

Michigourders in conjunction with Michigan Festival of Gourds

Rules for competition



COMPETITION, DIVISION GENERAL RULES FOR ALL GOURD ENTRIES

Open to anyone wishing to enter with payment of the appropriate entry fee/fees (*see Entry Form for amount*)

~ One exhibit per numbered category, art work for each entry must be made by the exhibitor.

Entries must be predominantly made from gourds

~ This festival is a family event; any item which may be offensive to young attendees may be removed or covered by the judges.

~ NOTE: Photography will be allowed at this competition. If you don't want photos taken of your work, please do not enter.

Deadlines are firm to allow volunteers time to set up the display prior to judging on Saturday.

Entry Forms must be turned in at the earliest date possible to allow us to order tables.

ENTRY'S WILL BE REGISTERED AT THE FAIR GROUNDS-- 2010;

Friday September 17th until 5:00 pm

Saturday until 9:30 am (Judging starts at 10:00 am)

We request that you fill out your entry forms completely beforehand.

Judging will be conducted by AGS Master Judges using the American Gourd Society guidelines and criteria. The American Gourd Society Judging Rules are available on the AGS website. Judges will not be competing in the show.

Judging will take place Saturday September 18th until completed; one small business card may be placed next to the entry after judging has been completed.

All entries must still be in place until 3 PM on Sunday afternoon to allow the public to enjoy the show throughout the weekend. Removal of an entry before this time will not be allowed.

Any competition item sold must remain on display table until the close of the competition at

3:00PM on Sunday, September 19th 2010.

Pick-up time will be Sunday, September 18th 2010 between 3 - 5 pm. ! NO one is allowed to remove their entries before 3 PM on Sunday. ***Claim Tickets - MUST- be presented to pick up your Art.***

The Michigourders committee/judges reserve the right to disqualify or reassign gourds that do not meet class criteria.

They may also change, subdivide, or combine classes as necessary to fill classes. Judging will begin at 10:00 on Saturday September 18th all judges' decisions are final.

Ribbons will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each category, at the judge's discretion.

A category with only one entry does not necessarily guarantee a blue ribbon. "AGS Judging rules with scoring option A will be used."

Special Ribbon Awards

Will be -- "Judges choice award", "Best of Show (1)", "Peoples Choice (1)",

Michigan Festival of Gourds and Imlay City County Fairgrounds will provide reasonable security, but can assume no responsibility for damage or theft.

Gourds must predominate in all entries

There are 4 Divisions;

Note; This is the first festival the Michigourders have been requested to host a competition; therefore; we have reduced the categories and will reserve the right to add them back into the Competition for following Festivals.

Youth Division - (Y) – Open to any one under the age of 18

The next three divisions are open to any one over the age of 18.

Novice Division - (N) - A true beginner is one who has limited experience in gourd crafting and other related arts and crafts. Teachers, Artists who sell their art or exhibit in galleries do not qualify as novice. If you win a Blue Ribbon in any "Novice Division - Category" at other shows you should enter in the Intermediate Division

Intermediate Division - (I) Is for those who do not consider themselves a beginner (Honor System), is open to all ages and skill levels. If you have won a Blue Ribbon in any "Intermediate Division" you should enter as a Advanced Division

Advanced Division - (A), is intended for the advanced to professional gourd crafter whose work has previously won top awards in art/gourd competitions, or has reached the level of fine art/craft. The use of patterns is not allowed in this division.

• Divisions are identified by the **Y, N, I or A**

It is the responsibility of the artist/crafter to enter their piece in the correct category.

Entrants may enter gourds in the Novice or Intermediate Divisions according to the above definitions, as long as the categories entered are different; For example, a beginning gourd crafter with previous decorative painting experience might enter the "Painted" category as a Intermediate

Division, and enter the "Wood Burning " category in the Novice Division. For this, our first year, we are allowing the (A) Advanced Division to enter the (A) and the Intermediate Division.

Please use your best judgment as to which division is most appropriate for your work – all entrants should strive to make the competition fair by not entering at a level below their abilities. The Judges reserve the right to move entries to a higher level if they feel it would be best placed in that division.

Categories

Division 1 Dried Gourds

This division is open to all levels Youth, Novice, Intermediate and Advanced and competes on equal basis. Division 1 General Requirements:

- Gourds to be grown by exhibitor
- Exhibited gourds must:
 - o be dried and cleaned with skin removed
 - o Have the stem cleaned if attached
 - o Have no finish

Hard shell (lagenaria)

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Class 1 | Smallest mature gourd, measured in height, width and circumference combined. |
| Class 2 | Largest mature gourd, measured by circumference. |
| Class 3 | Longest dipper, with less than four (4) inches of curve in the handle. |
| Class 4 | Any manipulated gourd |
| Class 5 | Any freak gourd shape, no limit to size. |

Division 2 Basic Technique Arts and Crafts

This division is open to all levels Novice, Intermediate and Advanced.

The purpose of this division is to create a well- crafted, artistic gourd. Color, finish and presentation will be considered as well as the creativity in the use of the gourd.

Requirements

- All work must be performed by exhibitor
- Gourd stems left on must be cleaned and finished to compliment design
- If gourd is cut open, all white seed membrane must be cleaned from interior

- No artificial foliage, fruit, flowers, silk or plastic items to be used except beads
- In classes referring to a “whole gourd” the shell must be intact and uncut.
- Class technique, on gourd, must be predominating. Judging will be based on class technique.

Class 6 Wood Burning/Pyrography

Class 7 **Carving and Gouging** - Whole gourd carving or gouging must be predominate gourd can not be cut though.

Class 8 **Painting, Dyeing and Staining** - Whole or cut gourd any technique

Class 9 **Pencil, colored pencil, pen and ink or marker** - Whole or cut gourd any technique

Class 10 **Weaving, Beading, Inlay, clay and Decoupage** - Whole or cut gourd any technique embellishments may be used

Class 11 **Decorative Birdhouse** - Any technique hanging or table top.

Division 3 Functional Arts and Crafts

This division is open to all levels Novice, Intermediate and Advanced.

The purpose of this division is to create a well- crafted, artistic gourd. Color, finish and presentation will be considered as well as the creativity in the use of the gourd.

Requirements

- All work must be performed by exhibitor
- Gourd stems left on must be cleaned and finished to compliment design
- If gourd is cut open, all white seed membrane must be cleaned from interior
- No artificial foliage, fruit, flowers, silk or plastic items to be used except beads
- In classes referring to a “whole gourd” the shell must be intact and uncut.
- Any technique is allowed
- All materials necessary to make the object functional to be supplied by exhibitor
- Object may be powered by batteries
- **Candles incorporated into the design must not be lit at any time.**
- Electrical items maybe lighted during judging, if UP tag is visible and electricity is available
- Gourds **MUST** be predominate

- Class 12 **Jewelry** - Whole or cut gourd any technique
- Class 13 **Gourd Mask** - Any technique decorative or wearable
- Class 14 **Gourd Musical instrument and Rain sticks**
- Class 15 **Gourd Lamp, luminary and night lights**
- Class 16 **Holiday Gourd**
- Class 17 **Miniature gourd** - Any technique no larger than 2” in height or width
- Class 18 **My way** - Gourd not fitting in to any other class
- Class 19 **Show Theme – Celebrating Michigan** - Any technique

Division 4 Youth

This division is open to anyone up to the age of 18

Requirements

- Crafting must be done by exhibitor (exhibitor may have adult assistance)
- No plastic, artificial flowers, fruit or foliage may be used, except beads
- Gourd pieces may be added
- Stems to be cleaned if attached

- Class 20 **A wearable gourd, such as a hat or jewelry**
- Class 21 **Creature or animal**
- Class 22 **Birdhouse**
- Class 23 **Holiday Item**
- Class 24 **My way** - Any gourd not fitting the other classes.