**California Gourd Society**

**Northern California Gourd Competition 2021**

**Hosted by the Folsom Gourd Artist and the California Gourd Society**

**10191 Mills Station Road**

**Rancho Cordova, CA 95670**

**May 6th – 9th, 2021**

**How to Enter**

* The competition is open to **ALL.**
* The entry fee per entry is $6.00 for CGS members and $10.00 for all others. One entry per entry form. **Make checks payable to CGS.**
* **Mailed entries** will be accepted. See **DIRECTIONS FOR MAILED ENTRIES.**
* **Mailed entries** must be received by April 29th.
* Entries may be submitted in person on **Thursday, May 6th from 1p.m. to 6 p.m. and on Friday, May 7th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**
* **LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE JUDGED.**
* Judging will take place on Friday, May 7th. The display will be open for viewing Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
* Release and pick up of entries will be **from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 9th.** All art work not picked up will become the property of CGS.
* While every effort is made to provide security of items, the Folsom Gourd Artist and the California Gourd Society **are not** responsible for damaged or lost item
* The artist is responsible for placing his or her piece in the correct **category.**

**Note: Please read category and division descriptions carefully. Design your art work for the category.**

**General Rules**

1. Gourds must predominate. 50% of medium or technique to be used on the crafted gourd surface should exhibit the required medium or technique.
2. Gourds previously entered in a CGS competition are not permitted.
3. Craft/artwork for each entry must be the **original** work of person who is the entrant.
4. Only one entry per category is permitted.
5. No class gourds are permitted.
6. Judges reserve the right to disqualify or reassign entries that do not meet category criteria.
7. **Copyright designs such as Disney characters or copies of other artist’s work may not be used on entries unless written permission is granted by the artist or copyright holder**. **Copyright free designs may be used.**
8. All participants agree to allow photographs to be taken of displayed items.
9. Category definitions are the same for Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Master Craftsman, but will be judged according to **Division** level.
10. Best of Show and People’s Choice winners are eligible to enter the AGS National Artistry Award.
11. First place winner in the Jim Story manipulated gourd category is eligible to enter in the AGS Jim Story Award.

Any questions, please contact Competition Chair Pamela Argo at pamela@rpargo.com or phone 916-648-6947.

**Judging**

The California Gourd Society will coordinate all judging. Judging will follow the American Gourd Society judging guidelines and use AGS trained judges. Scoring option C (Verbal Consensus) will be used. Points will be given for originality of design, workmanship/craftsmanship, neatness and quality, color/finish, balance/scale, and overall appearance.

**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 1st place ribbon.**

**Best of Division and Best of Show will be determined by all the judges.**

**Divisions:**

**Novice Division** – The Novice Division is for those who are relatively new to the art form and have been working with gourds for three years or less. The entrant should have no extensive experience or expertise in any art form that has been used on an entry gourd, such as painting, carving, pyrography, etc. Thus, an entrant who has won a major award in any juried art show should move into the Intermediate Division. Once you win a Blue ribbon in this Division you must move up to the next Division.

**Intermediate Division** – The Intermediate Division is for those artists who understand and use basic techniques. Entrants should not have won a major award in a gourd show or a juried art show. They may have sold gourds but have not taught a gourd class for a fee. Once you win a Best of Division or Best of Show in this Division you must move up to the next Division.

**Advanced** **Division** – The Advanced Division is for artists who have progressed to a more complicated level of work and have a good grasp of multiple techniques and finishing skills. They are creating more distinctive, original work and are ready to compete with a wider range of competitors. They may have taught a gourd class for a fee.

**Master’s Division** – The Master Division is for the artist whose work shows excellent use of all techniques and finishing skills. The work is of original design and not from a class (unless they have taught the class). Their work may have shown in galleries, won top awards in art/gourd competitions and have reached the level of fine art.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**The Categories are the same for ALL Divisions: Category definitions are the same for Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Master Craftsman, but will be judged according to Division level.**

**CATEGORIES**

1. **Pyrography** - Burning a design (line or shading) on a gourd with the use of an electric wood-burning tool.
2. **Carving/ Fretwork/Filigree** - The removal of a portion of the outer surface of the gourd, exposing the undersurface to create a design or texture in relief and/or a decorative design (of holes and other shapes) cut through the shell of the gourd.
3. **Painted**/ **Coloring** **Techniques** - Any coloring technique, using stains, dyes, inks, oil pastel pencils, crayons, colored pencils, felt tip pens, acrylic paints, oil paints, watercolors, etc.
4. **Wearable Art** - Anything wearable. Hats, jewelry, pins, name tags, purses, shoes, etc. May use multiple gourds and accessories (beads, leather, string, thread, cord clasps etc.). Any technique allowed. Jewelry should be displayed in box, case, on a board or stand, but the method of display will not be judged
5. **Weaving/Coiled** – A gourd woven or coiled using any natural, man-made or artificial fiber. Any technique allowed. You must be able to see part of the gourd. Any finish allowed. The fiber art technique must predominate.
6. **Mixed Media –** For Novice and Intermediate Division this category must include 2 or more techniques. Any type of finish or embellishments are allowed. For the Advanced or Master Division 3 or more techniques must be used.
7. **Wall Hangings –** Any gourd art that hangs on the wall. Any technique. Individual or multiple gourds may be used. Hanging material must be included.
8. **Distinctively Different –** We are looking for new, unique techniques or designs. Use your imagination.

**Special Category in Honor of Jim Story**

  **Manipulated Gourd -** A single dried manipulated gourd grown by the person who enters. Gourds may be grown in a mold or otherwise manipulated. Pieces should be left natural or finished with a clear finish only.

 **Crafted Manipulated Gourd -** The artist does not have to grow the gourd themselves but must use at least one manipulated gourd in the piece. An emphasis would be put on how the artist uses the manipulation to their advantage and that results in the manipulation enhancing the end design.