

The Exemplary

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 venue of needleart, a display of relevant embroidery subjects, and the place where those enrolled in our certification programs exhibit their artistic work.

Entries to the 2021 Virtual *Exemplary* will be posted – along with artist statements – to the NAN website in a separate gallery, like those of past year's ribbon winners already on the site.

Eligibility & Entry Rules

1. Each entry must be embroidery: i.e., created with a threaded needle.
2. Each entry must be the work of the entrant and have been completed within the last three years.
3. Each entry must have the title, entrant's first and last name, address, and telephone number firmly attached to the back of the piece.
4. Each entry must be properly registered and received by the deadlines listed on page 19.
5. Entry fee: With no cost for room or display rental, there is no entry fee this year. However, donations are much appreciated. Your support will help with website expenses and assist in our efforts to bring needle art to a larger audience. Donations may also be made on the website.

Awards

There will be NO judged nor Board awards, due to the inability to properly judge pieces in a virtual environment. We may consider, if we can accommodate such, to have a Popular Choice Award to the piece with the most nominations from our members and the public.

There will be no judges, critiques, nor photography of the pieces in 2021 due to the virtual showing.

However, please review the following suggestions for taking and submitting a photograph of your wonderful entries.

1. Try to photograph in natural daylight where the light is in a brightly lit room and you can avoid shadows on your work.
2. Either lay your piece flat on the floor (on a towel or something) or on a wall and hold your phone or camera so that it is level with your piece and try to fill the viewfinder with as much of the needle art as you can – we want to see your beautiful piece -- not your wall!
3. When you email your entry to Gail, send the full size file and please include the title, etc. in the email. If you are comfortable renaming the file, name it with your name and the title.

By submitting your entry into the virtual *Exemplary*, the Academy has been granted permissions to use the images of your pieces for educational and archival purposes and for use on the Academy website and Facebook page, and in *NANthology*.

Registration

Email digital photography, Entry Form, Artist Statement, and (optional) donation, no later than February 16, 2021 to:

Gail Sirna

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

Reservation of Rights

The Academy reserves the right to refuse to exhibit any entry that it deems inappropriate in its sole judgment. The Academy also reserves the right to re-classify any entry that is entered in an incorrect category as determined by the Academy in its sole judgment. The Academy reserves the right to refuse any photographs submitted for entry that is deemed of poor quality in its sole judgment.

Categories for Entries

Non-professional and **professional** work will be displayed 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 page 13 for details.

Categories for Additional Entries

Certification, Teacher Cum Laude, or Honors is a display of the candidates' work.

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. Exhibition personnel reserve the right to edit the Artist Statement.

For further guidance, see the Artist Statement template that is downloadable at <https://tinyurl.com/y7err3mj>.