury Session Entry Form for your reproduction, and include**

the form with your work when it is shipped/delivered. Otherwise, we cannot guarantee that the reproduction will be juried.

- c. **REPRODUCTIONS MUST BE PRINTED ON ACID-FREE PAPER, USING ARCHIVAL INKS (Inks of significant longevity).**
- d. Items such as note cards and calendars need not be juried as reproductions.

4. **Work that will not be considered for jurying:**

- a. Items made from or based on kits or commercial patterns.
- b. Items made from commercial molds (unless the mold itself was created by the applying craftsman).
- c. Commercial products or items purchased and decorated (such as t-shirts, purchased unfinished furniture).
- d. Work made from combining purchased commercial objects unless the commercial objects are minor, functional components of the overall design and craftsmanship.
- e. Dried flowers unless employed as part of an arrangement.
- f. Jewelry that consists only of strung beads that do not incorporate any handmade element.
- g. Classroom or student work.
- h. Work produced more than three (3) years ago.
- i. Posters.
- j. Digital impressions of appropriated images are not allowed. (Work that is not the artists' own: i.e. clip-art, downloaded paintings, prints, drawings, etc.)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION – SHIPPING/DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS

SHIPPING

Work can be shipped or personally delivered. Any work being shipped to KGAC for the jury session should be shipped to arrive no later than the deadline date. Entries shipped will be returned at the applicant's expense. KGAC will not be held responsible for any items broken during shipment. Items that are not hand-delivered will be returned via the applicants' pre-paid choice of carrier. You must provide appropriate and sufficient packing materials, along with specific instructions for packing, if necessary. The shipping cost (plus insurance) and pre-addressed mailing label(s), along with instructions regarding insurance, etc., must be included with the work when it is delivered to the KGAC office.

KGAC will take the utmost care of your work while it is at the office and at the Standards Jury Session. KGAC will not be responsible for any loss or damage while the work is in our care. All insurance coverage is the responsibility of the artists.

DELIVERY and PICKUP

If you state on your application that you will be delivering your work for the jury session, please call the office at (859) 986-3192 or email us at kgacinfo@gmail.com to schedule a drop off time. Pick-up dates and times will be pre-arranged by the KGAC Office.

KGAC STANDARDS JURY SESSION RESULTS

KGAC Standards Jury Session results will be mailed from the office within two (2) weeks. No results can be given by phone. Jury results will include a copy of the jurors' checklist comment form and written comments. Applicants whose work does not pass KGAC's Standards Jury process may be referred to the Mentor Program. Mentors are volunteers selected from KGAC's Exhibiting Membership. If a Mentor is recommended, Mentors can assist the applicant (for a specified amount of time), in understanding how to bring his/her work to the standards required by KGAC.

CHECKLIST:

- 1. The *Standards Jury Application*, along with jurying fees, must be postmarked no later than the deadline date posted at the beginning of this form.**
- 2. We only accept actual samples of your work to be juried; photographs of your work will not be accepted. Work to be shipped must arrive in the KGAC office no later than the deadline date posted at the beginning of this form. If you are dropping off your work at the office, please contact us prior to make arrangements. kgacinfo@gmail.com (859) 986-3192**
- 3. The *Standards Jury Session Entry Form* is to be delivered along with your work.**
- 4. If the work is to be shipped back, include your return address label, return shipping and insurance fees.**
- 5. All pieces of work must be labeled with corresponding item number. Applicant names are to be covered with tape, paper, sticker, etc.**