

**ARIZONA GOURD SOCIETY**  
**ANNUAL GOURD ART COMPETITION**

hosted by Wuertz Gourd Farm, 15th Annual "Running of the Gourds" Festival,  
February 9, 10 and 11, 2018, Pinal Fairgrounds, Casa Grande, Arizona

**ENTRY FEES**

To qualify as an AZGS member, you must have your 2018 dues paid or postmarked by December 31, 2017.

There is no entry fee for the Youth Division.

Early Registration

Entry form must be postmarked by January 5, 2018:

\$5.00 per entry for AZGS members (\$7.00 for non-members)

Regular Registration

Entry form postmarked January 6 or later and received by February 2, 2018: \$7.00 per entry for AZGS members (\$9.00 for non-members)

Late Registration

Entry form postmarked February 3 or later, and received by February 7, 2018. This rate is also applicable if paying for entry at the registration tables on February 8: \$15.00 per entry for AZGS members (\$17.00 for non-members)

Registration Form and Photo Release Form are pages 12 and 13.

Mail or deliver registration forms on or before the above dates with your fees and Photo Release Form to:

Pattie Langton  
3483 E Cherry Hills Place  
Chandler, AZ 85249

Make checks payable to the Arizona Gourd Society (AZGS).

Contact Patti by e-mail: [palangton1221@gmail.com](mailto:palangton1221@gmail.com) if you have questions.

**DELIVERY and PICK-UP**

Gourd entries must arrive at the Pinal Fairgrounds, at the Competition Art Show Building, on Thurs. Feb. 8 between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. If you are taking or teaching a Thursday class, gourds can be delivered as early as 7:00 a.m. Vendors can register as early as 8:00 a.m. If there are EXCEPTIONAL extenuating circumstances, gourd entries will be accepted after 2 p.m., however, please note that once Judging has commenced Thursday afternoon/early evening, late entries will not be accepted regardless of circumstances or the fact that entry fees have been paid.

There will be volunteers signing in your gourd art entries and placing them in the proper area for judging. If you did not take advantage of early registration, there will be a separate line for registering your gourds. You will receive a claim ticket for each piece you enter. You will need these tickets to pick up your gourds at the end of the festival.

## Shipping

If you are unable to deliver your gourds on Feb. 8, entries may be shipped or mailed with your registration forms to:

Pattie Langton  
c/o Joanne Miles  
24802 S. Mooncrest Dr.  
Sun Lakes AZ 85248

AZGS or its representatives are not responsible for any damage caused during shipping. Insurance coverage is recommended. Please ensure that your gourds are packed carefully with ample protection.

- (1) Take the box to the post office or shipping office you prefer.
- (2) After determining postal cost for one-way shipping, purchase two (2) shipping labels.
- (3) Enclose postage label for return shipping inside the package with your gourds.
- (4) Affix postage for shipping to the competition on the outside of the package.

Your shipped or mailed gourd entries must arrive by February 3rd.

## Pick-up

All entries must remain in place until 3:00 p.m. on Sunday to allow the public to enjoy the show throughout the weekend. Anyone removing an entry before this time will not be allowed to enter the competition the following year.

All gourds must be picked up Sunday between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. If you are having someone else pick up your entries, make sure they have your claim ticket(s). Any gourds not picked up by 4:00 p.m. will be donated to the Arizona Gourd Society.

There will be an express pick-up line in the Competition Art Show Building for vendors.

**The Arizona Gourd Society, Wuertz Farm, and Pinal Fairgrounds will provide reasonable security measures but assumes no responsibility for damage or theft.**

## **RULES OF COMPETITION**

- 1) The Arizona Gourd Society will accept only one entry per person per category.**
- 2) Any gourd entry, previously judged using the AZGS guidelines, is not permitted to be re-entered in the competition.**
- 3) Once a competitor has won Best of Division in this competition, he/she must move up to the next Division. If you won first place in a specific category, you are required to enter the next Division in that specific category, with the exception of Masters Division and Collaborative Division, which are limited in mobility to their specific division. A competitor cannot enter more than one gourd in a specific category nor can the competitor have entries in 2 (two) separate divisions for the same category, i.e. an entry in each of the Intermediate and Advanced Division for the Carving category. A violation of these rules in this competition will result in the AZGS reclaiming any awards received by the competitor.**

- 4) In fairness to each entrant, every entry must reflect the skill level expected for that specific level (division) of competition. **Please read the criteria for each Division.**
- 5) Regardless of your level of prior experience in the field of gourd art, if the receiving person at the registration table sees that the entry does **not** reflect the skills expected at the level you wish to enter, or does **not** reflect the technique specified for the class, he/she will suggest that the gourd be placed into a different division or category. If you disagree, you may withdraw your entry or agree to abide by the decision made later in the day by the *Placement Review Committee*. The *Placement Review Committee* is composed of three people who are knowledgeable and skilled in judging gourd art and in assigning to the appropriate skill level/category for a piece of gourd art.
- 6) No **copyright** infringement is allowed. The depiction or use of slogans, pictures, lyrics, songs, etc. that can be attributed to a given product, are not permitted as part of the presentation of the gourd art. If any reference to a given product is inferred or depicted in any way, the gourd piece will not be judged.
- 7) Laser work and fractal burning on gourds will not be accepted into the Gourd Competition this year. We continue to expand our knowledge base in these techniques and are not yet prepared to include it as a judged technique. However, such techniques may be considered for display at the competition for viewer information purposes only.
- 8) All work on an entry must be your **original design**. Unless otherwise stated for your division/category, you may **not** copy someone else's work, use a gourd from a class or workshop, or use products such as pre-printed *Stick N Burn* or other patterns.
- 9) You are allowed (but not required) to include brief notes to explain or describe your entry. If you wish the information to be displayed to the public, you may provide it on a card no larger than 5x7 inches and printed in a large font legible from 3 or 4 feet away. You may include a small stand to make it easier to read.
  - a. In addition to original design, judges' scores will be based on quality of craftsmanship, creativity and design, color, finish, accessories and decoration and the overall appeal/appropriateness to the category. **Note: the entry must display at least 55% or more of the gourd, multiple gourds, or gourd pieces. (A note may be included with the entry to identify what elements are gourds, if it is not obvious).**

## TO ARTISTS

### *A Big Thanks*

The Arizona Gourd Society thanks you for participating in this year's gourd competition. We appreciate the work you have done and your willingness to share your art with others. Your work has given pleasure and inspiration to the public and to fellow gourd enthusiasts.

### *A Word on Judging*

We strive to provide you with a fair, unbiased, and honest competition by using American Gourd Society Certified Judges. In our training and preparations we emphasize objectivity, impartiality, and fairness to all. Often judges must distinguish among several very fine pieces, and the choices made by one group of judges might differ from those made by another. If you received a ribbon, congratulations on your award. If you did not, please know that the judges recognized you produced a worthy piece, but felt other artists achieved slightly more on their pieces. We hope all our participants will return again.

## *Explanation of Scoring Values*

Scores represent an attempt to quantify the level of artistry demonstrated in the entered work. Scores of 3, 4, or 5 represent good or better work in the characteristic being evaluated. To award ribbons may require selection based on very small differences. Just because a score of 5 was not awarded, does not mean the judges did not find the work on the piece admirable. Scores of 2 or 1 simply indicate that there is good potential for improvement in that particular characteristic.

### Definition of numerical scores

- 5 Excellent. Best of category or equal to best in category
- 4 Very Good. Noteworthy effort but not quite to level of best in category
- 3 Good. Work typical of category/division
- 2 Adequate. Some shortcomings, but no major issues
- 1 Detracts from appeal of work. Improvement in this characteristic would enhance the attractiveness of the piece

Note: If there is a single entry in a particular category, scores represent a comparison to all the works at the skill level of the entry.

## **SCORING CRITERIA**

The 2018 Arizona Gourd Society Show will use the following competition scoring criteria, which differs from that used at previous shows. The scoring is simplified to address the overall artistic impression of the piece, the quality of craftsmanship, and the difficulty/level of effort required to execute the work. If a special (“featured”) technique applies to a category, such as carving or wood burning, an evaluation of that technique will be included in the scoring.

Scores will be awarded on a 1 to 5 scale (5 being best) relative to other entries in that category and skill level. If there are no other competing entries in that category, comparison will be with overall work at that skill level.

### Overall Appearance

Credit for:

Overall appeal

Artistic design

Stands out from the competition (strong “wow” factor)

### Craftsmanship

Credit for:

Attention to detail

Uniform quality of work

Overall impact not marred by obvious flaws

Gourd sits flat or hangs evenly

Finished look

Difficulty/Level of Effort

Credit for:

Originality and artistic creativity

Difficulty of techniques as applied

Design complex or intricate

Skill in multiple areas

Amount of effort required

Featured Technique (where applicable)

Featured technique dominates but other techniques allowed

Credit for:

Overall impression created by the featured technique

Skill level demonstrated by execution of the technique

Meeting technique criteria

*Additional tips to artists:*

*Clean and finish the inside of opened gourds.*

*Smooth the edges of holes and paint the insides if they are visible.*

*Keep weaving or stitching even and uniform.*

*Make the color and finish smooth and uniform without runs, fingerprints, or glue showing.*

*Keep burn lines as sharp and uniform as you can, and avoid getting paint in them.*

## **COMPETITION DIVISIONS AND CATEGORIES**

### **YOUTH DIVISION**

This division is designed to promote, to encourage and to teach school-aged youth how to create art from gourds. Any type of gourd art using a single gourd or combination of gourds may be entered. The piece may be from a seminar, class, or pattern. Each contributor is limited to one entry. There is no entry fee for the Youth Division. Youth exhibitors may enter in the Youth, Novice, or Intermediate Division.

### **CATEGORIES**

#### **Youth ages 12 and under (Junior – YJ-1)**

One decorated gourd, functional or decorative using any technique may be entered.

#### **Youth ages 13 – 17 (Teen – YT-1)**

One decorated gourd, functional or decorative using any technique may be entered.

## **COLLABORATIVE DIVISION**

This division is a collaborative project whereby a group of two or more gourd artists come together to design and create one entry (CD). The category is open to all skill levels. For example, three gourd artists could include one from the Novice Division, one from the Intermediate Division, and one from the Master's Division. Any number of gourds may be used to create one entry. Any medium, except laser, may be used. Only one ribbon will be awarded for each winning entry. Names of participants must be included with the registration form.

## **NOVICE DIVISION**

The Novice Division is for the gourd crafter who is new to this art form. This division provides the new gourd crafter with an opportunity to demonstrate basic skills learned. The entrant may have no extensive experience or expertise in any art form that has been used on an entry gourd, such as painting, carving, wood burning, basketry, etc. Thus, any entrant who has won a major award in a juried art show must move into the Intermediate Division. Participation in the Novice Division is limited to two years of gourd art experience.

### ***CATEGORIES BASED ON TECHNIQUE***

#### **N-1 Wood burning /pyrography**

An entry in this category should be predominately decorated using this technique. The gourd may include the use of stains, inks, dyes, or clear finish. Burning styles include line burning, shading, and stippling. One or all three styles may be present. The use of additional techniques or embellishments may be present. However, the featured technique should clearly be the primary one.

#### **N-2 Carving**

An entry in this category should be predominately decorated using this technique. The gourd may be carved, chiselled, gouged or have cut design that penetrates the gourd surface, including filigree and fretwork. The use of additional techniques or embellishments may be present. However, the featured technique should clearly be the primary one.

#### **N-3 Coloring Techniques**

An entry in this category should be predominately decorated using this technique. Any coloring technique is acceptable. The use of additional techniques or embellishments may be present. However, the featured technique should clearly be the primary one.

#### **N-4 Embellishments**

An entry in this category should be predominately decorated using this technique. Beads, clay, glass, stones, metal, inlay, weaving, fiber arts, in lace and steam punk are examples of what may be used. However, the featured technique should clearly be the primary one.

#### **N-5 Mixed Media**

The gourd exhibits any combination of the above techniques and may include weaving, twining, coiling, and teneriffe.

## N-6 Gourds Crafted in a Class/Tutorial

The gourd entered in this category will be judged solely on its quality of craftsmanship and will, therefore, receive one overall score.

## N-7 Vases, Bowls, Containers

Any technique is allowed.

### ***THEME BASED CATEGORIES***

#### N-8 Music

The gourd exhibits any technique or combination of techniques; the gourd must be functional/playable.

#### N-9 Native Southwest

The gourd design incorporates cultural, tribal, historical or ceremonial motifs of Southwest Native American origin or use any combination of techniques is allowed.

#### N-10 Wildlife

Any technique or combination of techniques is allowed; any bird, animal, reptile or insect may be represented and design may incorporate landscape, flora, and/or habitat.

### **INTERMEDIATE DIVISION**

This Division is for an artist who may be new to gourds but has extensive experience or expertise in other art techniques i.e. painting, woodcarving etc. This Division includes the artist who has two or more years of gourd art experience or the technique being used to enhance the gourd , or has won a 1st place ribbon in the Novice Division or has won Best of Novice Division.

### ***CATEGORIES BASED ON TECHNIQUE***

#### I-1 Wood burning /pyrography

An entry in this category should be predominately decorated using this technique. The gourd may include the use of stains, inks, dyes, or clear finish. Burning styles include line burning, shading, and stippling. One or all three styles may be present. The use of additional techniques or embellishments may be present. However, the featured technique should clearly be the primary one.

#### I-2 Carving

An entry in this category should be predominately decorated using this technique. The gourd may be carved, chiselled, gouged or have cut design that penetrates the gourd surface, including filigree and fretwork. The use of additional techniques or embellishments may be present. However, the featured technique should clearly be the primary one.

#### I-3 Coloring Techniques

An entry in this category should be predominately decorated using this technique. Any coloring technique is acceptable. The use of additional techniques or embellishments may be present. However, the featured technique should clearly be the primary one.

#### I-4 Embellishments

An entry in this category should be predominately decorated using this technique. Beads, clay, glass, stones, metal, inlay, weaving, fiber arts, in lace and steam punk are examples of what may be used. However, the featured technique should clearly be the primary one.

#### I-5 Fiber Arts

An entry in this category should be predominately decorated using this technique. The gourd may be woven, twined, or coiled with natural or manmade materials. (E.g. pine needles, philodendron sheaths, long grass, bark strips, cotton clothesline, and paper rush). Traditional or Freestyle Teneriffe is included in this category. The use of additional techniques or embellishments may be present. However, the featured technique should clearly be the primary one.

#### I-6 Mixed Media

The gourd exhibits any combination of the above techniques.

### ***THEME BASED CATEGORIES***

#### I-7 Fantasy Creatures

Any technique allowed. More than one gourd may be used.

#### I-8 Illuminations

Lamps and illuminated gourds are included. Gourds will be displayed and judged unlit. Candles are not permitted.

#### I-9 Miniatures

Any technique is allowed. The gourd, including stems and any embellishments, must be 3 inches or less in any direction. Display stands are allowed. No jewelry gourds are allowed in this category.

#### I-10 Gourd Dolls or Spirit Figures

Any technique is allowed.

#### I-11 Gourd Masks

Any technique is allowed. Gourd masks are made to wear, display, or hang on the wall. Masks without a display stand must have a loop or hanger so they may be hung for display at the show. Please indicate clearly on your entry form if the mask must be hung for display.

#### I-12 Vases, Bowls, Containers

Any technique is allowed.

#### I-13 Wearable Gourd Art

Whole gourds or gourd shards may be used. Jewelry items may include pins, earrings, bracelets, hair pieces but must be wearable. Gourd Purses may be included in this category but must be functional. Multiple gourds may be used as well as accessories such as beads, leather, string, cord clasps, etc.

### I-14 Music

The gourd exhibits any technique or combination of techniques; the gourd must be functional/playable.

### I-15 Native Southwest

The gourd design incorporates cultural, tribal, historical or ceremonial motifs of Southwest Native American origin or use any combination of techniques is allowed.

### I-16 Wildlife

Any technique or combination of techniques is allowed; any bird, animal, reptile or insect may be represented and design may incorporate landscape, flora, and/or habitat.

## **ADVANCED DIVISION**

The Advanced Division is for gourd artists who have won Best of Intermediate Division. It is also for artists who have won first place in any category in the Intermediate Division and wish to enter another gourd in that same category. Generally, gourd artists in this division have a good grasp of multiple techniques and are creating distinctive, original work. They may have taught a class for a fee but are not showing in galleries and have not won top awards in art/gourd competitions. Please refer to the Intermediate Division for descriptions of the following categories.

### ***CATEGORIES BASED ON TECHNIQUE***

A-1 Wood burning /pyrography

A-2 Carving

A-3 Coloring Techniques

A-4 Embellishments

A-5 Fiber Arts

A-6 Mixed Media

### ***THEME BASED CATEGORIES***

A-7 Fantasy Creatures

A-8 Illuminations

A-9 Miniatures

A-10 Gourd Dolls or Spirit Figures

A-11 Gourd Masks

A-12 Vases, Bowls, Containers

A-13 Wearable Gourd Art

A-14 Music

A-15 Native Southwest

A-16 Wildlife

## **MASTER DIVISION**

Gourd artists in this division have an excellent grasp of multiple techniques and are creating distinctive, original work. Their work may have been shown in galleries or have previously won top awards in art/gourd competitions. Master Division is for gourd artists who have won Best of Advanced Division. It is also for artists who have won first place in any category in the Advanced Division and wish to enter another gourd in the same category. Artists entering this Division are not allowed to enter any work in Novice, Intermediate, or Open Divisions. Artists in this Division who are learning or perfecting a new skill and wish to enter a gourd utilizing that technique may enter that item in the Advanced Division. Please refer to the Intermediate Division for descriptions of the following categories:

### ***CATEGORIES BASED ON TECHNIQUE***

M-1 Wood burning /pyrography

M-2 Carving

M-3 Coloring Techniques

M-4 Embellishments

M-5 Fiber Arts

M-6 Mixed Media

### ***THEME BASED CATEGORIES***

M-7 Fantasy Creatures

M-8 Illuminations

M-9 Miniatures

M-10 Gourd Dolls or Spirit Figures

M-11 Gourd Masks

M-12 Vases, Bowls, Containers

M-13 Wearable Gourd Art

M-14 Music

M-15 Native Southwest

M-16 Wildlife

## **GRAND MASTER DIVISION**

By January 1st, Grand Master participants must notify Sunny Carpenter sunbehm918@gmail.com of their intent to provide one entry at the Festival. The Competition Committee plans to showcase the Grand Masters Single Entry in the most favorable way. Please let her know the size and scope of your entry. A single entry may have several parts, such as a puppet theater that will be considered as one item. For larger entries, let Sunny know the size, scope, and weight. Some entries may be too large and too heavy to sit on a table. The Grand Master Division is for the artists who consistently create gallery quality art work that is solely the artist's own concept. The main requirement to enter this level is that

the entry is an exceptional example of gourd art. These artists' skills in design and technique must be considered superior. Their creativity should be inspirational.

Note: To qualify for the Grand Master Division, you must:

a. Have gourd artwork in or have displayed in a gallery;

b. Won Best of Show or Best of Masters Division (or both).

This is an opportunity for superior gourd artists to enjoy and explore the unknown without restriction or the encumbrances of competition. Rather, the artists have the opportunity to submit a concept or demonstration piece(s) with the idea of stimulating wonder, thought and inspiration. The focus will be one of pushing the edge of possibilities instead of focusing on judging criteria. Those who enter gourds in this Division will benefit from personal growth. Those who view the entry will experience the expansion of their own ideas. This Division is for artists who want to challenge themselves, to design and produce a one-of-a-kind Gourd Art entry that is unrivalled, incomparable, and unique.

The Grand Master Division will not be judged. The Grand Master Division is not part of the Best of Show competition. They already are the Best of Show.

Note: Registration form(s), fee(s), and the photo release form(s) are to be sent to Pattie Langton, as per instructions outlined on Page 1 of this document. Artists entering in the Grand Master Division are not precluded from entering pieces in the Master Division. Grand Masters should send or email biographies to Sunny Carpenter [sunbehm918@gmail.com](mailto:sunbehm918@gmail.com) and these biographies will be displayed with your entries.

# REGISTRATION FORM

Exhibitor's Name			
Street Address	City	State	Zip
Telephone/Cell	Email		

\*If entering a mask, please indicate clearly on the entry form if it must be hung for display.

Initial below.

\_\_\_ I have read the criteria for each division and category and understand that any gourd entered in the wrong category will not be judged.

\_\_\_ I certify that this is my original design and not a direct copy from a class, publication, or tutorial.

\_\_\_ I would be interested in volunteering at the festival.

Entry must include a signed Photo Release Form.

Category Code	Description of Entry	Entry Fee	AZGS Entry #
Make checks payable to Arizona Gourd Society.		Total Amount Due	
Category	Fee	For AZGS Use Only	
Open		check	
Novice		cash	
Intermediate		money order	
Advanced		Date Received	
Masters			
Grand Masters			

# ARIZONA GOURD SOCIETY PHOTOGRAPH RELEASE FORM

No Gourd Art entry will be accepted without this consent form signed by the entrant.

This single consent form covers all entries by the undersigned.

I do not want to be included.

I certify that this is my original design and not a direct copy from a class, publication, or tutorial.

If you wish to be included, please complete the following:

I, (print full name) \_\_\_\_\_, hereby grant the Arizona Gourd Society (AZGS) the non-exclusive royalty-free right to photograph my entry(s) for possible inclusion in the 2018 DVD/calendar/promotional material (hereafter, "products") to be sold and distributed for AZGS fundraising activities. I understand that funds raised from the sale of products will be used to support the AZGS and its programs. AZGS agrees to recognize the artist on any image used, and to provide contact information (as desired) for the entrant.

AZGS reserves the right to photograph any view or detail that it deems appropriate to display the gourd art entry on the product. Entering the competition does not guarantee that the gourd art entry will be included in any product. It is further understood that the photograph(s) may be used for product(s).

I hereby irrevocably authorize the AZGS to edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish, or distribute this photo for purposes of publicizing the AZGS's programs for any other lawful purpose. In addition, I waive the right to inspect or approve the finished product, including written or electronic copy, wherein the photograph of my entry(s) appears. I waive any rights to royalties or other compensation arising from or related to the use of the photograph.

Entrant hereby represents and warrants that any element used to decorate the gourd will not infringe on any intellectual property rights (including without limitation, copyrights, and trademarks or licensing rights), publicity rights, or privacy rights of any third party. Entrant agrees to indemnify and hold AZGS and its respective officers or agents harmless from any damage, loss or expense (including attorney's fees and costs) occasioned by any claims, actions, suits or proceedings of any nature whatsoever and by whomsoever made, arising out of the photographed activities in which I am taking part or arising from any breach or alleged breach of the above intellectual property rights. This agreement may not be amended or modified in any respect except by written notification and consent of the President of AZGS. I am 18 years of age or older and am competent to contract in my own name. I have read this release before signing below and fully understand the content, meaning, and impact of this release.

Artist Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name \_\_\_\_\_

If artist is a minor:

I hereby certify that I am the parent or guardian of (named above) and do hereby give my consent without reservation to the foregoing on behalf of this minor.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Please include this contact information with the product(s).

Please do not include this contact information with the product(s).

Exhibitor's Name			
Street Address	City	State	Zip
Telephone/Cell		Email	

This page must be submitted with the Registration Form.