

NCECA CULTURAL ARTS CONTEST CATEGORIES

1. **Sewing:** clothing, costumes, aprons, etc.
 2. **Sewing:** home furnishings, draperies, banners, pillowcases, lap robes, placemats, etc.
 3. **Sewing** by professionals
 4. **Knitting:** clothing, afghans, spreads, etc.
 5. **Knitting** by professionals
 6. **Crocheting:** clothing, afghans, spreads, etc.
 7. **Crocheting:** by professionals
 8. **Hand Needlework:** embroidery, cross-stitch, candle wicking, needlepoint, crewel. Tatting, etc.
 9. **Crafts:** handcrafted toys, pecan resin figures, etc.
 10. **Heritage Skills:** braided or hooked rugs, corn shuck dolls or mats, gourd art, calligraphy, pressed flower art, etc.
 11. **Hand or Loom weaving**
 12. **Chair bottoming or Baskets:** Reed, cane, rag, pine needles, etc.
 13. **Wood craft:** carving, wood working, etc.
 14. **Christmas decorations**
 15. **Jewelry**
 16. **Quilts:** appliquéd, pieced, machine quilted
 17. **Quilts:** appliquéd, pieced, hand quilted
 18. **Quilts:** stamped pattern (cheater's quilt) or machine embroidery, hand quilted
 19. **Quilts:** stamped pattern (cheater's quilt) or machine embroidery, machine quilted
 20. **Quilts:** crib or youth size
 21. **Quilts:** all work and quilting by professionals
 22. **Quilts:** other techniques, such as cathedral windows, yo-yo, crazy quilt, tacked
 23. **Quilts:** wall hangings (must have a sleeve or some method for hanging)
 24. **Flower arrangement or wreath:** artificial or dried
 25. **Photography:** black & white, color
 26. **Porcelain:** commercial molds (firing may be done by others), figurines, vases, etc.
 27. **Ceramics:** commercial molds (firing may be done by others), figurines, vases, etc.
 28. **Dolls:** porcelain, ceramic (firing may be done by others), cloth, etc.
 29. **Pottery:** wheel or hand thrown (firing may be done by others)
 30. **Scrap booking:** only 2 pages may be submitted
 31. **Fine Arts:** watercolors
 32. **Fine Arts:** Oils
 33. **Fine Arts/Miscellaneous:** acrylics, tole-painting, wood painting, stenciling, etching, glass painting, etc.
 34. **Metal Arts:** copper, aluminum, silver, gold, enameling, hammering, embossing, engraving, etc.
 35. **Miscellaneous:** Any item that cannot be entered in the above categories
- Articles incorrectly entered in this category will be disqualified.**

Poetry, Short Story, and Music GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- **Only original work and unpublished writers are eligible**
- Entry must be **typed, not handwritten**, on 8 1/2 x 11 paper
- Entry must be double-spaced with one-inch margins on each submitted page
- Each page must be numbered with the title included on each page with no identifiable markings (such as name, address, phone number, or pictures) on pages or folder
- Entry must be placed in a plain manila folder
- Place the completed Cultural Arts Release form (including title, number of pages) in an unsealed envelope
- Place the envelope in the manila folder
- Entries will be judged on:
 1. **Creativity**
 2. **Appearance**
 3. **Spelling and punctuation**
 4. **Following guidelines described herein**
- **A critique of your work will Not be available**
- **Entries MUST be in the hands of the coordinator on the level of competition (county/district/state) THREE (3) weeks prior to the contest.**

Do Not send original of work – please send photocopy

36. **Creative writing: Poetry** – Entry must not exceed three (3) pages.
37. **Creative writing: Short Story** – Entry must not exceed twenty (20) pages
38. **Creative writing: Music** – Entry must not exceed three (3) pages. (May or may not include lyrics)

Cultural Arts Contest

Planning is the key to having a smooth Cultural Arts Contest

- Secure date and facility for contest
- The contest is usually held in conjunction with a county council meeting, so coordinate with your County Council President, Liaison Agent and previous Special Projects Coordinator
- Arrange for several helpers on the day of the contest
- Purchase award ribbons. These are available from Mort's trophies, 220 W. Davie Street, Raleigh. Their phone number is 919.828.2887. A 7 ½ inch award ribbon works nice, with first place being blue, second place being red, and third place being white. Purchase one of each color for each category, and one best of show.
- Additional items needed on the day of the contest:
 - pens and pencils
 - scotch tape
 - straight pins
 - **your camera**
 - envelopes for participation slip
 - safety pins
 - coat hangers
 - clothes pins
 - category signs for tables
 - plastic gloves
 - judging rules for each judge
 - record sheet for listing winners

Setting up the room and check-in system is important in controlling the excited and interested members.

- Close and block all entrances to the room, except the one at which you will be receiving the entries. It may be helpful to place a table across the doorway for checking in. Members browsing beforehand are difficult to remove from the room and may delay the start of judging.
- Sit at the check-in-table with the registration book and check or record the date the item is received, names of all contestants, a description of the item, the assigned category, etc.. This is the time at which you should review the placement of items in their categories. Each entry should have a **Cultural Arts Release Form** attached in an unsealed envelope.
- When paper work is satisfactory, give the item to a helper to be placed in the appropriate category and arranged on the proper table
- Ensure that entries were previously entered in the correct category and that they remain in that category. If they have been entered in the incorrect category, they should be set aside for display only and **NOT** judged.

During the judging

- Remain in the room to answer questions
- After the judges have judged several categories, begin opening the envelopes of the winners and record their names, category, and date on the ribbon. Open all envelopes so members can see who made the item.
- Make two reports of all winners—First, Second, Third, and Best-of-Show—one report for yourself and one report for the secretary
- Work fast and be ready to announce the results when called upon
- Secure the area. Items must be released by coordinator after being recorded on the inventory sheet.
- **Complete a Cultural Arts Inventory Sheet of all first place winners and forward it**

Rules and Guidelines for Cultural Arts Contest

1. Any current North Carolina ECA member is eligible to enter an article in any or all of the categories of the contest; however, only **one article per person** may be entered in any **one category**. **The article must have been made by an individual member and completed since the Cultural Arts Contest the year before.** Group or club-made items are not eligible. Professionals are defined as those who sell their items for profit. Articles may be entered in the Cultural Arts Contest **one (1) time** only.
2. No item made from a kit will be allowed.
3. Each item entered **must** be accompanied by a signed copy of the **NC Cultural Arts Contest Release Form**, which is completely filled out, enclosed in an **unsealed envelope**, showing only the **item #** on the outside, and attached to the article. The exhibitor's name **will not** be visible prior to judging. (It will be on the release form.) **If the name appears on the entry, it should be covered with tape so that the judges will not see it.**
4. The winning article at the first place level **must** progress to the next level of the contest.
5. Only **FIRST PLACE** winners will progress to the next level of the contest.
6. Articles entered **must** be packaged securely for handling while traveling. Any article not properly packaged **will not be allowed** to compete in the contest. **NO** crated items will be allowed.
7. The packed article must be of size and weight that can easily be handled safely by any member. It is strongly suggested that **glass be excluded** for safety reasons. If the article entered consists of more than one piece, the pieces **must** be securely packed together.
8. Entries will be inventoried at each level of the contest; however, the NCECA **is not responsible for lost or damaged articles**. The Special Projects Coordinator or an appointed substitute will account for items at each level of the contest. Articles not progressing to a higher level shall be returned through the same channels, which it progressed. (i.e., from state back to district, from district back to county, etc.)
9. **Care should be given to enter items in the correct category. If it is obvious to the Coordinator that items are incorrectly classified, she has the right to disqualify the entry.**
10. A special criterion for the Creative Writing is listed under the Item #20 Category. Guidelines should be followed, and **it is imperative that entries are in the hands of the appropriate Special Projects Coordinator by the designated date (3 weeks prior to the contest.)**
11. Cultural Arts Inventory Sheet: List all blue ribbon winners (1st place) items 1 through 38 and forward to the next level Special Projects Coordinator. Only items listed will be accepted on the next level contest. **IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THIS SHEET IS PROPERLY FILLED OUT AND IN THE HANDS OF THE NEXT LEVEL COORDINATOR PRIOR TO THE CONTEST DATE.**

Cultural Arts Contest Release Form

PRINT CONTESTANT'S NAME: _____

I agree to allow my entry in category # _____ to be in the possession of county, district, and/or state members responsible for helping with the North Carolina ECA Cultural Arts Contest. I agree to pick up my entry or appoint a named person to do so after the county, district, or state level of the contest and exhibit. In signing this form, I am also stating that **this article was not made from a kit, is entirely my work, and is packaged for safe handling.** Any damages occurring due to improper packing are my responsibility.

Signed _____ Date _____

District _____

County _____ Club _____

Home Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Email _____

Item Description _____

NCECA Cultural Arts Contest

Criteria for Judging

I	General Appearance of Complete Article		25 Points
	design	(5)	_____
	individuality	(5)	_____
	colors/texture combinations	(5)	_____
	cleanliness	(5)	_____
	design appropriate for use	(5)	_____
II	Workmanship of Completed Article		60 Points
	uniformity	(30)	_____
	technique	(30)	_____
III	Presentation of Completed Article		15 Points
	appropriateness	(5)	_____
	durability	(5)	_____
	economic aspect	(5)	_____

NOTE TO JUDGES

1. Judge the item only—not the way it is framed. Framing is to be considered if all things are equal.
2. Handwork should not take precedent over machine work. Judge the item—its design, workmanship, and creativity. (Particularly when selecting Best of Show)

Comments: _____

Placing: _____ **First**
_____ **Second**
_____ **Third**
_____ **Honorable Mention**
_____ **Best of Show**

Cultural Arts Inventory Sheet

County _____

District _____

Coordinator _____ Address _____ Phone (____) _____

Date In/By	Category #	Item Description	Made By	County	Date Out/By
_____	1	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	2	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	3	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	4	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	5	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	6	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	7	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	8	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	9	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	10	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	11	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	12	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	13	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	14	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	15	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	16	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	17	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	18	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	19	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	20	_____	_____	_____	_____

Cultural Arts Inventory Sheet

County _____

District _____

Coordinator _____ Address _____ Phone (____) _____

Date In/By	Category #	Item Description	Made By	County	Date Out/By
_____	21	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	22	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	23	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	24	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	25	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	26	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	27	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	28	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	29	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	30	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	31	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	32	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	33	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	34	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	35	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	36	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	37	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	38	_____	_____	_____	_____