



Embroiderers' Association of Canada, Inc.
Association canadienne de broderie, Inc.

Original Design Award Policy & Procedures

The Original Design Award is an annual judged award presented each year at the seminar of the Embroiderers' Association of Canada, Inc./Association canadienne de broderie, Inc.(EAC/ACB).

Purpose

The purpose of the award is:

- to encourage the growth of the individual embroiderer.
- to promote the development of embroidery in Canada into an art form.
- to provide recognition to those individuals who have used the creative process effectively in the development of an original piece of needlework.
- to provide a goal for aspiring needle artists.
- to improve the quality of works at exhibitions.
- to provide an opportunity for recipients of this award to aspire to future achievements and recognition.

Definitions

Needle Art Piece

Any material or technique is acceptable, where the majority of the work was done with a threaded needle, either by hand or by machine.

Original

An original piece is a composition created in its entirety by the needle artists. In all cases, the creative process must have been followed and documented with backup materials.

Professional

Anyone who engages in needlework as a teacher, artist, designer, lecturer, author or stitcher of commissioned work and who has received remuneration or taught under a contract.

Non-professional

Anyone, who previously or at the time of entry submission, engages in needlework as a pastime and for pleasure rather than for financial gain.

Entrance Requirements

The finished embroidery must be accompanied by some form of documentation showing the process used to create the embroidery. This documentation is judged along with the embroidery piece.

The documentation can be exhibited in a notebook, a binder, a sketchbook and/or a design board. You must include the following:

- design source or source of inspiration.
- a thread study showing the final colour choices, using your chosen threads.
- a drawing of the overall design.
- include a photocopy or picture or sample of a stitched portion of the reverse side of the embroidery. This is not necessary if the reverse side of the embroidery is accessible.
- document the rationale for the chosen techniques (including colour, thread and stitch choices, embellishments and finishing techniques used).
- include an approximate account of the time and cost of this project as you work through it.
- the embroidery piece and documentation must be anonymous for the judging process.
- an artist's statement on a separate paper that will be displayed after the judging is completed.
- a biography on a separate paper that will be displayed after the judging is completed.

Suggested additions that might be included:

- sketches, drawings, collages and/or paper mock ups.
- a gray scale of your design and examples of colour schemes considered. Include reasons for rejected colour schemes.
- samples of various stitch and fabric options you considered. Show the various threads, colours and textures considered.
- samples of embellishing and finishing techniques you explored, e.g., beading, tassels, closures, linings and backing fabrics.

The work must be executed and completed within the last three years. It should be finished, mounted, or framed.

See the Application Guidelines, Application Guidelines Package and "Creative Process" documents for further details.

Judging

- The EAC/ACB Education Committee will coordinate the judging of the entries.

- The judges will follow set criteria for this award. Judging criteria is available for all entrants with the Application Guidelines Package.
- A written summary of judging remarks will be sent to all entrants after the seminar.

Exhibition

- Exhibition guidelines will be available from the EAC/ACB Education Director (see current issue of *Embroidery Canada* or the EAC/ACB website for address).
- Biographies and artist's statements will be displayed by each entrant's work once the entries have been judged.

Award

- Annual award given in two categories: Professional and Non-professional.
- A certificate and a pin will be awarded.
- The award will not be given if the entrance requirements or standards have not been met.
- Winners will not be allowed to compete for a period of two years following their win (e.g., winners in 2004 may enter again in 2007).

Implementation

- Annually, beginning with Seminar 2004.
- Members can obtain a package from the EAC/ACB Education Director at the mailing address listed in the current issue of *Embroidery Canada* or on the EAC/ACB website at eac-acb.ca.

Application

The Application Guidelines package will be available from the EAC/ACB Education Director at the address in the current issue of *Embroidery Canada* or from the EAC/ACB website.

The deadline for submission of applications to the EAC/ACB Education Director will be April 1 of each year.

Mailed entries are to be received one week prior to the start of the seminar to the address indicated for entries to the Members' Exhibition as directed by the Seminar Committee. They are not to be brought to the seminar to be dropped off on Registration Day. Clearly mark package as Original Design Award for the Members' Exhibition Committee.

All guidelines must be followed.

Ensure that anonymity has been maintained on all materials, but that outside packaging is clearly labeled with name.

EAC/ACB Education Director

- EAC/ACB Education Director will liaise with the current Seminar Committee to establish dates for entry and addresses for mailing of entries. This should occur the summer prior to the seminar for the package to be ready by September.
- EAC/ACB Education Director will receive the completed application forms by April 1st of each year.
- EAC/ACB Education Director will advise the Seminar Committee of the number of entries for the Members' Exhibit by April 20.
- EAC/ACB Education Director will provide a copy of the judging criteria to members of the EAC/ACB Education Committee. This form is part of the Application Guidelines package.
- The EAC/ACB Education Director will retain the original judging criteria for each entry and supply a summary of remarks to each entrant after the seminar.
- The EAC/ACB Education Director should gather the judging sheets from the judges along with the names of the category winners.
- The names of the category winners shall be provided to the EAC/ACB President as soon as possible prior to the Banquet.
- The names of the entrants on all entries are to be revealed at the conclusion of the judging.
- The EAC/ACB Education Director will ensure that photographs and names of the winning entries will be delivered to the Editor, Embroidery Canada for publication.
- The EAC/ACB President shall present the Awards at the Banquet of Seminar.

Seminar Committee

- The Seminar Committee will provide the date for receipt of entries, address for mailing entries to the EAC/ACB Education Director for inclusion in the Application Guidelines package in the summer prior to the seminar. The entry deadline must be at least one week prior to Registration Day.
- The Seminar Committee will provide sufficient space in the Members' Exhibition for the number of entries. Each entrant will require approximately half a display table for their story board and supporting materials.
- The Seminar Committee will ensure the entries are delivered to the room designated for the EAC/ACB Education Committee meeting for judging.

Judges

- Decisions of the judges are final and are based upon the judging criteria provided.
- Judging will occur at a time prior to the start of the seminar as designated by the EAC/ACB Education Director.

- Judges will return the judging sheets to the EAC/ACB Education Director.

Development

The work of an Ad-Hoc Subcommittee of EAC/ACB Seminar 2004 (Victoria) is acknowledged in the development of this award: Hannah Bradley, Barbara Gilbert, Cynthia Keck and Ann Rogers.