VERMONT HAND CRAFTERS INC.

INSPIRING, NURTURING, AND PROMOTING THE CREATIVE COMMUNITY OF FINE CRAFTS AND ARTS IN VERMONT

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.

Member benefits include:

CRAFT VERMONT 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. As a VHC member, you have the opportunity to participate in this event.

EASTERN STATES EXHIBITION (THE BIG E): As a member of Vermont Hand Crafters you could be invited to sell your work at the VHC Gallery located in the Vermont Building at the Big E in West Springfield, MA. The Big E is an eighty-five year old all New England fair with a history of 114,000 people attending per day.

CAPITAL REGIONAL VISITOR CENTER: As a member of Vermont Hand Crafters you have the opportunity to have your work for sale on a rotating basis at the Capital Regional Visitor Center, in Montpelier, VT.

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: Each year Vermont Hand Crafters offers scholarships to members wishing to continue their professional development in the field of visual arts.

MARKETING & PROMOTION: Vermont Hand Crafters works to develop and coordinate marketing opportunities for its members, such as ongoing promotion of member's work and art activities via social media. We provide public education and promotion about crafts and their value to the economy.

Meta Strick
Jury Co-Chair
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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 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.

PO Box 1184 Williston, Vermont 05495
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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 (all mediums)

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 (limited)

Wax (includes functional and decorative products)

Wood (includes functional and decorative products)

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JURY PROCESS:

Applicants who are invited to participate in the VHC hands-on jury will receive more detailed information, including time and location. Applicants must arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the jury session.

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 excel in their fields and understand the criteria and quality expected for membership in VHC. Discussion during the jury process and jury results are always confidential.

While the jury is in session, new applicants meet with the Director of Events 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 $75 per year. When the membership application and fee are received, new members will then receive applications to all available opportunities.

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 taken, but should be clear representations of the work. Slides and CDs are not acceptable. Photos will not be returned.

Applications must include a copy of your current VT State driver's license or proof of residence, and 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)_____

2017 Jury Date applying for: (please circle) April 13, 3pm-5pm June 8, 3pm-5pm August 10, 3pm-5pm October 12, 3pm-5pm

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 learn about us? _____

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

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TESTAMENT:

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 and have included proof of residency.

Signature_____ Date _____

Postmark date_____

Check or money order number_____

- ☐ Proof of residency
- ☐ Detailed description of materials and processes
- ☐ Five photos showing examples of the work
- ☐ Biography including description of education, apprenticeships, awards, and other pertinent information

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