

Information on our juried Biennial Show Handweaving: Woven Journeys

Let's understand what this means as it relates to our upcoming March event. One characteristic of juried shows is that it attracts the best of a weaver's talent and detail. As an entrant, one can have their woven piece critiqued and eligible for a possible award.

Our Biennial is unusual, however, compared to other art juried shows. In our past shows as well as the upcoming April show, we will have and have had both juried and non-juried entries. This means that weavers can agree to submit to their area chair their art judged by knowledgeable jurors or choose to submit a piece that is not juried. A non-juried piece must comply with all the guidelines of an entry.

Jurors are our fellow weaving experts from out of state.

The show will present all the pieces that were juried by our judges. Should we have additional space in the gallery of the show, which has been the case in previous shows, non-juried items will be displayed as well.

Criteria for Judging

Below are the categories and the details within each that are used by the judges. This will provide an understanding on how entries are evaluated.

1. Quality of Workmanship

- Is this article technically well woven?
- Is it error free?
- Are the edges flat and even?
- Is the sett appropriate?
- Are the weft shots regularly spaced?

2. Finishing and Presentation

- Has the article been finished appropriately, or does it need further washing, blocking, or pressing?
- Are sewing and/or tailoring details well done?
- Are ends and joins (knotting, braiding, tasseling, embroidering, crocheting, knitting, etc.) creatively and carefully done?

3. Texture/Pattern

- Is the feel and appearance of the article (i.e. the texture) appropriate to its - function?
- Is the pattern (if any) harmonious in scale (e.g. too large or too small)?

- Is the choice of fiber compatible with the texture and/or pattern of the article?
- Is the texture or pattern used in an unusual or creative way?
- Was the yarn dyed by the weaver?
- Was the yarn spun by the weaver? Does the article have the right "hand"?

4. Design

If we define weaving as architecture in miniature, to what extent does the article fulfill the following requirements:

- Is it well engineered? • Does the form or shape suit its function?
- Does the fiber used suit its function?
- Is there an appropriate relationship between the fiber and the yarn; the yarn, the weave, and the sett; between construction, finish, and use? Do the texture and color effects enhance the article? Will the article be suitable for use in its intended environment?
- Will the article endure? Would you still enjoy using or looking at it 25 years from now?
- Does the weaver use color in a creative and appropriate way?

5. Discretionary Judging – Creativity / Originality

- Does this piece push boundaries
- Is it innovative?
- Is there a new and different purpose for this piece, not just different for difference's sake?
- Is there an appropriate new use of piece?
- Does it serve as Art? • Is there an emotional connection to work? Involvement in creating the materials for the work (i.e., raising sheep/llamas, shearing, spinning, dying, weaving finished product).
- Does the piece express an independent and individual "voice"?
- Is the piece novel or fresh, as in an idea or method that is presented?
- Originality: does this piece transform an existing design, rather than try to invent a new one?

Award Categories

Some awards may not be given due to the amount submitted in a particular category.

- Outstanding technical merit
- Best use of Color
- Best use of Twill
- Best work by a Novice Weaver (weaving fewer than 3 years)
- Complex Weavers Award
- Handwoven's Weaver for the Home Award

- HGA Award
- HGC Weavers of Merit Award
- Excellence In Rigid Heddle Weaving Award
- Excellence In Rep Weave
- Weftovers Award
- Wilda Hulse Baby Blanket Award
- Gloria Nevins Overshot Award
- Jo Parsons Surface Design Award

Weaving

- Scarves on fewer than 8 shafts
- Scarves on 8 shafts or more
- Shawls • Wearables- Clothing
- Fashion Accessories
- Wall hangings/ Tapestry
- Blankets and Bed Coverings
- Rugs
- Towels
- Other Household items
- Tables Accessories Other
- Hand Dyeing
- Hand Spun
- Miscellaneous (included yardage, three-dimensional, and off-loom items)