

Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi, Inc.
Exhibiting Membership Application Form

OUR MISSION IS TO PRESERVE AND PROMOTE FINE CRAFTS

Individual exhibiting membership in The Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi, Inc. is open to anyone anywhere. Out-of-state members may enjoy all Guild privileges. Group/Studio exhibiting membership is available to two or more artisans working under a designated leader; the Standards Committee decides group exhibiting membership on a case-by-case basis. Leaders are responsible for the quality of the group's work. Benefits of membership include:

- Invitations to show and sell work at all sanctioned Guild events such as the December Chimneyville Crafts Festival and shows at the MS Craft Center.
- Referrals to other national and international festival organizers.
- Direct referrals to collectors, buyers, designers and wholesalers.
- The privilege to sell and demonstrate work at Guild retail gallery and exhibits.
- Direct referrals to feature writers, authors and producers.
- A newsletter with articles designed especially for the professional artisan.
- Invitations to special members' meetings, workshops and social events.

Two Requirements are Necessary to Maintain Active Status: Dues and a Demonstration Annually. Individual Membership benefits are provided for \$75 annual dues and Studio Memberships are \$100 annually. A \$30 jury fee is charged when a member's work is reviewed every three years. After nine consecutive years of membership, and the successful completion of four standards reviews, a member becomes a FELLOW with no jury requirements thereafter. In lieu of the demonstration obligation, Guild members may choose to donate \$200 retail value of their craft or make a \$100 monetary donation to the Guild. The member demonstration must be completed by November 1st of each year.

The photographs presented with the application will not be returned if applicant is accepted into membership. They will be kept in Guild publicity files. Examples of work may be submitted in more than one medium (wood, clay, glass, metal, etc), but each medium must be accompanied by a separate application, resume, artist's statement, slides and \$30 fee. Work must be picked up within two weeks of Standards review or if accepted into Guild, will be entered into Gallery on consignment.

Deadline for submissions:

Last Friday in February for MARCH REVIEW

Last Friday in July for August REVIEW

Applications should be shipped or hand delivered to:

Craftsmen’s Guild of Mississippi, Inc.

950 Rice Road

Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157

(601) 856-7546

Office Hours: 9-5, Mon - Fri.

Gallery Hours: 9-5, 7 days a week, except Thanksgiving Day/Christmas Day/New Year’s Day/Easter Sunday.

About the Standards Review

The STANDARDS APPLICATION, \$30 jury fee, 3 examples of work, 5 photographs and all supporting documents must be submitted no later than the application deadline. Office hours are 9 to 5, Monday through Friday. Hand-delivered pieces may be picked up by the Monday following the Saturday of the review and must be picked up within two weeks of the review. Notification regarding membership will be made by mail within three weeks of the standard review.

The Standard Committee is composed of nine exhibiting member, appointed for three-year terms by the guild president. The President is a voting member of the committee. The committee meets twice a year to jury prospective members. Exhibiting members are re-evaluated every three years for nine consecutive years before the member becomes a fellow and need not submit to further reviews.

Each piece of work is handled and scrutinized carefully by every member of the committee. **Work made from pre-assembled commercial kits is not acceptable.** A very high degree of skill and competence must be evident. Small details are considered. Photographs, resumes and artists’ statements are reviewed. Open discussion is held, and experts in the medium are consulted. An artisan’s emerging potential is considered. Each committee member then scores each entry using the ballot shown below:

NAME:

(Applicant) _____ MEDIUM _____

—

CIRCLE ONE FOR EACH CATEGORY

DESIGN:	1	2	4	5	TOTAL POINTS
CREATIVITY or					
TRADITION:	1	2	4	5	
CRAFTSMANSHIP:	1	2	4	5	
OVERALL IMPACT:	1	2	4	5	_____

Numbers are averaged; the sum total of the raw score is divided by four, for the four areas of evaluation. An applicant must receive a score of 3.5 to be invited to membership. Applicants not asked to become members may resubmit as early as the next scheduled jury if the applicant feels that work has improved sufficiently.

The Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi, Inc., is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit corporation of professional craftsmen. A high standard of excellence is always maintained. Member's work is subject to review at all guild events. All exhibited work must be handmade. Failure to maintain consistent standards can result in probation or expulsion.

APPLICATION FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Please type or print legibly

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____

Phone () _____

Email _____

I understand that the \$30 jury fee is not refundable, nor does it include Guild membership. I certify that the entries submitted comply with all policies set forth by the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi, Inc.

Signature

Date

How should entry be returned? Is postage and insurance included, if being mailed?

GROUP EXHIBITING MEMBERSHIP:

A group exhibiting membership is a group (two or more) of producing craftsmen working in one or more crafts with a designated leader whose work has been accepted by the Standards Committee. The group must subscribe to the purposes and polices of the Guild as defined in the Charter and Bylaws of the Guild. Groups have one vote. Group types: (1) Crafts Cooperatives; (2) Native American crafts; (3) Production studios (the designated leader must take full responsibility for the quality of the work of the entire group.)

GROUP APPLICATION FORM

Business Name _____

Location _____
Address _____

Person in Charge _____

Designer _____

Number of Artisans _____

Website _____
Email _____

I understand that the \$30 jury fee is not refundable, nor does it include Guild membership. I certify that the entries submitted comply with all policies set forth by the Craftsmen’s Guild of Mississippi, Inc.

Signature Date

How should entry be returned? Is postage and insurance included, if being mailed?

TO APPLY: (Checklist) *Incomplete applications and support documents will not be accepted.*

1. ____ Completed the STANDARDS APPLICATION
2. ____ Included five returnable color photographs showing the scope of your work in one medium only, and provide descriptions of the work photographed. May be on CD. If selected as a Guild member, photos will be kept on file for publicity efforts.
(Note: current CGM members are requested to send a CD of current photos for third year reviews for publicity efforts).
3. ____ Enclosed, a copy of your professional resume and an artist's statement describing tools, techniques, material acquisition and preparation, motivation or inspiration, basis of designs and exact production methods. If, for any reason, you need help with this application; please telephone the guild office, (601) 856-7546, for assistance. A "Prepare to Qualify" Workshop is held the month before each Standards jury. Call for dates and times.
4. ____ Included, three actual pieces of one medium of your best quality work for evaluation by the Standards committee. Tag each piece with your name, description/title, medium, insurance value and details of production legibly printed or typed.
5. ____ Included a \$30 non-refundable jury fee. If your work is to be returned by mail, enclose adequate packing, payment to cover the exact cost and specify UPS, Parcel Post, or other.

PHOTO DESCRIPTIONS

(Type or print legibly)

Medium _____

(What material you use, i.e. wood, glass, clay, metal, fiber, etc.) Two-dimensional art is not admissible.

Category _____

(What you make from your material, i.e. turned bowls, pottery, wire sculpture, quilts, etc.)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

