Tempe Festival of the Arts Category Descriptions

Ceramics - Original functional and non-functional works using clay as the primary medium, including, but not limited to, porcelain, stoneware, raku, earthenware, etc. Any molds used must have been created by the applying artist.

Digital Art - Work for which the original image was executed by the artist using a computer. Work must be in limited editions, signed and numbered, on archival quality materials. *Photographs taken through a digital medium should apply in the photography category even if they have been manipulated using a computer.*

Drawing - Works that are drawn by hand incorporating dry media including chalk, charcoal, pastels, pencil, etc. or from a fluid medium of inks and washes applied by pen or brush. Drawing can be done on any format including canvas, paper, etc.

Fiber - All work crafted from fibers including basketry, embroidery, weaving, tapestry, batik, painted silk, wearables, papermaking, etc. No machine tooling, machine-screened patterns or other forms of mass production are permitted. No factory produced wearable items are permitted unless there has been a minimum of 75% modification or enhancement by the artist.

Glass - Art using glass as the primary medium in any form. Kiln forming, blowing, molding or casting, as well as all cold working processes are permitted. Mass or factory produced work is not permitted.

Jewelry - All jewelry items must be designed by and hand-crafted by the artist. Molded jewelry, including lost wax cast method, is acceptable if molds are made by the applying artist. All designs and finish work involving cast and molded pieces must also be completed by the applying artist. No bead or stone stringing jewelry will be accepted. No mass produced components assemblage will be accepted. No factory production or imported jewelry items will be accepted. Chains, not made by the artist, can be sold with handmade items as a unit, but not sold by themselves. Only those artists accepted into the jewelry category may display or sell jewelry.

Leather - Art in which leather is the primary medium in the form of functional art, including belts, bags, shoes, hats, wallets; or, decorative art, such as wall hangings, etc. Leather can be cut, stamped, sewn, embossed or embellished according to the artist's original design. No machine tooling is permitted. All designs must be unique to the artist. No production line fabrication is permitted.

Metal - Functional, non-sculptural and decorative works that use any kind of metal as the main medium and that is modified into wall art, furniture, home decor, statuary, etc. Metal must be 75% altered in each art piece. Laser and engraving are allowed as embellishments only. No "laser cut only" items allowed. No production studio work is allowed.

Mixed Media - This category includes works, both 2 and 3-dimensional, that incorporate more than one type of material to produce, including non-sculptural work as determined by the artist. Does not include wearables such as batik, silk paintings, etc. Art must be comprised of a minimum of 75% modified materials. Reproductions of other 2-D work must be clearly labeled "Reproduction". All two-dimensional work must be matted or framed. All artists who paint or apply material over their reproductions must number all reproductions and disclose that fact to customers.

Painting - Painting using oil, acrylic, gouache, watercolor or other wet media on canvas, paper, Masonite, etc. Hand embellished reproductions such as Giclee, canvas or paper reproductions that have been retouched must be signed and numbered as part of an edition.

Photography - The process of capturing images that begins with a camera lens, then printing the images, by chemical or digital means, onto an archival surface. The photography category includes traditional film photography, hand colored images, emulsion transfers and digital photography that has not been excessively manipulated to achieve results beyond what could be done in a traditional darkroom. Any digital alteration and/or hand painting, over painting, etc. must be disclosed with the photograph. Prints must have been processed by the artist or under the artist's direct supervision. In addition to the above, the surface on which the photographs are printed must be identified in the description (paper, aluminum, wood, fabric, canvas, etc.). Traditional photography using digital means will apply in the photography category. Photographers are required to disclose both their creative and printing processes. Studios involved in volume production are not permitted to exhibit.

Printmaking - Art created by a hand-pulled stamp process including lithography, screen printing, woodcuts, engraving, etching, mezzotint, aquatint, drypoint, etc. using block, plate, stone or other objects. Printed works for which the artist has hand manipulated the plates, stones or screens and which have been properly signed and numbered as a limited edition may be entered in this category, Each piece must be from the originally cut stamp and be non-wearable art.

Sculpture - Art that is three-dimensional incorporating any material that is carved, modeled, constructed, cast or built-up. Sculpture pieces are one of a kind or limited to forged series. 100% of the molds must be created by the artist.

Upcycled/Creative Reuse - Art which uses found objects as the primary medium. Works can be either two or three dimensional but must use a minimum of 75% recycled or reused materials. Artists must demonstrate that they have substantially transformed by-products, waste materials, useless and/or unwanted products into new works of art. Jewelry cannot fall into this category.

Wood - Art which uses wood as the primary medium, including furniture, pens, games, toys, containers, musical instruments, decorative objects, etc. that have been hand-tooled, machine-worked, turned or carved. "Built up" wood must apply in the sculpture category. 75% of the wood must be modified to be considered art. No buy-sell items such as manufactured cutting boards are allowed. No mass-manufactured items are allowed.