

*The Exemplary* showcases excellence in needlework and the intermediate steps in its accomplishment. It is an opportunity for everyone to show achievements, teach and learn by example, share and find camaraderie as each strives for personal growth. It is a judged competition of needleart, a display of relevant embroidery subjects, and the place where those enrolled in our certification programs exhibit their artistic work.

## Eligibility & Entry Rules:

1. Each entry must be embroidery: i.e., created with a threaded needle.
2. Each entry to be judged must be the work of the entrant and have been completed within the last three years.
3. Each entry is eligible for the judged competition only once.
4. Each entry is limited to a size that can be insured and shipped by the U.S. Post Office, UPS or FedEx.
5. Entries with glass should be personally delivered and picked up. While glass is accepted, it is more difficult to view work through glass and could affect the scoring.
6. **Entries packed with loose Styrofoam “peanuts” will not be unpacked, displayed, judged, or critiqued.**
7. Each entry must be completely and appropriately finished.
8. Each entry must be equipped appropriately for display with the necessary cases, stands or wire hangers (no saw tooth hangers).
9. Each entry must have the title, entrant’s first and last name, address, and telephone number firmly attached to the back of the piece.
10. Each entry must be properly registered and received by the deadlines listed on page 18.
11. Entry fee: \$25 for first entry, whether judged or not, and \$20 for each subsequent entry, whether judged or not.

## Awards:

Each entry will be judged on its own merits, regardless of source. Ribbons for first, second, third, and honorable mention are available for each category. **Best of Show (Jean Taggart Award)** will be selected from the first place winners in all categories except Japanese Embroidery. **The Best of Show – Japanese Embroidery (Beverly E. Booker Award)** will be selected from the first place winners in the Japanese Embroidery categories. Ribbons will be awarded at the sole discretion of the judges and the judges’ decisions are final. Each judge also has the option to select one entry to receive a **Judges’ Choice Award**.

Awards representing the Academy’s goals of excellence, innovation, and heart will be presented by the Academy’s Board of Directors: **The Exemplary**, demonstrating outstanding technical skill; **The Muse’s Kiss (Peg Laflam Award)**, demonstrating innovation or imagination; **The**

**Academy Heart (Jody Adams Award)**, demonstrating a quality symbolically associated with heart such as beauty, wisdom, passion, or courage; **The Linda Calsing Award**, when a piece reflects Linda’s love of history and travel; and **The Betsy Robb Award** is presented for excellence in predominant use of silk and metal.

The following awards are to be presented by the sponsors of the awards: **The Dolores Andrew Award** is presented to an original entry that demonstrates creative use of color and design in any medium. **The Gail Sirna Award** is presented to the piece that portrays a flower or floral theme in the most artistically and/or technically excellent way.

Finally, each viewer may nominate an entry for **The Popular Choice Award** presented at the Awards Banquet to the piece with the most nominations.

## Categories for Judged Entries:

**Non-professional** and **professional** work will be judged separately. A **professional** is a person who is trained through continuous years of experience and education in the field of needlework. This includes designing and/or teaching, holding certification, teaching needlework on a regular basis for monetary remuneration, or those who consider themselves professionals.

1. **Original:** The entrant has taken control of and responsibility for all aspects of the entry from the initial concept, through the development of design, to its final execution and presentation. **An Artist Statement is required.**
2. **Adaptation:** The entrant has taken inspiration from another source, such as a painting, illustration or photograph. **An Artist Statement, which provides appropriate credit and source, is required.**
3. **Non-original with Instructions:** This includes class projects, kits, charted designs, and pieces with stitch guides. Please give source of instruction. **An Artist Statement is not required, but is recommended** especially if any change has been made by the entrant.
4. **Non-original without Instructions:** This includes painted canvases or pieces without a stitch guide. **An Artist Statement is required** and should include a description of choices made by the entrant.
5. **Mixed Media:** The entrant has combined embroidery with another art form thereby stretching the boundaries of both. **An Artist Statement is required.**
6. **Japanese Embroidery:** Traditional Japanese Embroidery (JE) is the art of embellishing obis and kimonos. An entrant should adhere to the 46 techniques of JE and stitch on ground fabric of obi or kimono silk with Japanese flat silk and/or Japanese gold/silver or colorful metallics. May be original or class pieces. Please give source of design. **An Artist Statement is not required, but is recommended.**
7. **There is a Challenge this year. See p. 14 for details.**

*(continued on the next page)*

## Categories for Non-Judged Entries:

*Not judged and not eligible for awards.*

1. **For the Joy of Sharing:** an opportunity for a stitcher to share and viewers to enjoy. If in the future you change your mind about having this piece judged, you may enter it at a future time in a judged category - it is only those that have been judged in *The Exemplary* before that cannot be entered again for judging in this venue.
2. **Needleart on Loan** provides the opportunity for sharing personal challenges, family, historical, or ethnic embroidery. Please include a typewritten description of the entry. Entry Fee: \$25 per piece or \$25 per display table.
3. **Next Time at Assembly** is a display of programs for the upcoming Assembly. No Entry Fee.
4. **Certification, Teacher Cum Laude, or Honors** is a display of the candidates' work. No Entry Fee.

## Judges:

**Cindy Powell, NAN Certified Judge**  
**Jennifer Riefenberg, NAN Certified Judge**

## Critiques:

At the entrant's discretion, a judge will write a one-page critique for any entry, judged or not, including Certification pieces. Fee: \$25 per critique.

## Photography:

With the entrant's permission, the Academy photographs distinctive pieces for educational and archival purposes and for use on the Academy website. No other photography will be allowed without further permission from the entrant.

## The Exemplary Sales:

Any entry, judged or not, may be offered for sale through the exhibit for a 30% commission payable to the National Academy of Needlearts at the time of sale. (The 30% commission applies to sales of work commissioned during the *The Exemplary* exhibition.) The seller is responsible for setting the sale price. Delivery will occur in a manner agreed upon by the buyer and seller. Items may not be removed from *The Exemplary* prior to closing. The buyer or seller must make arrangements for packing or shipping.

## Registration:

**Send Entry Form, Artist Statement, and Fees, no later than February 14, 2020 to:**

**Gail Sirna**  
5823 Wellwood Court  
Rochester Hills, MI 48306  
exemplary@needleart.org

## Artist Statement:

**Submission by email preferred.** An Artist Statement is recommended for each entry and required in some categories. The Artist's Statement should be 150 words or less, and state important information about the piece, e.g., inspiration, materials, techniques, etc. Note any changes in stitch, thread, etc., for non-original pieces. For further guidance, see the Artist Statement template that is downloadable at <https://tinyurl.com/y7err3mj>. Exhibition personnel reserve the right to edit the Artist Statement. The Artist Statement for a prize winning piece may be used on the NAN website.

## Delivery:

**Ship entries to arrive no later than Friday, March 6, 2020 to:**

**(Do Not Request Signature for Delivery.)**

**NAN Exemplary**  
c/o Deborah Mitek, 8242 Sarah Court, Grosse Ile, MI 48138  
(734) 347-6841, [ineedlework@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ineedlework@sbcglobal.net)

OR

**Personally deliver entries to *The Exemplary*** on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 between 7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Arrangements may be made for Tuesday night delivery.

Judging will begin promptly on Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Late arrivals will be displayed but not judged.

## Pick Up Entries At:

***The Exemplary* at Somerset Inn**  
Tuesday, March 24, 2020 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

OR

**Entries pre-registered for return shipping will be shipped immediately after the exhibition.**

**Entries may not be removed from the exhibition prior to 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, 2020.**

## Disclaimer of Liability:

**In no event shall the Academy or Somerset Inn be responsible or liable, directly or indirectly, for any damage, loss, cost or expense of any kind or nature with respect to any entry, exhibit or class. By participating with any entry, exhibit or class, you agree to be responsible for any such damage, loss, cost or expense. Please check that your homeowner's insurance policy adequately covers your entries.**

## Reservation of Rights:

**The Academy and Somerset Inn reserve the right to refuse to exhibit any entry that either party deems inappropriate in its sole judgment. The Academy also reserves the right to re-classify any judged entry that is entered in an incorrect category as determined by the Academy in its sole judgment.**



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