

## Judges' Guidance - Earthenware

**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 time period for the entry and a region or origin?
- Did it list materials, techniques, and tools and dates of when types of materials, techniques, and tools were available?
- Did it explain what the particular entry is and where and when it would have been used, built, or produced during period?
- If it was pottery or clay sculpture:
  - Was there a discussion of design elements or styles?
  - Did the shape hold any significance for the vessel or items usage?
- If an example of earthen building:
  - Were steps and pictures provided to show how something was built?
  - Were drawings, pictures, or diagrams included?
- Did the entrant cite examples, list sources, and include a bibliography?
- Were appropriate examples of the period pieces included, if applicable?
- Did the entrant explain changes &/or compromises made in the creation of the item/s?
- Was the documentation organized, legible, and well-structured?

### Complexity:

- Did the entrant copy a period piece, use a period piece as an inspiration, use a modern translation, or is this an original work?
- Were tools and materials purchased or handmade?
- Was there difficulty of execution of the techniques used in conjunction with the materials and tools chosen?
- Was the design an original, reproduction, commercial, or combination?
- What was the variety used and level of difficulty attempted with respect to media, materials, tools, techniques, and design elements?
- If pottery or sculpture that was fired, was a modern kiln used or was a prehistoric/historical method used?
  - Was the clay used purchased or dug and processed?
  - What methods were used in the construction (for example, coiling, paddling, pinching, shaping, or wheel thrown)?
- For pottery or sculpture, was the design painted, impressed, incised, engraved, punctuated, stamped, glazed?
  - Were modern paints used or were paints created from mineral or carbon?
- How complex was the scope of the entry?
- Did the entrant undertake extended techniques?
- If pottery, what sort of temper was used (such as sand, grass, shell, grog)?
- If it was earth used in medicine or a special farming technique, were proper research and the results presented?
- If it was a structure:

- How large was the structure?
- How was it constructed, what were the materials, what was its use or purpose?
- Was it consistent with what it was supposed to be?
- Were there pictures of an interior and exterior for comparison?

**Creativity:**

- Did the entrant make an exact copy of a period piece?
- Did the entrant base an original work on a period piece?
- How much did the entrant's piece differ from the original?
- Was the entry presented in a creative manner?
- How well did the entrant adapt use of modern materials, tools, and techniques towards the production of a pre-1600 entry?
- If this was an original work, would it have been acceptable within that context?
- If this was an entry on medicinal uses or farming, did the entrant find a way to show methods and results in a creative but clear manner in some sort of display?

**Authenticity:**

- Did the entrant use pre-1600 style tools, methods, and materials to make the entry?
- To what degree did the entrant use period tools, materials, and process to make the entry?
- If modern substitutes and/or methods were used, did the entrant explain why?
- Was the entrant knowledgeable about the methods and tools used in period (even if they chose not to use them)?
- Did it give the appearance and impression of period work appropriate to the stated time period and geographic/cultural setting?

**Aesthetic qualities:**

- Was the product finished properly?
- Was it 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?
- If pottery or sculpture, was the piece neat and clean and pleasing from all angles?
- Did the entry invite its use?
- Did the design fill the space in a pleasing manner?
- Was the style appropriate to the period of the piece?
- If a structure was built, was it appropriate to the region and time period provided in the documentation?
- If a display, was it neat, attractive, and concise in imparting information?

**Workmanship:**

- How well did the entrant manage to control the media?
- Did the materials and techniques used produce a recognizable product?

- Were the techniques and materials used appropriate to the period of the item?
- Was the product appropriate to the desired result?
- Was it well-crafted and finished?
- Were paints or other finishes done correctly?
- Was the clay harvested from nature or store-bought?
- Were proportions suitable to the style?
- Was the piece symmetrical and of a consistent thickness?
- Was the glaze evenly applied?
- Were unglazed decorations consistent?
- Was the item consistent with known examples?
- If it was fired, were there cracks or fire clouding?
- If the piece was pottery or sculpture, was the design appropriate for the time period and region stated in the documentation?
- If this was a research or building entry, were all the steps and results shown? Was there an example of a finished product?