



## Membership Information

Thank you for your interest in becoming an exhibiting member of Charleston Crafts. Before you fill out your membership application, please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with our organization and the requirements of an exhibiting member. Included is an overview of the jury process.

### Organizational Statement

The organization will exhibit and offer for sale, original fine craft designed and executed by member artists. All exhibiting member craftspersons/artists/artisans will reside within the state of South Carolina. The organization will focus on the public exhibit and display of the member artists' work to showcase current craftwork being produced in the Charleston area and throughout the state of South Carolina.

The purpose of the organization will be to:

- Promote current and former South Carolina crafts artists
- Operate a retail Gallery featuring the work of juried members in fine craft, traditional media, and fine production lines produced by South Carolina crafts artists.
- Serve as a professional organization for regional crafts artists offering peer support, educational opportunities, and information.
- Serve as an educational resource for area community and school groups
- Encourage excellence in crafts
- Promote crafts awareness and education.

### About Charleston Crafts

We began in 1989 as a pilot project of Piccolo Spoleto at the garage at 14 George Street. Through hurricanes and other major and minor disasters, we have persevered as a group committed to craft art and crafts artists. We moved to 38 Queen Street in March of 1991 then to 87 Hasell in October of 1998. Finally, in October of 2009 we moved to our current location on 161 Church Street. Throughout the year, we participate in and sponsor community outreach and educational programs to encourage awareness and knowledge of fine crafts. By being an active member of this organization, you will receive the benefits of peer support, professional education and a unique showcase for your work as you further the goals of the organization. We also work cooperatively with many area municipal and public organizations as a resource and supporting organization for the craft arts.

### Membership Dues

**Exhibiting:** \$125.00 first six months (including administrative fee), \$75.00 for each subsequent six-month time period. Due January 1 and July 1 of each calendar year. Dues may also be paid annually for 12 months on January 1 of each calendar year.

*Associate:* \$20.00 for 12 month period due January 1 of each calendar year.

## **Membership Categories**

### ***Exhibiting:***

- Exhibits work in shop at 30% commission.
- Has full membership privileges and one vote.
- Works 1 day each 28-day period (or 2 half days). If unable to work during a period, a staffing fee of \$50.00 (in advance) to enable the Co-op to hire someone to work in their place. (This should not be a regular occurrence.)
- Serves on a committee
- Helps with the Piccolo Spoleto Crafts Fair
- Receives discounted show fees

### ***Exhibiting , Non-staffing (Category closed since 8/94).***

- Exhibits work in shop at 50% commission
- Has full membership privileges and one vote
- Serves on a committee.

### ***Associate:***

- Has membership privileges without a vote
- May serve on a committee
- Group exhibit invitations

## **Selection Process**

Anyone that supports the organizational goals may be an associate member. In order become an exhibiting member, your work must be accepted through the selection process of peer jury. The selection committee is comprised of members at large who serve on a rotating basis. Selection is by actual work. 3-5 pieces in each media must be submitted.

A score card will be used to rate each body of work. Scores will be averaged. The work must have a minimum average total score of 5 to be accepted. Borderline scores may be accepted at the discretion of the Gallery Committee. Other criteria may be applied: space constraints within the gallery, balance of media and style within the gallery, and ability of member to perform membership responsibilities.

You may elect to receive a copy of the averaged score card with comments. Results will be mailed to you within 5 days of the session.

## **Selection Criteria**

Charleston Crafts is committed to maintaining a high standard of quality in all works. The following criteria are applied to ALL requests for selection:

- The work must be conceived and executed by the member artist. Collaborative efforts must be actual joint works in that contributions in design and execution of the work must be made equitably by all collaborators
- Work produced from kits, commercial patterns, and commercial molds is **not acceptable**. Photomechanical reproduced works are not acceptable. A limited number of mechanically reproduced greeting cards and prints are allowed but will not constitute the majority of that member's work on display in the gallery
- When necessary to use commercially produced materials to complete the work, the pre-manufactured components must be subordinate to the original artistic interpretation and technique of the finished product. Selection Committee decisions are based on current standards and practices in each media
- Members may exhibit work in more than one media category or sub-category, provided each body of work has been accepted through the selection process. Items such as Christmas ornaments must be a natural extension of the selected media. For example, if you are juried in traditional clay and want to exhibit clay jewelry, you must jury the new work separately OR if you are juried for paper sculptures and want to submit wall pieces, you must jury the new work.
- Acceptable work includes fine crafts of museum quality, crafts of a traditional nature, and production lines of finely crafted items designed and executed by the member craftsman.
- Books and recordings may be sold if they are instructional and produced by the member craftsman as approved by the Gallery Manager and Committee.
- All work for exhibit must be brought in ready to install with appropriate hardware, rods, display units, etc.
- Work is judged on the following criteria: Technical competence, finishing, structural soundness, suitability of item for intended use, design aesthetics, and concept.

***Acceptable media include original works in***

Basketry	Calligraphy	Ceramics	Fibers	Wood
Glass	Jewelry	Leather	Metals	Toys
Mixed Media	Musical Instruments	Paper	Photography	Surface Design
Graphics	Indigenous, Ethnic, Traditional Crafts			

**Not Acceptable:** Painting, drawing, dried flower arrangements, pressed flowers, cut bottles, painted boxes, weathered boards, painted shells or stones, wooden cut-outs, painted saw blades, shells crafts, decoupage and decal crafts, eggery, needlework from commercial kits and patterns, "country crafts", items made from commercial kits and molds, commercial or mass produced items, and hobby crafts. The decision of the Gallery Committee will determine status.