



League of N.H. Craftsmen

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Leather

STANDARDS CRITERIA FOR LEATHER

League standards for leather require that the materials used be fundamentally transformed resulting in work which demonstrates technical fluency, integrity of intent and result, and spirited sense of personal vision.

A successful piece is made from materials appropriate for its primary function, whether expressive, decorative or utilitarian.

Technical Guidelines:

1. Leather selection should be appropriate for the size, function and design of the piece. Functional objects need to be structurally strong.
2. All materials used in the object must be of high quality. This includes enhancements to the finished piece such a fabric, findings, embellishments, accessories.
3. Precision is required in the making of the work, whether it is machine or hand stitched.
 - a. uniform stitching and tension throughout the object
 - b. no visible markings
 - c. bulk of materials handled properly in layering or seams
 - d. all seams and raw edges finished in a functional and aesthetic way
 - e. pieces should reflect the craftspeople's attention to finishing and details

Commercial Production Techniques:

The League's focus is on work made by hand by individual craftspeople. However the League acknowledges that to improve efficiency and production, some crafts people will wish to employ tools, technology and other people to their best advantage. Production techniques used solely for high volume output may prove unacceptable for League standards if such techniques do not add to the overall quality and design, or if they are not performed with all the skill and craftsmanship required for League acceptance.

The end product should not be dominated or limited by a machine's capability. However the work is produced, it must speak to the individual craftspeople's creative spirit.

Truth in Labeling:

State juried craftspeople are encouraged to permanently sign or stamp their work and to provide supplemental materials that educate the public on craft and process. Labeling must comply with League state juried standards. Craftspeople must comply with any specific legal requirements for labeling their craft.

Aesthetic Concerns:

The work must demonstrate more than technical proficiency, more than the reproduction of a recognize style. It should express the personal aesthetic and vision of the maker, and demonstrate a coherent stylistic development, with every attention to detail, design, function and finish. A harmony of intent, process and result is the measure of successful work.

Standards Guidelines for Juried Work - Applicable to all media categories

Components and Accessories

Components or accessories are parts that are not made in the studio of the juried LNHC member, which are incorporated into craft objects. Such components and/or accessories are acceptable and appropriate only if: they are of high quality construction and materials; they do not visually dominate the finished object; and they would not be reasonably interpreted, based upon appearance, as objects created by juried LNHC members.

Health and Safety Guidelines

The craftsperson is responsible for assurance that craftwork meets all federal, state, and local health and safety requirements.