



Santa Fe Indian Market

SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION FOR INDIAN ARTS

2023 STANDARDS PER CLASSIFICATION

Classification I – Jewelry Standards

The *traditional* category is meant to encourage artists to work within their tribal tradition, using traditional materials.

The *contemporary* category is meant to encourage innovative jewelry using both traditional, as well as non-traditional materials and techniques.

In 2020 we will introduce the “Boundary” Category within each division. This Category is designed to give jurors and Class Managers more options when looking at pieces that do not necessarily conform to already existing Categories but use the same techniques and materials. In Jewelry, for example, rather than move certain pieces to Sculpture or Diverse Arts, *where an artist may not have juried in*, the piece will stay in Jewelry but be considered “Boundary.” An example of a “Boundary” piece in Jewelry is a silver seed pot with inlay.

1. Allowed

a. Materials

i.Organic and Stone Materials

1. Bone

2. Wood

3. Natural untreated stones and gemstones, ceramic medallions and/or objects set as stones.

4. Natural pearls, finished stones and gemstones in cabochon and faceted shapes set in metal settings.

5. Non-Plated Metals

a. Must be clearly identified.

b. Gold must be at least 14 karat

ii.Chip inlay

1. In the ratio of no less than 85% stone, 15% adhesive.

2. No powder inlay allowed

iii. Findings

1. Jump rings
2. Earring backs
3. Clasps
4. Barrette clips
5. Money clips
6. Hooks and eyes
7. Leather for bolos, concho and buckles
8. Single bead/cone combination to finish ends (for shell and beadmakers)

b. Techniques and Tools

2. Allowed With Disclosure

a. Materials

- i. Stabilized turquoise
- ii. Cultured Pearls
 1. Colored using dye, irradiation, bleach, or any other process.
 2. Undisclosed Cultured Pearls are implied to be natural.
- iii. Commercial coral from temporary strands
 1. Must be natural and undyed.
 2. Must be used in combination with hand-made item(s)
 3. Must represent less than 50% of the finished item
- iv. Apple coral
 1. Must be natural and undyed
 2. Must be used in combination with hand-made item(s).
- v. Commercially available glass beads
 1. Must be used in combination with handmade item(s)
- vi. Cast Jewelry to include sand, cement, lost wax, and tufa.
 1. Editions limited to 25
 2. Must be signed with the artist's hallmark and numbered
 3. Rubber molds allowed if editions limit adhered to
- vii. Commercial chain
 1. As a finding only
- viii. Fabricated laminated pattern sheet metals
- ix. Precious metal clay

b. Techniques and Tools

3. Not Allowed

a. Materials

i. Imported or non-Indian hand-made stone or shell beads and fetishes

1. Excludes coral in hand-made items

ii. Imported and/or color treated nuggets or tumbled chips of any material

iii. Reconstituted or compressed laboratory grown, plastic or synthetic block materials

iv. Fabricated pearls made of glass or plastic.

v. Color-treated materials,

1. Examples include but are not limited to;

a. Blue onyx

b. Blue topaz

c. Irradiated red coral

d. Sponge coral

e. Bamboo coral

f. Synthetic Opal

vi. Items assembled from non-Indian or manufactured components, including but not limited to:

1. Machine-made or die-struck components

2. Purchased cast blanks

3. Machine-made or other metal beads

4. Restrung jewelry

a. Multiple strand glass bead necklaces

b. Exception is made for jewelry containing repurposed components that have been transformed by the artist

5. Machine made “liquid” silver & gold, or plated materials

6. Powered inlay

b. Techniques and Tools

Division Descriptions:

Division A: Traditional Jewelry. This division is intended for all traditionally-made jewelry using culturally acceptable materials (including silver, beads, quills, brass, copper and stones shells), traditional techniques, and traditional designs.

Division B: Traditional Stones and Shells Jewelry (Pre-Columbian style-style). No metal except for findings. This division is meant to honor pre-Columbian jewelry styles, primarily inlay and heishi styles but can include any jewelry materials that are derived from ancestral styles and designs.

Division C: Contemporary Jewelry. Any and all allowable materials, techniques, and designs with disclosure.

Division D: Contemporary Stones and Shell Jewelry (Pre-Columbian style using contemporary materials). This division is meant to represent the modern extension pre-Columbian jewelry styles, primarily inlay and heishi styles but can include any jewelry materials that are derived from ancestral styles and designs. Any and all allowable materials, techniques, and designs with disclosure.

Important Reminders:

1. Special consideration is to be given to the use of natural hand processed materials.
2. Judging of contemporary divisions recognizes that the artist is working within a modern context. Considered here are artists' sense of design, choice and use of materials and techniques as they relate to contemporary tribal life.
3. The Non-wearable Jewelry Division is now considered precious metal sculpture and will be judged there.
4. The miscellaneous category should be used only where work does not conform to any listed category.
5. All stone, shell or metal elements, including beads, as well as all feathers and animal materials must be properly identified and comply with Jewelry standards and all State and Federal laws and regulations.
6. Artists may enter each piece of a matched set individually by Category or as a matched set.

Judging Divisions and Categories

Division

A: Traditional Jewelry using culturally acceptable materials (including silver, beads, quills, brass, copper, stones, shells, etc.), traditional techniques and designs.

Category

101: Necklaces

102: Bracelets and Watchbands

- 103: Rings
- 104: Pins and Pendants
- 105: Earrings
- 106: Concho Belts
- 107: Buckles and Ranger Sets
- 108: Ketohs and Bolos
- 109: Coordinated Sets
- 110: Miscellaneous
- 111: Boundary (“Gray area art”, Classification transfer possible)

B: Traditional Stones and Shells
(Pre-contact style jewelry-
heishi, Inlay, etc.)

- 201: Necklaces
- 202: Bracelets and Watchbands
- 203: Rings
- 204: Pins and Pendants
- 205: Earrings
- 206: Bolos, buckles (including ranger sets)
- 207: Coordinated sets
- 208: Boundary (“Gray area art”, Classification transfer possible)

C: Contemporary Jewelry, any materials

- 301: Necklaces
- 302: Bracelets and Watchbands
- 303: Rings
- 304: Pins and Pendants
- 305: Earrings
- 306: Concho Belts
- 307: Buckles and Ranger Sets
- 308: Ketohs and Bolos
- 309: Coordinated Sets

310: Miscellaneous
311: Boundary (“Gray area
art”, Classification
transfer possible)

D: Contemporary Stones and
Shells
(Heishi, inlay, etc.)

401: Necklaces
402: Bracelets and
watchbands
403: Rings
404: Pins and Pendants
405: Earrings
406: Bolos & Buckles
(including ranger sets)
407: Coordinated sets
408: Boundary (“Gray area
art”, Classification
transfer possible)