

SPECIAL THEME AWARD

The Special Theme encompasses all divisions. Each entry to be considered for the Special Theme, as indicated on the individual exhibitor entry forms, is judged within its division and on its ability to express the Special Theme. Please be sure to note on your entry form check off box if you wish your entry to be considered for Special Theme. Limit of one Special Theme entry per exhibitor.

Only one entry per exhibitor.

Two Best of Divisions will be awarded – one for adult and one for youth.

Premium will only be awarded to the two Best of Divisions: \$20.00/each

2009 – The Colors of Autumn

2010 – Cats and Dogs

2011 – The Big E

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1. EXHIBITOR COMPLIANCE.** The rules and regulations for The Big E Creative Arts Department are the conditions under which all entries are accepted. Exhibitors are urged to study these rules carefully before making application for entries. A signed entry serves as an agreement to comply with all rules and regulations contained within this book and all other official Big E publications (including changes posted within our website). Incomplete (unsigned) entries will be returned with any accompanying payment.
- 2. ELIGIBILITY.** Entries shall be limited to the fabric/fiber media listed in this booklet. Each entry must be a recent work by the exhibitor, handmade and completely finished. It should look new in appearance, be neat, clean and not entered in a previous Eastern States Exposition showcase. A set of items may be substituted as one entry. Identify all kits on entry form.
- 3. ENTRIES.** A separate entry form is required for each exhibitor. Entry forms are online at TheBigE.com/creativearts and may be downloaded for your convenience. The use of certified mail is encouraged to avoid postmark disputes. Faxed entries will be accepted and will be processed when a credit card number has been charged. Online entries are available for all divisions. ***Metered mail postmark will not be accepted as proof of deadline compliance.*** Denoted required fields on the entry form must be completed or the entry form will be returned for completion.
- 4. INITIAL PASSES.** Upon receipt and acceptance of entry, entry passes will be mailed to the exhibitor. Passes are intended to provide entry and parking for people working directly with the entries and exhibits. Late entries may not receive passes.
- 5. REDUCED RATE TICKETS are available from the Agriculture Office after August 1 at \$6 per ticket. We invite and encourage you to take advantage of this ticket savings.** Please call Judy Borden at (800) 639-2908 or email a ticket request to agin-fo@TheBigE.com.
- 6. PREMIUM PAYMENT.** The Big E will make an effort to have checks available at time of release; occasionally, circumstances will not allow this. Checks will then be mailed in a timely fashion to the exhibitor. The Big E assumes no responsibility for premium checks once they are presented to the exhibitor. All checks must be cashed and missing checks reported prior to December 1, 2009. After January 1, 2010, the show's books are closed and protests are not valid.
- 7. RELEASES.** All release documents will be issued from the Superintendent's Office. Exhibitors who remove one or more entries without a release will forfeit all premiums won. **Premiums will be forfeited if exhibitor chooses to remove the entry early regardless of who owns the entry.**
- 8. REQUIREMENTS FOR SIZE, WEIGHT AND PRESENTATION.** All framed pieces must be equipped with wire for hanging and not hanging brackets. Screw eyes with wires are required. No saw tooth hangers allowed. If wire and/or the back of the frames are not ready for hanging, your piece may be left out of the show. This is done to keep from risking loss or damage to your piece. The judges may choose to not accept it for judging. Each piece shall not exceed six feet in height, four feet in depth and width, or weigh more than 40 lbs. including mounting, hardware or armature. We cannot accept responsibility for hanging pieces that are not found in condition to hang. We cannot prepare any pieces to hang that may come in unfinished. Any piece that is received not ready for the showcase will be returned to the artist. The judges will inform the coordinator of the showcase if an item is deemed unable to be exhibited. We reserve the right to withdraw any piece found by our judges as "unable to be exhibited" from this year's showcase.
- 9. LOSS OR DAMAGE.** Every reasonable precaution is taken by Eastern States Exposition in handling and exhibiting items, from the time we receive the craft until its release at the conclusion of The Big E. All exhibits will be under the direction of Eastern States Exposition Management, who will exercise every reasonable care in the protection of exhibits. In no case will Eastern States Exposition or Management be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur. Each exhibitor will be solely responsible for any loss, injury or damage to any entry; or loss, injury or damage done by or arising from any entry exhibited by him/her and shall indemnify Eastern States Exposition against legal or other proceedings in regard thereto. All consumption of food/beverages in the New England Center by exhibitors and their guests is done at the exhibitor's risk.
- 10. PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITY.** Entries that are on exhibit during The Big E will be insured from the time of delivery for the estimated value of the piece until the item is picked up or shipped from Eastern States Exposition after Monday, October 5, 2009. The pieces will be insured against all risks of physical loss or damage from any external cause while objects are on location during the period of loan. The policy contains the usual exclusions for loss or damage that occurs by any event beyond the control of Eastern States Exposition. We advise and request that all artists carry homeowners/home renters insurance to help insure any items of extreme value. Insurance while in transit is the responsibility of the artist. Fair replacement value = material cost and hours labor X \$7 per hour X3.
- 11. Pick up of Exhibits.** ANY EXHIBIT THAT HAS NOT BEEN PICKED UP OR PAID TO HAVE SHIPPED FOLLOWING ITS EXHIBITION AND/OR LEFT FOR THREE MONTHS (90 DAYS) WILL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION.
- 12. JUDGING CRITERIA.** General Appearance: cleanliness, colors, design, blocking and/or pressing, choice of fabric, fibers/threads & notions, choice of pattern, carrying thread showing through, appropriate closures and construction techniques/detail on garments. Workmanship: neatness, tension, pattern execution, gauge, absence of knots, piecing, pattern line "show through," missing stitches, accurate machine stitching. Finishing: framing, binding, fringe, blocking, seam/hem finishes, pillow foam, ground fabric thread parallel to finished edge.
- 13. DECISIONS BY JUDGES.** Creative Arts is considered a Judged Exhibit because each item is evaluated individually on its own merit. Two or more people serve as judges, evaluating entries in most departments. Judges are certified if certification is available in their field of expertise. A judge may also be a crafter recognized as a professional in their field who may have taught their craft. Divisions/classes may be combined or split at the discretion of Fair Management based on number of entries and quality of articles.

Judges' decisions are final. Decisions may not be disputed with the office staff or volunteers. The staff and volunteers may not serve as judges nor dispute their decisions! Judges may give more than one award at the same level in any section, in each class. Judges also reserve the right to give awards at the deserving level. If work does not meet standards or quality, one or more awards may be omitted. Judges reserve the right to move entries to another category if they feel the entry is incorrectly listed. The judges may also add or augment a section within a category to enable them to properly evaluate the work correctly.

14. DIVISION SECTIONS AND ENTRY QUESTIONS. Study division and section listings. You may enter only 3 exhibits per division, one per section within a division, unless otherwise noted. Only one of your exhibits may be considered for Special Theme. Select carefully. If you have any questions or need help filling out an entry form, please contact the Creative Arts office via email at creativarts@TheBigE.com or by telephone at (413) 205-5015.

15. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE. An exhibitor wishing to protest or appeal any action, condition or circumstance occurring during the show which he/she considers detrimental to his interests, the interests of his fellow exhibitors or those of the Exposition, may protest, complain or appeal to Management at any time prior to the release hour for his exhibits, by plainly stating his appeal or protest in writing and attaching thereto a fee of \$100, such fee to be refunded upon settlement of the claim in his/her favor but forfeited if the protest is not sustained. Protests questioning the competency or fairness of judges will not be entertained or condoned. In all cases of complaint, protest or appeal, the decision of the Executive Committee will be binding and final.

SUBMITTING ENTRIES AND RETURNING ENTRIES

ENTRY FORM AND FEES. Entry form and \$5 fee per entry are due **August 1, 2009**. A late fee for mail-in and hand delivered exhibits is \$15. Please see mail-in and delivery of entries below. Late entries will be at the discretion of the Fair. Visit our website at www.TheBigE.com. Creative Arts is located under the Agriculture & Education Department. You may obtain an online entry form at that site. Registrations are not considered or processed until complete. Absolute late date for entries is August 15, 2009.

NEW Entry limit. A limit of three (3) entries per exhibitor is allowed with only one entry per section within a division. You may choose only one of your entries to be entered into the Special Theme Division. Multiple entries will result in cancellation of all your entries into Special Theme consideration. Make certain you check the box on the entry form for Special Theme.

ARTISTIC CLASSIFICATIONS. I/P-Instructors/Professionals, N/P-Non Instructors/Professional and Y-Youth. Please note: an Instructor/Professional is an individual who derives income from their craft. Teachers who receive or have received payment for giving lessons or who sell their finished work should enter the I/P class in that particular division. Youth are artists 9-18 years of age.

YOUTH ENTRIES. Youth are considered 9 to 18 years of age as of January 1, 2009. Youth are to check off the "youth" box on the entry form when submitting entries and the DOB must be noted on the form. All youth exhibits will be displayed for the duration of the Fair.

ENTRY LABELS are found in this book. These should be completed and securely attached to the back of each item entered.

MAIL-IN-ENTRIES (INCOMING & OUTGOING)

Please read carefully to ensure proper handling of your entry. Shipped or mailed Creative Arts entries must arrive between September 2-5.

Shipped entries should be labeled in the following manner:

Name of exhibitor
Eastern States Exposition
Creative Arts Department
1305 Memorial Ave
West Springfield MA 01089

A prepaid shipping label must be included for return of your items.

Entries must be packed or crated securely with any glass stripped with masking tape to prevent breakage. No packing peanuts are to be used.

Entries will be reshipped in the same container in which they are received. Be sure to include enough packing material, as The Big E does not add additional materials for returns. A packing sheet listing each item must be enclosed in the shipping container.

A photo may also be included with the packing sheet to ensure proper identification for return shipping.

The Big E does not insure entries. Any return shipping insurance desired must be indicated on the entry form. If no shipping value is included on the entry form, no insurance will be added.

Entries will not be shipped to Post Office boxes. Street addresses must be provided.

If an entry requires The Big E to obtain packing materials (shipping container, etc.), labor, materials and shipping costs will be included in the C.O.D. charges.

All entries will remain for exhibit during The Big E.

Mailing return will begin Monday, October 5.

HAND DELIVERED ENTRIES. Hand delivered items may be brought to Eastern States Exposition/New England Center on **Friday, September 11, 2009 from 9am-4pm** and **Saturday, September 12, 2009 from 9am-2pm.** We cannot receive any entry forms or fees on the delivery days.

AWARD RESULTS. Every effort will be made to post the results on the website, www.TheBigE.com, as soon as possible. These results are considered unofficial.

PICKING UP ENTRIES. Entries will be released on Monday, October 5, 2009 from 9am–6pm.

ENTRY LIMITATIONS. Exhibitors may have a total of three entries per division and only one per section within a division unless otherwise noted. Only one entry may be entered into the Special Theme Division. Photography may enter one photo per section up to a total of six (6) photos. Only one may be entered into the Special Theme Division. Send or fax all entry forms with full payment for each entry by August 1 to Creative Arts, Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Ave, W. Springfield MA 01089; fax (413) 205-5104. Late entries are accepted until August 15 with a \$15 late fee. Late entries may not receive entry passes. Only prepaid computerized forms will be processed with your item(s). Be sure you have completed all required fields (noted with an *). Forms not completed may be returned to the sender.

Special Theme entries: Note on the entry form if you wish to have an item considered for this year's Special Theme in the check-off box. Only one entry per exhibitor.

JUDGING DAY. CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC – Monday, September 14, 2009.

Creative Arts Awards: Cash prizes, ribbons and special awards may be presented by Eastern States Exposition and its sponsors in each separate class (I/P, NI and Y) in all listed Divisions and Sections.

First Prize:	Premium monies & Blue Ribbon	Youth Entries:	Green Ribbon
Second Prize:	Premium monies & Red Ribbon	(youth entries qualify for 1st, 2nd, 3rd & HM premiums & ribbons)	
Third Prize:	Premium monies & White Ribbon		
Honorable Mention:	Yellow Ribbon		

A **Best of Division** rosette *may* be presented in each division. The Best of Division Award is at the discretion of the judges. Not all judges award this prize in a division each year. Please refer to judging criteria under general entry rules.

Judges Choice Award may be presented to only *one adult* and *one youth entry* from the entries each year. Unanimous votes of all the judges on these two awards exemplify a high standard of excellence.

Sponsor Awards come from businesses and the arts. Guilds, private businesses, suppliers and publishers set criteria for these awards in each specific division. We encourage you to support these sponsors and businesses.

Special Theme Awards: An additional \$20 for Best of Theme is awarded to one adult and one youth in the Special Theme Division.

We ask that all our artists remember their sponsors with a personal note or email thanking the sponsor for their generous awards. Please help Creative Arts maintain the positive rapport we have established with these sponsors by communicating personal appreciation.

Please act promptly in claiming any Sponsorship Award. Notify Creative Arts immediately should a sponsor mistakenly forget to send an award to an artist who has placed. Creative Arts is not responsible for the sponsors' misfortunes or for supplying any award that may be lost due to unfortunate circumstances.

The Florence Sattler Award

The Florence Sattler Memorial Award will be presented to an individual(s) who has made outstanding contributions as

a VOLUNTEER. It reflects unusual effort, unselfish interest and a willing spirit to share time with this organization. The 2009 award will be announced on the last day of The Big E. This special volunteer award was created in 1984 in memory of Florence Sattler who resided in Springfield, Mass. Over the years, it has honored numerous outstanding Creative Arts volunteers who have been committed to dedication and unselfish effort. If you would like to nominate a volunteer to receive this award, contact the office before August 31 with your recommendations. To perpetuate this award, a Memorial Fund has been established by Eastern States Exposition. Any tax-deductible contributions for this award are greatly appreciated and may be given at any time of the year.

Distinguished Former Award Recipients

1984 Emily Drzewianowski – Chicopee MA
1985 George Scott – Windsor Locks CT
1986 Florence Gideos – Ludlow MA
1987 Carol Zielinski, Springfield MA
1987 Jane Scott – Windsor Locks CT
1988 Edna Zamachaj – Springfield MA
1989 Dorothy Finch – Springfield MA
1990 Doris Griffen – Agawam MA
1990 Edith Michaud – Feeding Hills MA
1991 Sharon Gowash – Somers CT
1992 Rosalie Keegan – Enfield CT
1993 Doris Bragdon – Sarasota FL
1993 Eileen Romani – Westfield MA
1994 Sue Ewqnowski – Middletown CT
1994 Mildred Link – West Suffield CT
1995 Dianne Badger – Springfield MA
1995 Louise McCrady – West Hartford CT
1995 Marguerite Yung – Farmington CT
1996 Madeleine St. Aubin – Brimfield MA
1996 Lionel Finch – Springfield MA
1997 Jill Kent – Longmeadow MA
1998 Richard Bromley – Hamden CT
1998 Gerald Hyland – Hamden CT
1998 Helen Potvin – Chicopee MA
1999 Walter Link – West Suffield CT
1999 Doris Griffen – Agawam MA
2000 Gert Johnson – West Suffield CT
2000 Marilyn Tomlinson – West Springfield MA
2001 Gail Armata – Westfield MA
2001 Carole Ramponi – Feeding Hills MA
2002 Alene Wolfe – Suffield CT
2002 Stasia Charron – Easthampton MA
2002 Jodi Scaltreto – Hillsboro NH
2003 Pat Griffin – Suffield CT
2003 Ellen Rodzen – Enfield CT
2004 Richard Jaskot – Longmeadow MA
2004 Barbara Jaskot – Longmeadow MA
2004 William Otto – South Hadley MA
2004 Mary Otto – South Hadley MA
2005 Lynn Brownlee – Westfield MA
2005 Irma Schoen – Windsor CT
2005 M.J. Koslowski – Enfield CT
2006 Carol Zielinski – Springfield MA
2007 Etta Meade – Springfield MA
2008 Dorothy Link – West Springfield MA