

Creative Hand 2017
Jury Process and Product Guidelines
for all Creative Hand Artists

Qualifications for all Artists:

Must be a KC Guild member (Fiber or Weaver's) by January 1st of the current year
Must be a resident of Kansas or Missouri

Welcome to the Creative Hand Show and Sale! After your completed application form is received, a sample of products must be juried. **Please read our show objectives, jury process, and product guidelines carefully.**

CREATIVE HAND OBJECTIVES: The show's objective is to highlight the unique work of individuals within the guilds. A loyal following of customers have come to appreciate and expect the highest quality of hand crafted, artistically superior products. To maintain this reputation, the focus of our sale is on high quality of work in terms of both artistic expression and craftsmanship. In general, the show emphasizes items that are unique, not items that are mass-produced.

In order to be able to cover the expenses for our show, 20% percent of each item sold is withheld and goes to the Creative Hand working fund.

CREATIVE HAND SCOPE OF INVENTORY:

• *Fiber-related items* include (but are not limited to):

- hand woven fabric, garments, accessories, home décor
- hand knitted, crocheted, tatted, and/or other needle-worked garments, trims, accessories, home décor
- felted fabric, garments, accessories, home décor
- sewn and/or quilted garments, accessories, home décor
- hand spun yarns
- hand dyed fibers, roving, yarns, fabric, garments, accessories
- original fiber art or wall hangings
- fiber related tools

• *Other items:* Our customer base has come to expect the availability of items such as: Jewelry, Hand Made Soaps, Ceramics, Baskets, & Note Cards/Stationery. These items will be accepted into the show assuming they follow the same quality & artistic guidelines as the fiber-related products (see page 2 for Guidelines). Participating artists are encouraged to submit a variety of items to the sale, both fiber-related and non fiber-related, to create a well-rounded offering to our customer base.

• *Kits offered for sale:* Kits can be offered for sale if the contents of the kit are the original creation of the artist and otherwise meet the Artistic Value Added guidelines (example: instructions must be the artist's own interpretation, not just copied from the Internet or other printed material, list of web-sites is ok, follow copyright laws as outlined below in "Copyright Law"). Kits must be packaged attractively and must not compete with other fiber products for sale (example: displaying the kit in a purchased basket competes with the hand-made baskets offered for sale). Using clear plastic bags to package kits is acceptable; just pick the plain ones with no brand names printed on them. Commercially available items (i.e. knitting needles), that constitute less than 10% of the price of the kit, are considered to be "packaging".

JURY PROCESS: *Due to the tremendous growth of Creative Hand in the past few years a rotating jury process is now in place. All products will be juried every 5 years.*

- **New Artists** – After sending in your application for Creative Hand, you will be contacted to schedule a Jury Appointment. This appointment will take place in a private space, with at least one juror familiar with the kind of artwork you do. You will need to bring only a representative sample of each kind of thing you do (i.e.: one or two knitted hats, a woven scarf, a necklace, a couple of pair earrings – NOT your entire inventory) preferably tagged (see tag guidelines page 3) and in their final packaging. You will receive a copy of our notes about whether the items are accepted or would need additional work to fit into the show, and we keep a copy as well.
- **Returning Artists** – After sending in your application for Creative Hand, you need to notify Leslie McLaughlin of any SUBSTANTIALLY new products you are making or planning to make. Each new product will need to be juried according to the current artist guidelines but items similar to those juried in 2012 - 2015 do not need to be juried. It is strongly suggested if specific items have been placed in the Creative Hand sale for three years and have not sold, that they be retired from submission.
- We WILL NOT accept photographs for jurying.
- In a case where the product was made in collaboration with two artists, both artists must be participating members of the show and hold guild membership.
- All art in this show should be the work of the participating artist. DO NOT submit items made by friends, family members or business partners, even if they typically sell their work under your label elsewhere.
- Simply re-packaging fiber raw materials and/or products is not acceptable.
- Items that require re-jurying must be scheduled for a second appointment **no later than three weeks before the show** (prior to Oct. 28). Please plan accordingly as we hold this as a *firm date*.
- If you desire evaluation before you submit your application or have any other Creative Hand jury question, please contact Jamie Root or Leslie McLaughlin to discuss or to arrange a meeting.
- The Creative Hand Jury committee reserves the right to pull items from the sales floor that do not meet the guidelines below.

CREATIVE HAND PRODUCT GUIDELINES: *All items accepted for Creative Hand should meet the criteria of creativity, craftsmanship, and quality materials.*

A. Creativity - All work submitted for sale must have significant creative/artistic value added by the submitting artist. Products offered for sale need to be created by the artist featuring creative and artistic expressions, rendering each item unique. It is expected that each item show a high percentage of original work

- UNACCEPTABLE - Purchase a kit from another artist, create the item using kit materials and instructions.
- UNACCEPTABLE - Purchase commercial fabric, pattern, and buttons. Make a vest following the pattern.
- ACCEPTABLE – Significantly improve the artistic value of the finished vest by adding your own original expression.

B. Craftsmanship - Products offered for sale must be made by the artist using a high level of craftsmanship. The quality of workmanship for EVERY ITEM reflects upon the entire show so items of inferior quality work will not be displayed. Craftsmanship for Creative Hand includes technique, skill and level of sale-ability.

Technique & skill – Each item should demonstrate the artist’s mastery of the applied skill set for the product such as weaving, knitting, etc. Each item must be made with techniques and tools appropriate for the materials chosen by the artist. The combination of technique and material choice should fulfill the function of the finished article, such as durability and wear-ability.

- UNACCEPTABLE – Socks knitted with loosely spun yarn; felted bag that has large spaces in the felting; hand-woven fabric that is too loose or too firm for the product it is made into; fringe that is untidy or in “corkscrews”.
- ACCEPTABLE – Socks knitted with durable yarn in a small enough gauge to make the socks wear well; tight felt bag or appropriately lined; densely woven fabrics made into vests or pillows; loosely woven fabrics stabilized with interfacing; fringe trimmed or hem the item.

Sale-ability – Products offered for sale must be completely finished and in the best possible sale-able condition. Products must be clean, free of offensive odors, pressed and ready for display. All products must be correctly tagged (see Creative Hand Product Tags below).

- UNACCEPTABLE – Threads hanging, unfinished edges, loose buttons; dusty or dirty, or have an odor of smoke or mothballs; “made in China” tags on silk products
- ACCEPTABLE – Finishing details completed in a quality manner; products clean and odor free, “made in China” tags removed and country of origin labeled on your own tag.

C. Quality Materials – Products offered for sale should be made using high quality raw materials. Natural fibers are a hallmark of the Creative Hand show but technology has provided us with high quality synthetic fibers as well and these will be acceptable when suitable for the given product.

COPYRIGHT LAW and INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: Creative Hand requires all show entrants to observe restrictions of published copyright laws. Generally, copyright restrictions state that text, drawings, charts and photographs cannot be re-produced without permission of the copyright holder. Additionally some 3 dimensional designs for toys, sculptures, and jewelry are covered. However, the US Copyright Office has determined that “useful objects” i.e. garments, dishes, etc. are too general in form, and are not covered under the law, unless they contain a copyrighted image.

Licensed images such as Disney, collegiate logos or mascots, and team logos or mascots are not allowed without written permission from the organization.

Creative Hand strives to present unique works of art, and we expect our artists to exhibit integrity with regard to contributions of other artists. Please do not submit items created directly from someone else’s patterns without making significant changes. Additionally, if your item was significantly inspired by the work of another artist, give them attribution on your tag. For example: Hand knitted scarf, featuring Handspun and Hand Dyed wool yarn. Design inspired by Alice Starmore’s Aran Cable sweaters.

CREATIVE HAND PRODUCT TAGS: All products must be tagged for the show and each tag should contain the following information.

- Artist full name
- Display inventory number – use NUMBERS ONLY, coordinate with your own inventory sheet
- Price – written in ink, on a removable tag or separate tag (help gift givers)
- Describe fiber content and care instructions
- If wearable, must have fiber content by % (required by law)
- Suggest naming type of work (examples – entrelac knitting, waffle weave structure)
- Recommend including a story and/or photo to promote sales
- Textile components must have country of origin identified on your tag (see Country of Origin on next page)

Country of Origin

Where the item was made and where the materials in the item were made is required. You only have to go back one step in the manufacturing process. You may only use “Made in the USA: on the label if the final two steps were completed in the United States. For example, if the item was knit by you in the US, but made from yarn spun in Italy, the label should read “Made in the USA from yarn made in Italy.” In the example above, you would not have to identify where the fleece was grown. If you’re selling handspun wool yarn, one step back would include the growing of the fleece and you would need to identify the source of the fiber. If the fiber was grown in the United States, you would be able to cover both processes by using “Made in the USA.” Summarized by Rocky Mountain Weavers’ Guild.

Resource: Federal Trade Commission – Threading Your Way Through the Labeling Requirements and Wool Acts

<https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/business-center/guidance/threading-your-way-through-labeling-requirements-under-textile#origin>

LIBILITY: Creative Hand strives to create a secure venue and environment for the display and sale of your art but cannot be responsible for lost or damaged items. We encourage all our artists to provide their own insurance coverage through a business or home policy.

CHANGES TO APPLICATION INVENTORY or PRODUCTION STATUS:

- Before October 13th you can call or email to change your expected inventory for the show to Christine Long-Derks or Betsy Lemon if it changes *significantly* from your application. The more accurate our expectations, the better the set-up committee can plan our limited display space.
- Before October 13th you may change your status indicated on your submitted application from Full Production status to Limited Production (5 items or less) or vice versa by contacting Sandy Cahill.

Mark your calendar - **Presale Meeting for *all* artists (mandatory) October 29**, place TBA