



OVERVIEW FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Chartered in 1968, the Foothills Craft Guild began in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, with 25 artisans. The Guild has grown into a regional non-profit organization of more than 275 juried craft artisans, all of whom reside in Tennessee. In order to maintain a non-profit status, the Guild provides educational opportunities for members and the community through craft scholarships, exhibit opportunities, area demonstrations, and teaching workshops.

All active Guild members are encouraged to participate within the Guild by exhibiting or demonstrating, serving on committees or the Board of Directors, or donating time in an area that they enjoy.

The Foothills Craft Guild welcomes new members whose creative handiwork demonstrates stimulating visual appeal, good design, and fine craftsmanship. Before acceptance as a member of the Guild, each person's work must go through a jurying process. The artisan submits five representative pieces in the selected media category for examination by a committee of fellow artisans who are seasoned Guild members.

Before filling out the application, please read this document which includes criteria for membership along with helpful hints for applying.

TO QUALIFY FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. Applicant must reside in Tennessee.
2. Applicant must be accepted by the jury process by submitting five (5) pieces of her or his craft, along with photos of the same five (5) pieces for jurying, along with the application form and applicable fee, which is non-refundable.
3. Items submitted for jurying must be handmade by the artisan who is submitting the application.
4. Items must be of original design and produced within the past two years.

SUMMARY OF FEES & DUES

- \$35 — Application fee to jury.
- \$20 — Application fee for members in good standing to jury into a new category
- \$45 — Annual Dues, INDIVIDUAL Membership (juried)
- \$90 — Annual Dues, CENTER Membership (juried two or more create the same product)
- \$125 — Annual Dues, EDUCATION CENTER Membership (juried education facility overseen by member mentor)
- \$35 — Annual Dues, ASSOCIATE Membership (non-juried person that wants to be kept informed of guild functions)
- \$25 — Friends of Foothills (donation program)
- No Dues — LIFE Membership (a member that is recognized for their years of service and dedication to the guild, nominated by the Board of Directors and approved by vote of the general membership. Can also be a Charter Member or Founding Member)
- No Dues — HONORARY Membership (non-juried, nominated by the Board and approved by vote of the general membership.)

WHAT IS A JURY FEST?

A Jury Fest is a process of evaluating handcrafted work to gain entrance into the Guild. Once accepted, as long as membership is kept current (applicable dues paid on time annually), you will not have to re-submit work or pictures to participate in Guild events. If you miss the deadline for payment of dues, you must rejury into the Guild.

Jurying

Work is judged by a Standards Committee comprised of a panel of nine or more members. The panel awards points based on workmanship, use of materials, design concepts, overall appearance, and originality OR faithful execution of traditional designs. After the judging takes place, the Board of Directors must ratify each applicant accepted by the Standards Committee before acceptance is complete.

PROHIBITED WORK

- Work produced from commercial kits; commercial patterns, molds, and forms; food items.
- Work that infringes on copyright laws.
- Work that is copied from another artist.
- Objects and designs that are intended to be overtly obscene or offensive.
- Work that contains hazardous materials.
- Work that uses material from life forms (animal or vegetable) considered endangered or threatened, or such items that are against the law to collect and use such as sea oats and feathers of song birds.
- Work that uses minerals so scarce that collecting and mining is prohibited.
- Work that uses prohibited archaeological artifacts.
- Work that uses materials obtained on the black market.

CATEGORIES

All members jury into the Guild within one or more categories; category being generally defined by the primary or predominant material used by the artisan. The media categories of the Foothills Guild are:

Clay	Fiber	Glass	Leather	Metal	Mixed Media
Natural Materials and Other (as defined by artisan).	Paper	Photography	Polymer/Resin	Printmaking	Wood

ART AND QUALITY—GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

Quality is a derived property, meaning it is not something that can be measured directly, but must be derived from other properties. One might look at the processes involved from original conception to the finished product as this simplified flow chart shows:

Idea--Inspiration--Concept-- Design Methods--Materials Selection--Manufacture --Finished Product

Art is subjective, and judging art will always be subjective. No two people will ever agree a hundred percent. However, informed judgments are possible with some established guidelines and general principles. These can be embodied in five basic criteria established by the Guild: (1) overall impression, (2) creativity, (3) design, (4) use of materials, and (5) workmanship. Jurors translate these five criteria into a numerical score.

Good luck and if you have questions, please contact the Standards Chairman listed at the top of the page of the Application Instructions.