

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

ORGANIZATIONAL STATEMENT

Charleston Crafts exhibits and offers for sale original fine craft designed and executed by member artists. All exhibiting member artisans must reside within the state of South Carolina.

Charleston Crafts has two primary purposes:

- To promote South Carolina low country craft artisans
- To operate a retail gallery featuring the work of juried members in fine crafts

ABOUT CHARLESTON CRAFTS

We began in 1989 as a pilot project of Piccolo Spoleto, at the garage at 14 George St. Through hurricanes and other disasters, we have persevered as a group committed to artisan craft. We moved several times over the years as we have gotten bigger. First to 38 Queen St in March 1991, then 87 Hasell in October 1998, and finally to our current location of 161 Church in October 2009.

Charleston Crafts is the only gallery in Charleston that showcases only the fine crafts of local and low country artists. By being an active member of the organization, you receive the benefits of peer support and a unique showcase for your work.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

- \$200 first six months, which includes \$50 administrative set up fee
- \$150 for each subsequent six month time period
- Due January 1st and July 1st of each calendar year
- Dues may also be paid annually for 12 months on January of each calendar year
- A late fee of \$5 is charged for each month after January or July for dues that have not been paid.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY: Exhibiting

- For sales of work exhibited in the gallery a commission of 70% is currently paid to the member. The commission rate is evaluated annually.
- Has full membership privileges and one vote
- Maintains an adequate inventory to fill assigned display area
 - Appropriately prices each inventory item with member number and price
- Staffs the gallery one day each period, on average one day each month
 - If unable to work during a period a member has several options:
 - Solicit another member to trade a day for that period, or for two dates in the future
 - Pay a staffing fee of \$75 to cover the cost of hiring a replacement for that period
- Volunteers in some capacity to support the Co-Op
 - As a board member
 - 10 hours a year of ad hoc duties such as a serving as a juror, organizing/staffing an exhibit, participating in gallery maintenance projects or public relation functions
 - Contributing a \$50 annual donation to the Co-Op

SELECTION PROCESS

In order to become an exhibiting member, your work must be accepted through a peer jury selection process. The selection committee is comprised of current members who are recruited for each jury based on their media. The juries review actual work, a selection of 5 pieces provided by the artisan.

A score card is used to rate each body of work. Work is judged on the following criteria:

- Craftsmanship
 - Technical Competence
 - Finishing
 - Structural Soundness
 - Presentation
 - Suitability of item for intended use
- Design Aesthetic
- Business Compatibility
 - Salability
 - Suitable price points

Scores are 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 Membership chair with the consensus of the jury. Other criteria may be applied such as space constraints with the gallery, balance of media and style with the gallery, and the ability of the member to perform membership responsibilities. You will be notified by email of the jury results within 24 hours of the jury.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Charleston Crafts is committed to maintaining a high standard of quality and diversity in all the work we display. Original works in the following media are considered:

- Basketry
- Glass
- Calligraphy
- Ceramics
- Fibers
- Wood
- Jewelry
- Leather
- Metals
- Musical Instruments
- Paper
- Photography
- Graphics
- Surface Design
- Mixed Media

The following types of items will not be considered for jury:

- Fine art painting & drawings
- Dried flower arrangements
- Pressed flowers
- Cut bottles
- Painted shells, stones, saw blades
- Shell, decoupage and decal crafts
- Eggery

The following additional 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 contribution in design and execution of the work must be made equitably by all contributors.
- Work produced from kits, commercial patterns, and commercial molds **ARE NOT** acceptable. Photomechanical reproduced works are not acceptable. A limited number of reproduced cards and prints are allowed, but should not constitute the majority of the 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 the 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 medium 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 medium. In particular, an extension into jewelry from another medium must be juried separately.
- Books and recordings may be sold if they are produced by a member and approved by the Gallery Manager.
- All work for exhibit must be brought in ready to install with appropriate hardware or any specialty displays, beyond what the gallery provides, needed.