

Creative Hand 2023
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, 15% - 20% of each item sold is withheld and goes to the Creative Hand working fund. The percentage will be determined closer to the show when the working fund budget is finalized.

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 websites 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 allowed as they may be 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 4) 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** – We have a rotating schedule for each artist to jury all of their product lines every 5 years. Additionally, in the interim years, that artist will need to jury any new product lines in the year they are introduced to the show, unless that product is very similar to something that has already been juried within that 5 year cycle. When the 5 year mark is reached, we start over with a full product review. After sending in your application for Creative Hand, **you will need to notify Leslie McLaughlin (Spellspun@gmail.com)** of any SUBSTANTIALLY new products you are making or planning to make. 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. 31). 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 Diane Dory 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. --

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 creative 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. Each product for sale at Creative Hand will have TWO tags on it.

1. Tag #1 is the “pretty” tag that stays on the product and goes home with the customer.
2. Tag #2 is the standardized tag with your artist code that is removed from the product at the cashier stand when the product is sold. The cashier uses this information to write the customer sales invoice.

TAG #1: PRETTY TAG THAT GOES HOME WITH THE CUSTOMER:

- Artist name and/or Artist business name, Artist contact information so the customer can contact you
- Describe fiber content and care instructions. If wearable, must have fiber content by % (required by law)
- Suggest naming the type of work or fiber technique used in making the item (examples – entrelac knitting, waffle weave structure)
- Recommend including a story and/or photo to promote sales

TAG #2: STANDARDIZED WHITE TAG THAT IS REMOVED BY THE CASHIER:

Standardized tags, label templates, and label sheets will be given to you after you submit your Creative Hand Application. These standardized tags will help the cashiers avoid listing errors and speed up the cashiering process. Also, because of the efficiencies of this duplicate tagging plan, the percentage of sales received by you will be 80% - 85%. These standardized duplicate tags will be printed on 1”x1” labels. After you receive the label sheets and tags, you can fill out the labels by hand, or on your computer and print them out. You will affix the labels to the standardized tags, then affix the tag to your product next to the “pretty” tag previously described. You will have an artist code assigned to you. That artist code will be pre-printed on your labels or on your label template.

The other 3 pieces of information you will fill out on the duplicate tag are:

- Inventory number – (assigned by the artist) up to 6 digits long, please use only numbers and no letters
- Product category – use the categories on the tagging instruction sheet
- Price – use \$ and .00

If you have any questions about the tagging process or need tagging supplies, please contact Sandy Cahill (913) 709-1923 call or text, sandycahill@beweaveme.net email.

CHANGES TO APPLICATION INVENTORY or PRODUCTION STATUS:

- Before October 13th: If your inventory changes *significantly* from your estimated quantities on your application please contact Kathryn Worley (816) 289-2293 (call or text); kckatw@aol.com (email) to give her revised counts. 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: 913-709-1923 (call or text); sandycahill@beweaveme.net (email).
- Refunds of entry fees must be requested before October 13th.

LIABILITY: 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.

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