



On the Hill Gallery Jewelry Standards

UNIQUE AND ORIGINAL

All jewelry should be handmade by the artist and each item or set of items must be unique and original.

Each piece should include special elements and may contain purchased components if the design is original.

No commercially mass-produced items or restrung beaded jewelry is allowed.

Objects made from commercial kits, patterns, molds, or “how-to” books will not be accepted. Likewise, pieces that require no special skill or assembly will not be accepted.

QUALITY AND MATERIALS

Good design should play an integral part of the finished article. A piece must be skillfully finished and should demonstrate quality workmanship. It should incorporate techniques appropriate to design, materials and function.

Construction techniques should utilize gold, silver, copper, and other safe metals.

Good quality wrapping is acceptable.

Good quality original beaded jewelry is acceptable.

JEWELRY AND METAL

Included here is jewelry or other pieces where the majority of the article is made by or from **metal work** (gold, silver, copper, brass, mixed metals), **lapidary work**, **polymer clay**, **handmade beads**, or **enameling on metal**.

Originality of design and quality workmanship is of utmost importance. No commercially manufactured base forms, settings, ornamentation, kits, etc., are acceptable. Factory-made findings such as earring backs, pin stems, catches, clasps, chains for pendants, etc. may be used, providing they are of good quality and don't dominate or interfere with the design. Gemstones used to add color or brilliance to the design may be purchased or fabricated by the artist. Materials used should be properly labelled.

METALS

Metals must be finely finished so that all fire-scale (copper oxide), excess solder, scratches, file and tool marks, etc. have been removed. Edges should be smooth and free from sharp points. Polish should be consistent or used with texture. Carat or sterling quality marks (if used) must be accompanied by a registered trademark.

LAPIDARY

A variety of materials (e.g. precious or semi-precious stones, alabaster, shell, ivory, bone, amber, coral, polymer clay, plastics and acrylics, etc.) may be used to enhance jewelry or to create other articles. The shaping and fine finishes of the stone should enhance both the overall design and optical qualities of the stone. Hardness of stones should be considered in relation to usage. Stone settings should be secure or collars, if used, should be close fitting.

ENAMELING ON METAL

Transparent enamels should be clear and brilliant. If foil is used beneath transparent enamel, it should enhance the color and lie flat, not crawl up the edges of the wire. Translucent enamels should have a milky, opalescent appearance. Opaque enamels should not be discolored due to contamination or improper cleaning of metal.

Enamels should be properly fused to the base material with appropriate thickness and no cracks, bubbles, pits or unnatural warpage. Joins should be even and neat. Wires should be properly adhered without gaps, with ends neatly filed and tool marks removed. Soft soldering may be used where practical. Suitable cements are permitted with transparent enamels or where soldering is not practical. Stoning, if used in final finishes, should be level and the full width of the wires. Wires should not sink into the enamel. Pieces should be counter enameled and should be neither over- or under-fired.

HANDMADE BEADS

Beads may be created from any material included in the other craft categories (e.g. clay, glass, wood, lapidary, metal, polymer clay, paper, etc.). Please indicate if beads are handmade. Guidelines for all crafts and jewelry apply

Yorktown Arts Foundation Mission Statement

Yorktown Arts Foundation was created to encourage an appreciation of the arts in the York County area by taking the arts into the community through outreach and education, and by providing avenues to promote local artists



On the Hill Gallery Jewelry DISPLAY Standards

On the Hill Gallery endeavors to create an aesthetically pleasing environment in which our juried artists can display their craft in a manner that is appealing to visitors and fair to other artist members. Display location, allotted space, guidelines, procedures, and approval are at the discretion of the gallery chair and the art coordinators (2D and 3D - including jewelry). Efforts will be made to make display areas as equitable as possible, but several factors will be considered, including (but not limited to) style of display and craft, general aesthetics, seasonal rotations, and the needs of the gallery at large. Below are display guidelines to which we ask each jewelry artist to adhere.

LABELLING

Each item must be labelled with the **approved** initials and item number, and these must match the inventory submitted. (The price on the tag will be honored if it is different from the price on the inventory.) In addition to the price, the tag should include a description of materials (i.e. Sterling Silver, silver plated, etc.) if possible. If this cannot fit on the tag, please include it in the inventory as the customer may need to verify for allergy reasons.

Use a string tag or an adhesive label on the bottom of items. A sign on a display is not adequate as items can be moved in the process of showing customers, therefore, it is necessary that all of the information be attached to the piece of jewelry itself.

All tags should be neutral in color. Items with colorful (yard sale style) stickers will be removed. Individual tags with colorful logos are acceptable.

DISPLAY

All display items for each jeweler's display must be the same color or tone. Do not mix black, white, and neutral necklace displays, T Bars, or display pillows in the same display. The display must be all acrylic, all linen, all white, all gray, or all black, Wood display elements can be used consistently throughout with the above neutral color displays. All display pieces should be clean and in good repair. No worn, torn, or dirty items please.

All neck and bracelet displays must be 1" **apart** - not overlapping each other. While we always want a robust selection for our visitors, **QUALITY is always more important than quantity**. If a jeweler's display is too crowded, it looks bad and will be passed over by customers in favor of a more eye-pleasing set-up. Jewelry displays are subject to review by the gallery chair and 3D coordinators.

Jewelry pieces must be secured or on an appropriate display device such as a neckpiece or T bar if possible. It is better if the jewelry item can be easily removed from the display so that a potential customer can try it on or at least hold it up to see how it would look on them.

Earring cards must follow the same guidelines as tags and displays – they must all be neutral in color, with colorful logos allowed, the same material and uniform across an entire artist's display. This extends to any earrings on the communal earring displays so items can then be moved to fill gaps in other areas.

No individual jewelry carousels outside of an artist's display will be allowed. The gallery may provide additional space, managed by the chair and coordinators, for use by all juried artists who wish to display earrings outside their allotted space. Jewelers must inform the gallery chair or 3D artist coordinator if they wish to include earrings on the shared display. Space will be divided as equally as possible, on a first come first served basis, but displays must be kept nicely filled with a variety of regularly updated inventory (no duplicates). If an artist cannot maintain inventory within the display guidelines, they may forfeit their spot. Other jewelers' items may not be removed by anyone but the coordinators or chair.

Inventory should be updated at least quarterly. If a piece is displayed in the gallery for 12 months, it will need to be rotated out for newer merchandise and may not return for 6 months.

ETHICS

Jewelry artists may not copy designs or handmade displays from other jewelers without their permission. Anyone doing this will be asked to defend the originality of their design and may be asked to remove it from the gallery until the process can be explained.

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