

STANDARDS CRITERIA FOR CALLIGRAPHY

League standards for calligraphy require finished work that demonstrates technical fluency, integrity of intent and result, and a spirited sense of personal vision.

The League recognizes both traditional and innovative calligraphy. Applicants should present a cohesive body of work (6-12 pieces) that demonstrates range and depth of ability. If the applicant works in a variety of styles, multiple examples of each type of work should be brought to jury.

Technical Guidelines:

1. All calligraphy and embellishment must be of original design and hand done by the state juried craftsman.
2. Lettering should be strong, well formed and consistent. It should show the calligrapher's knowledge of letter design, proportion and spacing.
3. To encourage longevity, high quality materials are required. Archival quality materials are preferred. Materials used must be suitable for the intended function of the piece. The intention is that the integrity of the piece remains intact.
4. Overall design of the piece should be harmonious. Letterforms, images and materials used should fit the finished piece in a way that is integral to the function and expression of the piece.
5. Any purchased parts must be of high quality and not dominate the work (i.e.: fancy papers, mats, frames)

Commercial Production Techniques:

The League's focus is on work made by hand by the individual craftspeople. Commercial production methods used solely for high volume are not acceptable for League standards.

Note cards and Calendars:

Due to the disposable nature of note cards and calendars, League guidelines allow commercial reproduction of original calligraphy designs for these objects. All other technical guidelines apply.

Truth in Labeling:

Labels are required. Labels should list any care instructions, media and ground. Quotations should be attributed whenever possible. Work made by the individual state juried craftsperson may be personally signed or stamped. Labeling must comply with League state and juried standards.

LNHC Standards Guidelines for Juried Work - Applicable to all media categories

Aesthetic Considerations

The work must demonstrate more than technical proficiency and more than the reproduction of a recognized style. Products 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.

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.