

## **MJA DESIGN CONTEST RULES 2024v1**

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE PHYSICALLY DELIVERED TO ROZ GORDON NO LATER THAN 11 A.M. ON SATURDAY OF THE CONVENTION.

PHOTOS OF ALL ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO [MISSOURIJA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MISSOURIJA@GMAIL.COM) NO LATER THAN 11:00 am OCTOBER 1 2022.

ALL ENTRIES SHOULD BE INSURED BY ENTRANTS, MJA DOES NOT ASSUME ANY LIABILITY FOR THE ENTRIES

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE AN ORIGINAL CONCEPT PRODUCED BY A MEMBER STORE IN GOOD STANDING WITHIN 18 MONTHS AHEAD OF THE CONTEST DEADLINE.

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE EITHER CURRENTLY FOR SALE WITHIN THE MEMBER STORE OR ALREADY SOLD & LENT TO THE MEMBER STORE FOR THE CONTEST BY THE CLIENT. SAID STATUS MUST BE DISCLOSED. (CLIENT INFO WILL NOT BE INCLUDED, ONLY THE STATUS OF THE PIECE.)

ALL MEMBER STORES IN GOOD STANDING MAY ENTER NO MORE THAN (3) TOTAL PIECES. ANY MEMBER STORE WITH MULTIPLE LOCATIONS MUST LIMIT THEIR ENTRIES TO A TOTAL OF (3) ENTRIES.

### **APPRENTICE JEWELER DEFINITION**

- Any person who has been on the bench for no less than six (6) consecutive months and no more than three (3) consecutive years & currently employed by a member store in good standing for no less than three (3) consecutive months before the contest deadline. If the person has been in the jewelry industry as a whole for more than (6) months, but has spent less than (6) months on the bench, they may be considered the designer of the piece but they may not enter any piece they physically made.
- All components used, including “old new stock”, over-the-counter purchase gemstones or findings, etc., must be assessed at current market value as part of the total cost of the piece being entered, regardless of what was originally paid. Sources of all materials must be disclosed, as well as how the costs were assessed.
- The final piece may not contain more than 40% pre-fab parts.
- Outsourcing of labor such as casting or 3D wax printing is allowed. However, all finishing work, including assembly, stone setting, final polish & detailing, etc., must be performed in-house by the entrant. All outsourced labor must be disclosed.
- Only two (2) names may be applied to an entry, if applicable: 1) designer & 2) craftsman.

### **PROFESSIONAL JEWELER DEFINITION**

- Any person who has been in the jewelry industry & on the bench no less than three (3) consecutive years & is currently employed by a member store in good standing for no less than three (3) consecutive months before the contest deadline.
- All components used, including “old new stock”, over-the-counter purchase gemstones or findings, etc., must be assessed at current market value as part of the total cost of the piece being entered, regardless of what was originally paid. Sources of all materials must be disclosed, as well as how the costs were assessed.
- The final piece may not contain more than 20% pre-fab parts.
- Outsourcing of labor such as casting or 3D wax printing is allowed. However, all finishing work, including assembly, stone setting, final polish & detailing, etc., must be performed in-house by the entrant. All outsourced labor must be disclosed.
- Only two (2) names may be applied to an entry, if applicable: 1) designer & 2) craftsman.

## **DESIGNER DEFINITION**

- Any person who has been in the jewelry industry for no less than (6) consecutive months & is currently employed by a member store in good standing for no less than (3) consecutive months before the contest deadline.
- This person must have been the originator of the overall concept of the entered piece. This may also apply to a bench jeweler if no aspects of the finished piece were provided by any other member of the staff of the member store. Client input must be disclosed as part of the description of the piece but shall not be weighed against the bench jeweler toward the final production.

## **ENTRY CATEGORIES**

- Professional as described above
- Apprentice as described above

## **ENTRY RULES**

- No member store in good standing may enter more than (3) total pieces.
- Each entry piece will include:
  - A full list of all materials used, including sources of components & how the entrant assessed value of individual components, as described above.
  - A full disclosure of any & all outsourced labor as described above.
  - A complete yet succinct description of how the piece was made. 1,000 words max.
  - If applicable: the names of both the original designer (concept inception) & the bench jeweler who made it.
  - The experience level of the bench jeweler & designer, as described above. The piece will be assigned as Apprentice or Professional by the Judges based on the bench jeweler's experience level, not the designer's.

## **JUDGEMENT CRITERIA**

- Overall design concept:
  - is this piece beautiful, desirable, & wearable?
  - Does it incorporate materials & design concepts that are currently saleable based on trends over the past (2) years?
- Craftsmanship:
  - is this piece made & finished to be functional, wearable, & saleable?
  - Are stones set correctly & settings finished appropriately (per experience level of bench jeweler)?
  - Are there any obvious tool marks or other blemishes on the stones or components that would detract from the overall stability, beauty, wearability, & saleability of the piece?
- Materials used:
  - does this piece incorporate materials available to most other jewelers?
    - Special order components or stones are allowed so long as they are disclosed & assessed against the final cost of the piece & against the experience level of the bench jeweler. The latter will be determined by the Judges.
  - Is the construction of the piece such that it would be easily workable for most other jewelers, i.e. could this piece be repaired or altered using widely available tools, materials, & repair techniques? Ex: ring sizing within 3 sizes; chain repairs; repairs to stone settings; etc.

## **AWARDS**

- **Professional:**
  - Chosen by the Judges
  - Design: \$250 to the designer named, not the bench jeweler + engraved glass award to showcase
  - Craftsmanship: \$250 to the bench jeweler, not the designer + engraved glass award to showcase
  - If designer & bench jeweler are the same person, \$300 to the bench jeweler.
- **Apprentice:**
  - Chosen by the Judges
  - Design: \$100 to the designer named, not the bench jeweler + engraved glass award to showcase
  - Craftsmanship: \$100 to the bench jeweler, not the designer + engraved glass award to showcase
  - If designer & bench jeweler are the same person, \$150 to the bench jeweler.
- **People's Choice:**
  - Chosen by popular vote of all attendees at the convention
  - \$100 each to the designer & bench jeweler, if applicable. If not, \$150 to the bench jeweler.
- **Best In Show:**
  - Chosen by the Judges
  - \$150 each to the designer & bench jeweler (if applicable, if not, then \$200 to the bench jeweler) + engraved glass award to showcase + moved on to national level competition
- Awards shall be handed out by the President of the Board.

## **JUDGES (For all but the People's Choice Award):**

- There shall be at least (5) Judges.
- All Judges shall be members of the MJA Board of Directors whose member stores do not have a piece entered in the contest.
  - Any Board Member whose member store has multiple locations must recuse themselves if any location has a piece entered in the contest.
- If it shall be found that a full complement of at least (5) Board Members cannot be assembled to act as Judges based on absence or the fact that their member stores have at least (1) entry in the contest, then the remaining slots shall be filled by attending Vendors of good standing with MJA, & have been vetted by the Executive Board.
- If it shall be found the full complement of at least (5) Judges cannot be filled by Board Members or Vendor Members, then the remaining slots shall be filled by attending MJA Members, regardless of their position within their home store, have no piece entered for their member store(s), & have been vetted by the Executive Board.



2024 MJA JEWELRY DESIGN CONTEST ENTRY FORM v1

EACH PIECE SHALL HAVE ITS OWN ENTRY FORM

If You Are Entering More Than One Piece, Please Make Copies Of This Form

DESIGNER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CRAFTSPERSON NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PROFESSIONAL: \_\_\_\_\_ APPRENTICE: \_\_\_\_\_

STORE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION AND CREATIVE METHOD: \_\_\_\_\_

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COST VALUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Bring Pieces & forms to MJA Convention by 11am, Saturday, September 21st, 2024**

**LEO (314) 409-4649**

**Missouri Jewelers Association - MJA - Email: missourija@gmail.com**