

Judges' Guidance - Costuming

For all entries: If you are not familiar with this type of art/science, can the entrant explain clearly the information you seek, based on their knowledge and research, in a verbal format?

Documentation:

- Did the documentation include a timeframe for the entry and a region or origin?
- Did the documentation list materials, techniques, and tools and dates of when types of materials, techniques, and tools were available to be used?
- Did it explain what the particular entry was and where and when it would have been worn, used, or produced?
- Were drawings, pictures, or diagrams included?
- Where was the pattern obtained?
- Did the entrant cite examples, list sources, and include a bibliography?
- Were appropriate examples of the period garment, footwear, or accessory included, if applicable?
- Did the entrant explain changes &/or compromises made in the creation of the item(s) creation?
- Was the documentation organized, legible, and well-structured?

Complexity:

- Were tools and materials purchased or handmade?
- Was there a level of difficulty of execution of the techniques used in conjunction with the materials and tools chosen?
- Were there a variety of techniques and/or materials employed?
- What was the difficulty level of each individual technique?

Creativity:

- Was the entry developed from a period source, a modern translation, or an original work?
- Did the entrant make an exact copy of a period piece?
- Did the entrant base an original work on a period piece or was the piece representative of a period style?
- How much did the entrant's piece differ from the original?

Authenticity:

- To what degree did the entrant use pre-1600 tools, materials, and processes to make the entry?
- Were materials and techniques used appropriate to the stated time period and geographic/cultural origin of the entry?
- If modern substitutes were used, did the entrant explain why?
 - Did it give the appearance and impression of period work?

Aesthetic qualities:

- Was the entry finished properly?
- Was the entry attractively presented?

- Did it look and feel the way it should?
- Was artistry shown in the choice of materials used?
- Was the overall effect pleasing or useful?
- Was the overall appearance, design, color, and material combination suitable for a period piece?
- Did the entrant choose tasteful and period-appropriate trim and accessories?

Workmanship:

- Did the materials and techniques used produce a recognizable product?
- Was it consistent with known examples?
- Was the work even/consistent?
- What was the quality of the finishing details, handwork, construction, and seams?
- What was the skill of pattern drafting and neatness of work?
- Did the working or functional parts of the entry perform properly?
- Was the item well-crafted, well-fitted, and able to be used as intended?