# **FLORIDA GOURD SOCIETY FESTIVAL**

February 21-23, 2025



# **GROWING GOURDS**

Azan Shriners Center, 1591 W. Eau Gallie Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32935

# **2025 COMPETITION PACKET**

# **Table of Contents:**

Page 2.	Competition Rules & Entry Requirements
Page 3.	Entry Instructions, Fees, Drop Off & Pick Up Details
Page 4.	Judging Criteria & Awards
Page 5.	DIVISIONS & Division Rules
Page 6-11.	CATEGORY Listings & Rules
Page 12-13.	Competition Entry Form
Page 14.	Competition Entry Tags

# **Competition Rules & Entry Requirements**

- 1. Gourd entries must be the work of the artist. Be mindful that gourds should be original in design and not copied from a book or from a class project. Any entry that is verbatim from a pattern or class is not eligible for judging. To be eligible for judging, gourds adapted from patterns and classes must reflect the entrant's ability to make the design or technique their own. Copyrighted images will not be accepted.
- **2. Gourds must predominate in all categories.** Judges may disqualify an entry if they feel that this is not the case. Where permitted, use of man-made and natural materials shall be limited to 25% of the gourd surface covered.
- 3. All cut and open gourds must be cleaned or finished on the inside unless the artist has stated it as part of their design.
- **4. Stems are not required.** If stems are present, they must be cleaned and neat.
- **5. Stands are allowed for gourds that do not sit up on their own.** These stands must be simple and will not be considered in the judging. Any gourd that does not sit solidly will not be accepted. Rotating stands for highly decorated gourds will be allowed, but not turned-on during judging.
- 6. Fractaled gourds, including faux fractal are not permitted in competition.
- 7. Gourds previously entered in the FGS Festival may not be entered again unless the gourd was disqualified or has been substantially re-worked.
- 8. Photo documentation is required for verifying the process used on complicated entries.
- 9. No business cards in the exhibition area.
- 10. The Florida Gourd Society will attempt to provide reasonable security for all entries but assumes no responsibility for damage to or theft of an entry.
- 11. Competitors must submit an Entry Form (pages 12-13)
- 12. Only one entry per category.
- 13. Each gourd must have an entry tag attached to it (page 14).
  - A. **You** must mark your tags "yes" or "no" allowing judges/clerks to move your gourd from the category you chose if it does not fit the criteria for that category. Gourds left in wrong categories will be disqualified from judging.
  - B. **You** must mark the tag "yes" or "no" if you wish to sell your entry at the end of the festival. Indicate the sale price.
- **14. Permissions:** A permission form is on page 1 of the Entry Form. Artists must sign this form to permit use of photos of their entries for publicity. They have the option of permitting use of a personal photo for publicity.
- **15. Skill Levels**: A person's skill level for Division V, VI, and VII is determined by past participation in Gourd Festivals. A participant may be moved up a level, if deemed appropriate by the Festival Committee. Please refer to page 5 for details.

Each **DIVISION** and **CATEGORY** has specific requirements.

# **Entry Instructions, Fees, Check-In & Pick Up Details**

The preferred method for entering the Gourd Festival is to <u>MAIL</u> entry forms.

Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by February 10, 2025.

Walk-In entry forms are ONLY accepted from noon to 4 on Friday, February 21, 2025.

No early or late deliveries will be accepted.

# **ENTRY FEES**

**YOUTH COMPETITION:** No registration or entry fee.

<u>FGS MEMBERS</u>: There is no registration fee for current members of the Florida Gourd Society. Members receive one free gourd entry. Additional gourd entries are \$2 each. Please remit check, payable to FGS, with your 2-page entry form.

**NON-MEMBERS:** You do not need to be a member of FGS to enter the competition. The festival registration fee is \$10, plus \$2 for each gourd entry. *Please remit check, payable to FGS, with your 2-page entry form.* 

How to become an FGS Member: Membership forms are found at <a href="http://www.flgourdsoc.org/about-us">http://www.flgourdsoc.org/about-us</a> The cost is \$12 annually.

# **CHECK-IN TIMES**

Check-In is on Friday, February 21, 2025

MAILED-IN ENTRY FORMS- 8:30 AM - 4 PM Bring your gourds with completed tags. No early or late deliveries will be accepted.

**WALK-IN ENTRY FORMS-** NOON – 4 PM Bring your 2-page entry form, fees, and gourds with completed tags. **No early or late deliveries will be accepted.** A separate table is set up just inside the door.

# **PICK-UP TIME**

Pick up is on Sunday February 23, 2025, at 3:00 PM. You or your representative must present the stub from your entry tag. Any gourd not picked up by 3:30 will be donated to FGS for auction.

# **Criteria and Awards**

**AGS JUDGING CRITERIA:** Overall appearance, craftsmanship, difficulty/level of effort and featured technique/theme. 75% Workmanship, 25% Creativity, Originality and Uniqueness

Judges are certified through the American Gourd Society. The judge's decisions will be final. The Head Judge has the right to award additional awards. It is not mandatory that the judges give out all the awards if the entries do not meet the requirements of the category or workmanship does not merit an award.

# **AWARDS:**

## **RIBBONS:**

- Category Placed: 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, merit ribbons (when merited)
- Best of Division Ribbons: Div I- Dried, Div II- Dried- Manipulated,
   Div IV Novice, Div V- Intermediate, Div VI- Master,
   Div VII Adult Crafted

### **SPECIAL RIBBONS:**

- The President's Choice Award
- **Special Exhibition-** My Idea, My Way
- The People's Choice- Most Votes by the Public
- Show Theme

#### **MONETARY AWARDS:**

- Best of Festival- Judges Agree
- Best of Divisions: Div I- Dried, Div II- Dried- Manipulated,
   Div IV- Novice, Div V- Intermediate, Div VI- Master, Div VII- Adult Crafted



Congratulations to Diane Doherty of the Brevard Patch, winner of the Logo Contest.

# **DIVISIONS & DIVISION RULES**

<u>DIVISION I- DRIED</u> Must be grown by the entrant. Stem not required. If present, must be cleaned and neat. No wax, stains, or paints. Must be true to type of gourd.

<u>DIVISION II- DRIED, MANIPULATED</u> Must be grown by the entrant. Stem not required. If present, must be cleaned and neat. Gourd must be clean. No wax, stains, or paints. Must be true to type of gourd. May be knotted, coiled, or etched.

Category 5: SINGLE GOURD. May have been knotted, coiled, and/or grown in a hand-made or commercial mold.

Category 6. MULTIPLE GOURDS. They must be inseparable, can be manipulated in one or more ways, including grown in a mold. Can be grown in same year or different year.

<u>DIVISION III- YOUTH COMPETITION</u> Open to youth age 3-19. Refer to the separate Youth Competition packet for entry information, artistry rules, awards, and categories.

<u>DIVISION IV - ADULT NOVICE SKILL LEVEL</u> This Division is for crafter/artist who understands the basic techniques. They may have sold gourds but have not taught a gourd class for a fee. May be class work or from patterns with noticeable changes.

<u>DIVISION V - ADULT INTERMEDIATE SKILL LEVEL</u> This Division is for the crafter/artist that has advanced from beginning techniques. An Intermediate Artist has won one of the following from the Novice Level: 15 Blue Ribbons, or 1 Best of Division, or 1 Best of Festival.

<u>DIVISION VI – ADULT MASTER SKILL LEVEL</u> This Division is for the crafter/artist that has exceptional advanced skills. A Master Level Artist has won one of the following: 30 Blue Ribbons at the lower levels, or 1 Best of Division at the Intermediate level, or 1 Best of Festival at the Intermediate level.

# <u>DIVISION VII – ADULT CRAFTED SKILL LEVEL</u> Open to adults of any skill level.

Multiple gourds or gourd pieces may be used.

# SPECIAL EXHIBITION- FOR DISPLAY ONLY- "MY IDEA, MY WAY"

Looking for the most outlandish, extravagant, genius piece. Single or multiple figures allowed. Any theme or technique or materials allowed. This entry may be done by a single person or a group. Must be sturdy and stand solidly. A wood base may be used for support. Must fit into a 3' wide x 2' deep area. Not higher than 60". Ribbons will be awarded, but this category will not be eligible for the Best of Division or Best of Festival award.

<u>JIM STORY NATIONAL COMPETITION-</u> Winner of DIV II is eligible to enter the Jim Story National Competition. Details on Page 11.

# **CATEGORY LISTINGS & RULES**

Each **DIVISION** and **CATEGORY** has specific requirements.

Entries that do not fit into Division IV, V, or VI may fit into Division VII.

# **DIVISION I- DRIED CATEGORIES**

**CATEGORY 1 – LARGEST IN CIRCUMFERENCE** 

CATEGORY 2 - LONGEST OVERALL LENGTH FROM TIP TO TIP

**CATEGORY 3 – SMALLEST GOURD IN OVERALL SIZE** 

CATEGORY 4 – UGLIEST, FREAKIEST, GROWN NATURALLY

# **DIVISION II- DRIED- MANIPULATED, HAND TRAINED CATEGORIES**

Winner is Eligible for National Jim Story competition.

**CATEGORY 5 – SINGLE GOURD** 

**CATEGORY 6 - MULTIPLE** 

**GOURDS** 

# **DIVISION III- YOUTH COMPETITION**

Refer to the separate Youth Competition packet for artistry rules and categories.

# **Paint & Material Clarifications**

Transparent Colors & Opaque Paints are allowed in Categories 10-65, unless noted.

**Transparent Colors:** Includes stain, dyes, wax, varnish

**Opaque Paints**: Includes any application using paints, stains, dyes, inks, or varnish of opaque nature. Opaque Paints include *stains and dyes* which cover the surface completely, such as black and white, and will be considered a paint technique.

Man-made and Natural Materials are allowed in Categories 10-65, unless noted.

Man-made Materials: Includes beads, artificial objects, cords, ribbons, and silk/plastic flowers. Natural Materials: Include feathers, dried seed pods, dried flowers, bark, bones, shells, vines, leather.

**Natural Material Exception:** Waxed linen and artificial sinew are allowed for sewing rim treatments.

# **DIVISION IV- ADULT NOVICE SKILL LEVEL CATEGORIES**

# CATEGORY 10 - CARVED, CHISELED, CHIPPED, GOUGED, CUT DESIGN, FILIGREE

May combine techniques. May use transparent or opaque colors *as an accent*.

#### **CATEGORY 11 - PAINTED GOURD**

Whole or cut.

## CATEGORY 12 - FIBER TECHNIQUES - Weaving/Coiling/Tenerife/Crochet/Knit

Any technique using fabric, thread, ribbon, rope, yarn. May combine techniques.

#### **CATEGORY 13 - BEADED GOURD**

With or without lid. May use transparent or opaque color as an accent. If color is used, entry will be judged on its compliment to the gourd design.

### **CATEGORY 14 – PYROGRAPHY**

Wood burned design must predominate. With or without color.

#### **CATEGORY 15 - SCULPTURE or ASSEMBLAGE**

Includes furniture items.

# CATEGORY 16 - MIXED MEDIA- Decoupage/Clay/Gold leaf/Papier mâché/Inlay/Wire/Etc

May include techniques such as woodburning, carving, etc.

## **CATEGORY 17 - JEWELRY-** Single items or sets, name tags, hair clips.

# CATEGORY 18 - WEARABLE- purses, back packs, belts, hats

Any combination of techniques and embellishments allowed.

## CATEGORY 19 - BOWL/VASE/TEAPOT/PITCHER/URN

With or without lid. Can be functional or decorative.

# CATEGORY 20 - MINIATURE- No jewelry or holiday items

Gourd must be three inches or less in height, length, and width including attachments.

#### **CATEGORY 21 - GOURD MASKS/WALL HANGINGS**

Masks may be decorative or wearable. Wall hangings include swags, mirrors.

## **CATEGORY 22 - COMBINATION OF TECHNIQUES**

May not fit into any other categories 10 through 21. Must use 3 or more techniques.

# **DIVISION V- ADULT INTERMEDIATE CATEGORIES**

# CATEGORY 23 - CARVED, CHISELED, CHIPPED, GOUGED, CUT DESIGN, FILIGREE

May combine techniques. May use transparent or opaque colors *as an accent*.

#### **CATEGORY 24 - PAINTED GOURD**

Whole or cut.

## CATEGORY 25- FIBER TECHNIQUES- Weaving/Coiling/Tenerife/Crochet/Knit

Any technique using fabric, thread, ribbon, rope, yarn. May combine techniques.

#### **CATEGORY 26 - BEADED GOURD**

With or without lid. May use transparent or opaque color *as an accent*. If color is used, the entry will be judged on its compliment to the gourd design.

#### **CATEGORY 27 - PYROGRAPHY**

Wood burned design must predominate. With or without color.

#### **CATEGORY 28 - SCULPTURE or ASSEMBLAGE**

Includes furniture items.

# **CATEGORY 29 - MIXED MEDIA-** Decoupage/Clay/Gold leaf/Papier mâché/Inlay/Wire/Etc

May include techniques such as woodburning, carving, etc.

**CATEGORY 30 - JEWELRY-** Single items or sets, name tags, hair clips.

# CATEGORY 31 - WEARABLE- purses, back packs, belts, hats

Any combination of techniques and embellishments allowed.

## CATEGORY 32 - BOWL/VASE/TEAPOT/PITCHER/URN

With or without lid. Can be functional or decorative.

## **CATEGORY 33 - MINIATURE-** No jewelry or holiday items

Gourd must be three inches or less in height, length, and width including attachments.

#### **CATEGORY 34 - GOURD MASKS/WALL HANGINGS**

Masks may be decorative or wearable. Wall hangings include swags, mirrors.

## **CATEGORY 35 - COMBINATION OF TECHNIQUES**

May not fit into any other categories 23 through 34. Must use 3 or more techniques.

# **DIVISION VI- ADULT MASTER CATEGORIES**

# CATEGORY 36 - CARVED, CHISELED, CHIPPED, GOUGED, CUT DESIGN, FILIGREE

May combine techniques. May use transparent or opaque colors as an accent.

#### **CATEGORY 37 - PAINTED GOURD**

Whole or cut. No Man-made or Natural materials.

## CATEGORY 38 - FIBER TECHNIQUES - Weaving/Coiling/Tenerife/Crochet/Knit

Any technique using fabric, thread, ribbon, rope, yarn. May combine techniques.

#### **CATEGORY 39 - BEADED GOURD**

With or without lid. May use transparent or opaque color *as an accent*. If color is used, entry will be judged on its compliment to the gourd design.

### **CATEGORY 40 - PYROGRAPHY**

Wood burned design must predominate. With or without color.

#### **CATEGORY 41 - SCULPTURE or ASSEMBLAGE.**

Includes furniture items.

# CATEGORY 42 - MIXED MEDIA- Decoupage/Clay/Gold leaf/Papier mâché/Inlay/Wire/Etc

May include techniques such as woodburning, carving, etc.

**CATEGORY 43 - JEWELRY-** Single items or sets, name tags, hair clips.

## CATEGORY 44 - WEARABLE- purses, back packs, belts, hats

Any combination of techniques and embellishments allowed.

## CATEGORY 45- BOWL/VASE/TEAPOT/PITCHER/URN

With or without lid. Can be functional or decorative.

## **CATEGORY 46- MINIATURE-** No jewelry or holiday items

Gourd must be three inches or less in height, length, and width including attachments.

#### **CATEGORY 47 - GOURD MASKS/WALL HANGINGS**

Masks may be decorative or wearable. Wall hangings include swags, mirrors.

## **CATEGORY 48 - COMBINATION OF TECHNIQUES**

May not fit into any other categories 36 through 47. Must use 3 or more techniques.

# **DIVISION VII- ADULT CRAFTED CATEGORIES**

# **CATEGORY 49 - ILLUMINATED GOURDS/ LAMPS**

Cut gourd with light source; Quality of illumination will impact judge's decision. Lamps must be functional with a light source, electrical or insert. Base, column, and/ or shade may be made from a gourd. Some components of the lamp may be from wood or may be purchased. May include holiday and seasonal themes.

## **CATEGORY 50 - NATIVE AMERICAN DESIGN**

Designs that incorporate cultural, tribal, historical, or ceremonial motifs of Native American origin. May use natural materials for accents. Man-made items not allowed EXCEPT for beads. Waxed linen and artificial sinew are allowed in rim treatments. May use transparent or opaque colors.

# CATEGORY 51 - SEASONAL GOURD- ANY SEASON- FALL-WINTER-SPRING-SUMMER

Not a holiday theme. Must convey the theme of the season chosen.

#### **CATEGORY 52 - SINGLE HOLIDAY GOURD- ANY HOLIDAY**

CATEGORY 53 - ANY HOLIDAY ITEM- SCENES, SWAGS, ARRANGEMENTS, BASKETS, FIGURES

#### **CATEGORY 54 - ORNAMENTS- ANY SEASON OR HOLIDAY**

#### CATEGORY 55 - GOURD SCENE INSIDE OF A GOURD-

May include a scene outside of the gourd.

## CATEGORY 56 - GOURD FLORAL ARRANGEMENT/ GOURD FLOWER

Combination of gourds or gourd parts may be used.

## **CATEGORY 57 - BIRD HOUSE/ BIRD FEEDERS**

#### **CATEGORY 58 - IMAGINARY CREATURES**

Magical or supernatural, cartoon, science fiction, steampunk, dragons, wizards, fairies.

#### CATEGORY 59 - TOY/GAME/DOLL/PUPPETS/MARIONETTES

Must be functional.

# **CATEGORY 60 - AMERICANA/PATRIOTIC**

Single or multiple figures allowed.

## **CATEGORY 61 - MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**

Must be functional.

## CATEGORY 62 - ANIMALS/BIRDS/ FISH/REPTILES/INSECTS

## **CATEGORY 63 - CRAFTED MANIPULATED GOURD**

The manipulated gourd may have been grown by someone other than the artist.

#### CATEGORY 64 - FLORIDA FESTIVAL THEME GOURD- GROWING GOURDS

# **ADULT SPECIAL EXHIBITION**

# CATEGORY 65 - IT'S MY IDEA! I DID IT MY WAY!

Looking for the most outlandish, extravagant, genius piece. Single or multiple figures allowed. Any theme or technique or materials or paints allowed. This entry may be done by a single person or a group. Must be sturdy and stand solidly. A wood base may be used for support. Must fit into a 3' wide x 2' deep area. Not higher than 60". Ribbons will be awarded, but this category will not be eligible for the Best of Division or Categories cash award.

# **JIM STORY NATIONAL COMPETITION**

The winner of DIVISION II – Manipulated Gourd is eligible to enter the *National* competition. It is up to the winner to complete and submit the application.



For more information visit

https://www.americangourdsociety.org/jim-story-award.html

Name:	CRAFTER # (TO BE FILLED IN BY REGISTRAR)
Email:	
Address:	CityStateZip
Phone – Home () (	Cell - ()
FGS Member Entry Fees	Entry Fees for Non-FGS Members
First gourd entry is free \$0 Each additional gourd is \$2. \$2 x = \$ Total number of gourds	Registration Fee <u>\$10</u> Each gourd entered is \$2.  \$2 x = \$  Total
I joined FGS today. I joined when I signed up for a class.	Total number of gourds
I am a current FGS member.	Membership to FGS is \$12 annually.
Johny Blunt. P.O. Box 521524, Longwood, FL 327  CHECK-IN TIMES:  MAILED-IN ENTRY FORMS. 8:30 AM – 4 PM	check (made payable to FGS) to: 752-1524 Must be postmarked by February 10, 2025  Friday, February 21, 2025  No early or late deliveries will be accepted No early or late deliveries will be accepted.
Permission fo	or Media Release:
	Society to use photos of my entries for publicity in the DVINE newsletter, and advertising for future festivals. It is
YES, I give my permission for the Florida Gourd Gourd Society magazine, The GOURDVINE newsNO, I do not give my permission for the Florida	-
Signature:	_ date:

	CRAFTER # (TO BE FILLED IN BY REGISTRAR)  Limit one gourd per category.
DIVISION I – DRIED GOURDS	DIVISION VI – ADULT MASTER SKILL LEVEL
21 GOURD MASKS/WALL HANGINGS22 COMBINATION OF TECHNIQUES  DIVISION V - ADULT INTERMEDIATE SKILL LEVEL23 CARVED, CHISELED, CHIPPED, GOUGED, CUT DESIGN, FILIGREE24 PAINTED GOURD25 FIBER TECHNIQUES - Weaving, Coiling, Tenerife, Crochet, Knit26 BEADED GOURD	57 BIRD HOUSE, BIRD FEEDERS58 IMAGINARY CREATURES59 TOY/GAME/DOLL/PUPPETS/MARIONETTES60 AMERICANA/PATRIOTIC61 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS62 ANIMALS, BIRDS.FISH/REPTILES/INSECTS63 CRAFTED MANIPULATED GOURD64 CURRENT FLORIDA FESTIVAL THEME GOURD  ADULT SPECIAL EXHIBITION65 IT'S MY IDEA! I DID IT MY WAY!

Questions about divisions and category qualifications? Contact Therese Zamoiski

tzmoiski4@yahoo.com 904-783-6054

Put FGS competition question in subject line.

27 PYROGRAPHY with or without color

\_\_\_\_29 MIXED MEDIA. May include wire.

30 JEWELRY

33 MINIATURE

\_\_\_\_28 SCULPTURE or ASSEMBLAGE – includes furniture

\_\_\_\_31 WEARABLE – purses, back packs, belts, hats \_\_\_\_32 BOWL, VASE, TEAPOT, PITCHER or URN

# **Adult Crafter Competition Tags**

check-in. Keep the bottom portion of tag, you will need this to pick up your gourds at the end of the festival. Use a phone number that you can be reached at gourd (if you've checked "Is for sale" and filled in Price). Gourds placed in the wrong category MAY only be moved by Registrar with approval of Head Judge. during the festival. Give a description: Ex: Eagle bowl with feathers. You will be notified by phone by Registrar if someone is interested in purchasing your PLEASE PRINT ON WHITE CARD STOCK. Punch top center hole only and use thin white string. Fill in tag BEFORE arrival. Entrant # will be assigned at

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Crafter #         3	S ω N	Crafter # 3	Crafter #       2         Division:       3         Category:       M
Description:  Description:		Description:	Description:
Name: Name:Phone:		Name:Phone:	Name: Phone:
	. 0	NOT for Sale	NOT for Sale
Permission to move gourd to cor- rect category?YESNO rect category?YESNC	-	Permission to move gourd to correct category?YESNO	Permission to move gourd to correct category?YESNO
Name: Name:	700	Name:	Name:
Entrant # Patch: Entrant # Category: Division: C	Patch:   E	Entrant # Patch: Division: Category:	Entrant # Patch: Division: Category: