

Judges' Statement

NAN's *The Exemplary* presents a unique challenge for needleart judges. This exhibition draws entries from all around the country and consistently displays some of the best original needleart to be seen and enjoyed.

This year was no exception. The 2017 *Exemplary* features an eclectic mix of entries, many original and many non-original, using creative touches to bring alive to the viewer canvas and fabric of all types. As you visit today, you will see innovative use of thread, paper, metal, and fiber manipulation, as well as traditional techniques, all used with exceptional skill.

One item that became apparent to us, as judges, was the invaluable tool of an artist's statement, without which we would not have been able to interpret the artist's creative process.

Judges are tasked to evaluate each piece on its merits, and often one point can make the difference between a ribbon awarded or not.

We are honored to have the privilege to be a part of this year's *The Exemplary*.

Enter, enjoy, and come away inspired.

Do Andrew, Master Judge

Judith Ann DiCarlo, Judge

Teresa Frank, Judge