

Judges' Guidance – Stoneworking

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 list of the materials (types of stone and where the stone would possibly have been quarried in period), ingredients, techniques and tools that were used as well as dates?
- Did it explain what the particular entry is (sculpture, gem stones, component of paint for example) and where and when it would have been used during period?
- Did the documentation say who would have created or used the item?
- Were drawings, pictures, or diagrams included?
- Did the entrant cite examples, list sources, and include a bibliography?
- Were appropriate examples of the period piece included?
- Did the entrant explain changes &/or compromises made in the item/s creation and rational for any substitutions?
- Was the documentation organized, legible, and well-structured?

Complexity:

- Were tools (such as chisels, hammers, mallets, rasps, drills, files and saws or in the case of knapping hammer stones, or tools made of antler, wood or bone for pressure flaking) and materials purchased, quarried, or handmade?
- Was there difficulty of execution of the techniques (such as carving, abrasion, roughing out, polishing or knapping) used in conjunction with the materials and tools chosen?
- Was the design an original, reproduction, commercial, or combination?
- Were the stones processed and combined with other ingredients to make the end product (such as period paints)?
- What was the variety used and difficulty attempted with respect to media, materials, tools, techniques, and design elements?
- How complex was the scope of the entry?
- Did the entrant undertake extended techniques?
- How was it made?
- What were the materials?
- What was its use or purpose?
- Was it consistent with what it is supposed to be?

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?

Authenticity:

- Did the entrant use pre-1600 style tools, techniques and or methods and appropriate materials that would have been available?
- Did the entrant develop it from a period source or use a modern translation, or is this an original work?
- To what degree did the entrant go to 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 the item 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, or work if applicable, the way it should?
- Was artistry shown in the choice of materials used, if art or jewelry?
- If a tool or paint or other constructed item, was it functional?
- Was the overall effect pleasing or useful?
- Was design and construction appropriate for the purpose designated?
- Were remaining tool marks appropriate to the finish?
- Was design and construction appropriate for the purpose designated?
- Did the design fill the space appropriately?

Workmanship:

- Did the materials and techniques used produce a recognizable product?
- Were the techniques, tools and materials used appropriate to the period of the item?
- Was it consistent with known examples?
- Was it functional?
- What was the quality of the finishing details, handwork, and construction?
- If design is used:
 - Were the elements appropriate to the piece?
 - Was the piece cleanly finished?
 - Were the shapes and lines accurate
 - Was the work even?
 - Were any design elements present appropriate to the piece and stated period?
- In the case of sculpture or carving:
 - Was the rough natural stone shaped into a recognizable piece by the controlled removal of parts of the stone?
 - Was the piece cleanly finished?
- If stone knapping, did the techniques utilized produce a usable tool of a recognizable type with standard tooling/and or use wear marks?
- If a tool, pigment, or paint, was it functional?

- If mining, quarrying, or doing masonry, would the steps, tools, techniques and methods used by the entrant to produce the end-result be available and appropriate in the period/culture aspired to in the documentation?