

*International
Egg Art Guild*

*Masters
Certification
Program*



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Participant:

Thank you for your interest in the Masters Program. For those who have never participated we would like to share some information with you to help you achieve your goals. The program was designed for those with the desire to improve their eggging skills by being judged against one set of standards administered as objectively as possible. If there is any competition, it is the participant who competes against him or herself. The goal of the Masters Program is to help improve one's technique and workmanship; and ultimately become a Master Egg Artist, or even a Grand Master Egg Artist. Used as a learning experience, this program makes you more critical of your own work and compels you to do better.

It is imperative that you read **ALL** of the information in the packet pertaining to your category and level before you design your egg. Thoroughly read the Judges' Standards so you can see what the judges are looking for and how the points are divided. Workmanship carries 50% of the points, so pay particular attention to details. Your completed egg may not be put on display, at a show, store, or on the internet, prior to its judging.

The following category pages contain all the information needed to guide you in the preparation of your entry. Please read the requirements very carefully to avoid a simple mistake that results in your egg being disqualified or in the loss of many points and a lowered score on your entry. If you have questions this packet has not addressed please contact the Director of the Masters Program. The current Director will be listed both on the IEAG website and in the IEAG newsletter.

We wish you much success as you progress through this IEAG Masters Program.

GENERAL PROCEDURES

Any applicant may choose a category from those listed in this packet in which he/she would like to be certified. Certification will be as follows:

- Novice
- Intermediate
- Master
- Master of Egg Art (after attaining the Master level in four separate categories)
- Grand Master of Egg Art (after attaining the Master level in all categories)

The Masters Packet will be available as a free download from the IEAG website, or the Packet can be obtained by mail from the IEAG for a fee. An additional fee set by the IEAG will be required for each registration of the applicant for each judging. The applicant must be a member in good standing of the IEAG at the time of registration and at the judging. All applicants for certification must begin at the Novice level in any category and must progress through the levels listed in the Masters Packet. (Exception: during a "Grandfather" period of one year from the time a new category is established by the IEAG, an artist may enter an egg at the Master level or any other level). An applicant must register each egg by sending completed forms to the person designated by the IEAG before a published deadline. The applicant will be responsible for delivering the egg, along with a 3" X 5" card (do not write your name on the card) and photos (No Polaroid's as they fade over time), to the location of the Masters judging. The photos must be of the front and back of the egg if the egg is uncut; if the egg is cut, the

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applicant must include a photo of the egg open and a photo showing the egg closed. The applicant is fully responsible for all shipping and insurance costs both to and from the judging when mailing an egg to be judged and must state a monetary figure for insurance purposes. All eggs received will be handled with the utmost of care; however, the IEAG cannot be responsible for breakage in shipping and handling. All eggs for judging must be the original work of the applicant and be certified that all procedures were done completely by the applicant. Any photographs submitted to, or taken by the IEAG, will become the property of the IEAG and may be used by them at their discretion. All judges are trained and certified by the IEAG and their decisions will be final.

DESCRIPTION OF MASTERS PROGRAM

The Masters Program is not a mandatory program for membership in the IEAG but is available to all members who are interested in a progressive certification of the egg art expertise. The program will in no way be connected to the competitions and contests held at various shows. It is strictly a learning tool to help achieve excellence in the art. Because any true art form needs to be certified, as evidenced by other art forms and their guilds, the Masters Program will be governed by the Board of the IEAG and administered by the Director of the Masters Program who will serve on the Executive Board of the IEAG.

The categories in the Masters Program are designed to allow the artist to have control over design and creativity. The artist is required to meet certain criteria within each category. It is hoped this program will result in higher standards of egg artistry for all egg artists. Anyone not willing to abide by the requirements should reconsider their decision to enter this program.

AIM OF MASTERS PROGRAM

It is the aim of the Masters Program to further the art of egg decorating and to help all egg artists to develop to their fullest potential. We will encourage beginning egg artists to develop, as well as aid those with experience and expertise to widen their horizons. It is **not** our aim to form an “elitist” group, but to encourage the highest standards of egg artistry in our Guild.

The Masters Program is based upon education and the development of individual skill and expertise. The program merely seeks to emphasize basic standards of excellence with very distinct forms of egg art. We recognize that each category utilizes a different and specific technique.

The standards have been established specifically for the program itself. Judging may be held during a show where two or more eggs are entered, or at a time and place designated by the IEAG. It will be standardized by the format created for this Masters Program and the manual provided.

The requirements listed in each category and level were implemented to allow artists to display their proficiency in various techniques. These include applying a finish, ability to cut an egg, setting an egg on a base so that it is straight. The Masters Program was not set up to accommodate the entrant; it was setup with different requirements in each category and in each level within each category.

Each of the categories were studied for their most “common denominations” and each are listed under their respective sections in the packet. All the categories fit into a basic outline form and include:

1. General Creativity
2. Design
3. Workmanship: The scoring system using numerical points **was developed to diminish judging subjectivity and make it more objective.**

REASONS FOR DISQUALIFYING EGG

1. The egg is from a seminar or instruction kit.
2. The egg does not meet the definition of the category, or does not meet the level requirements; Novice, Intermediate, or Master.
3. The egg is entered in the wrong category.
4. The egg is not accompanied by a 3" X 5" card. (The artist must use only card stock; regular paper will NOT be accepted)
5. The required information is not included on the 3" X 5" card: the category and level entered. i.e.: in Pysanky-colored and symbols used as well as the country the symbols originated, Sculpted/Carved-the bits and burs used as well as the finish applied at the intermediate level, Filigree-the finish applied after cutting

PREPARING YOUR ENTRY

1. Carefully read the definition and the level requirements for the egg you are entering.
2. If the requirements say "MUST" then you have no choice and you must follow the requirement.
3. If the requirements say "MAY", then you have the option.
4. The 3" X 5" card may be used to tell the judges anything you did above the MINIMUM requirements. i.e.: In decoupage, if you hand-colored black and white prints, you should include that information on the card as that will increase the degree of difficulty. In diorama, if you made your figures and it was not required, include that information as it will increase the degree of difficulty, etc.
5. List anything on your 3" X 5" card that will explain your technique and contribute to your score.
6. Your packet details what the judges are looking for and how the points are distributed. For example: originality starts with 15 points, if your egg is completely original it would score the full 15 points; neatness has 20 points, but if there is glue showing, braid not mitered, the paint is streaked or as a poor or pitted finish, then you would lose points for each of those.
7. Check your egg against the criteria and you will see where you might need to improve your egg artistry.

DEFINITIONS

Artist's Choice: The artist has the freedom to make his/her own choice. The judges will not know why the artist has made that particular choice so it must be explained on the 3"x5" card.

Base/Stand: The width of the base should match the width of the center of the egg. If the base is too small, the egg looks top-heavy.

Decal: Commercial or handmade should be listed on your card. Greeting card, wrapping paper, or any print applied directly to the eggshell and then sunk with decoupage medium.

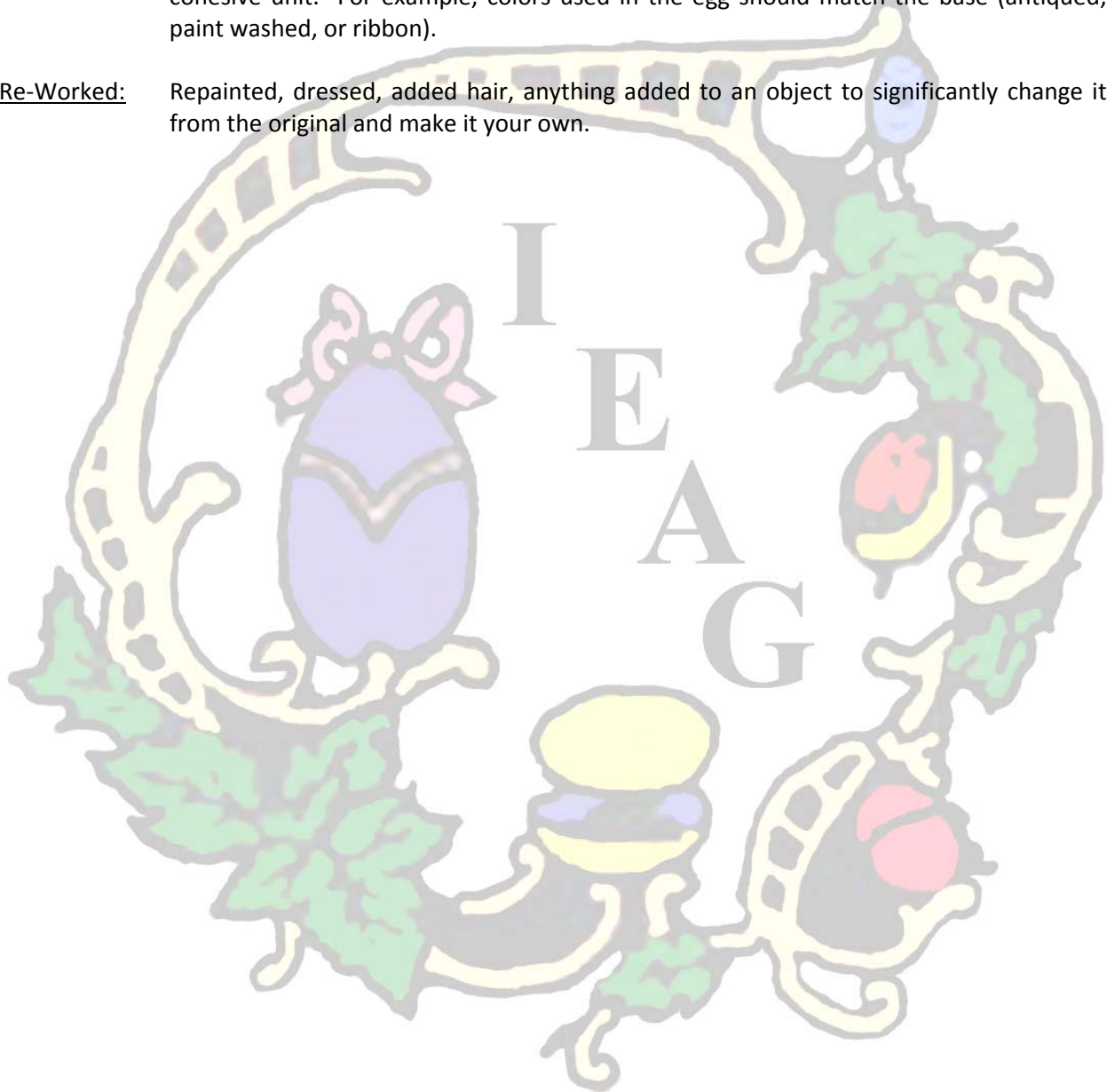
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Finishes: Finish of artist's choice, gloss or matte sealer, or a decoupage wax

Hand Colored: A black and white print that is colored with watercolors, colored pencil, or any other color medium.

Incorporate: To integrate themes, styles, colors, etc so all components of the egg create a visually cohesive unit. For example, colors used in the egg should match the base (antiqued, paint washed, or ribbon).

Re-Worked: Repainted, dressed, added hair, anything added to an object to significantly change it from the original and make it your own.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROGRAM

- Q. *Must an egg be specifically created for this program or may I submit an egg which I have previously created if I feel it meets the requirements?*
- A. While there is nothing in the rules which prohibits an artist from entering an egg which has been created previously, it is **strongly** recommended that you create an egg following the exact requirements as set forth for the category and level in which you are entering the egg. An egg, if not newly created, may have yellowed epoxy, discoloration of findings or stand due to age, or become soiled. These defects will greatly affect the score.
- Q. *When is the application and release form submitted?*
- A. Check the judging schedule posted on the IEAG website (www.ieag.org) and published in the IEAG newsletter. You must complete one application for each egg entered, however, only one release form needs to be completed for each judging event (this will cover all entries for that judging). These forms, applicable fees (including return postage and insurance if applicable), and a photograph of the egg(s) must be received at the address shown in the announcement. They must arrive by the published deadline for registration. Forms received after the deadline will not be judged. The applicant will have the option to carry over the submission to the next judging event or withdraw the egg(s) and receive a refund.
- Q. *May I enter eggs at more than one level in the same category at the same judging (e.g.: a filigree egg at the novice level and another filigree egg at the intermediate level)?*
- A. NO! You must have passed each level in a category before going on to the next level in that same category. You may, however, enter several eggs at differing levels in different categories if you have achieved the previous level for the category being entered. We suggest that you not enter more than three eggs at a time and that you give yourself plenty of time to design and work on the egg. If you rush, you will not do your best work.
- Q. *In most categories the rules require that the hole be covered or incorporated, why?*
- A. If a hole is showing in a submitted egg, the egg is not considered "finished". This requirement allows the judges to determine if the artist is skilled at filling or "hiding" the hole.
- Q. *What is the recommended way to pack an egg for shipping to the location of the judging if I cannot personally deliver it?*
- A. The use of upholstery foam has proven to be very successful. Some upholstery shops will sell remnants of thick upholstery foam. You should have a piece of foam which is larger than the size (length-width-height) of your entire creation. Split the foam in half. Carve out both halves to the shape of your egg creation with only an elongated groove

for the stand and a horizontal groove for the base. Carefully tape the two halves of the foam together around the egg. This will keep the egg secure; and the weight of the stand, if supported properly within the foam, will not cause the egg to break off of the stand in shipping. (Some prefer to use foam surrounding an egg and inserted in coffee can or plastic container). Pack the egg(s) in a box large enough to allow plenty of packing material. If mailing more than one egg, or mailing them out of the country, use two boxes for added security. (One box containing the foam packed eggs inserted within a larger box with lots of packing around it to protect the inner box). To date even delicately cut filigree eggs, if properly packed this way, have arrived safely.

Q. *How do I know if I am ready to enter the Masters Program?*

A. If you have been egging for a year or two, and are knowledgeable about the techniques used, you are probably ready. Taking a few classes will help but that is not required. Eggs which are submitted that are of "craft" quality will not be judged but will be returned to the owner and their entry fee refunded. Beginners are definitely encouraged but the workmanship should be good. We are, after all, striving for excellence.

Q. *Can I use glitter to create the three dimensional component required for Diorama?*

A. No. Glitter is no different than paint and does not add any dimension to a diorama. It is used only as an accent.

Q. *What is the 3"x5" card used for and why is it important?*

A. When the egg is submitted for judging it must be accompanied by this card which **MUST** state the category and level in which the egg is to be entered. When your egg is being judged first thing a judge does is read the card, then the judge verifies the category and level requirements for the submission. If the egg meets all of the requirements the egg is judged. If the card does not state the category and level, the egg will be disqualified. **Do not put your name on the card and if your egg is signed, cover the signature with a piece of tape.** When judging the degree of difficulty the judge will consult the card to learn additional information regarding the submission, e.g.; handmade figures, hand colored prints, micromesh polishing, texture markings etc and may take this information into consideration. Any additional information will help raise the score if it denotes difficulty in the execution of the egg.

Q. *The beading category specifies that a certain number of different types of beads or jewels must be used. Why is using different types of beads/jewels important?*

A. There are many types of beads available although not all of them will be suitable for beading an egg – this will be determined by the design you choose to do on the egg. Examples of types of beads: Bugle, Seed, 3-cut, 2-cut. Examples of types of jewels: flat-back crystals, no-hole pearls, gemstones. NOTE: Different sizes or colors of the same type of bead or jewel are **NOT** considered a different type of bead or jewel. Keep in mind you can use different beads or different jewels or a combination of both.



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MASTER CERTIFICATION SCORE SHEET

Date: _____
 Judges: _____
 Category: _____
 Division: _____
 Registration #: _____

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|------------------------|
| General Creativity (Maximum score 20) | | |
| Originality | (Max 15) | _____ |
| Overall Impression | (Max 5) | _____ |
| | | |
| Design (Maximum score 30) | | |
| Design/Form/Shape | (Max 5) | _____ |
| Harmony/Color | (Max 15) | _____ |
| Balance Overall | (Max 10) | _____ |
| | | |
| Workmanship (Maximum Score 50) | | |
| Neatness | (Max 20) | _____ |
| Degree of Difficulty | (Max 30) | _____ |
| | | TOTAL (MAX 100) |
| | | _____ |

| Reason Disqualified | | Judge's Comments |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Did not list category | <input type="checkbox"/> | Glue showing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entered in wrong category | <input type="checkbox"/> | Edges not smooth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Did not include 3x5 card | <input type="checkbox"/> | Bridges need to be uniform |
| <input type="checkbox"/> From Seminar or kit | <input type="checkbox"/> | Coating not smooth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Does not meet requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> | Figures not in proportion |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stand detracts from egg |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Drain hole not covered |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Drain hole not incorporated |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Egg not centered on stand |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Braid not mitered or uneven |

Comments: _____

Note: Any questions regarding the aforementioned information should be directed to the IEAG Director of Masters Program

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MASTERS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

CATEGORY: _____

LEVEL: _____

I HAVE ENCLOSED AN APPLICATION FEE (MADE OUT TO THE IEAG) AS FOLLOWS:

NOVICE: \$15.00 _____ INTERMEDIATE: \$20.00 _____ MASTERS: \$25.00 _____ (Please check one)

EGG IS TO BE MAILED AND I HAVE INCLUDED RETURN POSTAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____

I certify that my egg is not from a seminar, written instructions, a kit, not a copy of another egg (with the exception of the Pysanky - Novice level). I further understand that the work submitted must be entirely my own and hereby state that I have received no assistance whatsoever in the preparation of this entry.

DATE _____ SIGNATURE _____

To be completed by the Chairperson of the International Egg Art Guild Masters Program

DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED: _____ PHOTO(S): _____

DATE APPLICATION PROCESSED: _____

APPLICATION NUMBER: _____

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Signature of Chairperson

Date

MASTERS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM RELEASE FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

NUMBER OF EGGS SUBMITTED: _____

(Only one release form needs to be filled out per Judging Day.)

The committee will handle your entry with utmost care. Everything, including the Judges' score sheets will be returned to you. Members of the IEAG Masters Certification Program are not financially or otherwise responsible for damage and/or loss of any egg(s) and/or documentation delivered to them for judging.

All photos of any egg(s) taken or submitted to the Masters Certification Program become the property of the International Egg Art Guild and may be used by them at their discretion.

To submit an entry for judging, you must sign and return this release.

DATE: _____ **SIGNATURE:** _____

BAS RELIEF - REPOUSSE CATEGORY

DEFINITION: Bas Relief and Repousse are defined as sculptured or raised drawings. The effect is created on the egg by contouring prints from the underside and then stuffing and molding the print with a non shrinking material. All edges of the print are glued to the eggshell and buried under a smooth finish.

CATEGORY INFORMATION: Bas Relief is essentially a sculptured decoupage. In this category the prints are cut out and shaped (sculpted) in some manner before being applied to the egg. Judges will be looking for you to create depth with your chosen print. It will take several identical prints to achieve this. The media referred to in this category are those products used to raise the prints from underneath such as silicon, modeling paste, glue, etc. You must blend the edges of your prints. A decoupage medium is applied over the prints in the finishing stages. You are demonstrating to the judges your ability to determine the various depths of your picture and your ability to cut the patterns and shapes yourself. There are specific percentages of your egg that must contain the relief work. You can always exceed the minimum requirements and it is usually to your advantage to do so.

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Novice: 50 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Egg may be with or without a stand/base
3. Applicant's choice of medium (sculpturing product) and may use more than one
4. One-third (1/3) of the shell to be covered with the sculptured prints
5. Eggshell may not be cut in any manner

Intermediate: 85 points needed for clarification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Applicant's choice of medium (sculpturing product) and may use more than one
3. Two-thirds (2/3) of the shell to be covered with the sculptured prints
4. Egg must be adhered to a stand
5. Eggshell may be cut in some manner

Master: 95 points needed for qualification

1. Must use emu, rhea, swan, or ostrich egg
2. Applicant's choice of medium (sculpturing product) and may use more than one
3. More than three-quarters (3/4) of the shell to be covered with the sculptured prints
4. Eggshell must be cut in some manner
5. Egg must be with a base/stand (may or may not be attached to stand)

STANDARDS: (Judging Criteria)

I. General Creativity: (20 points)

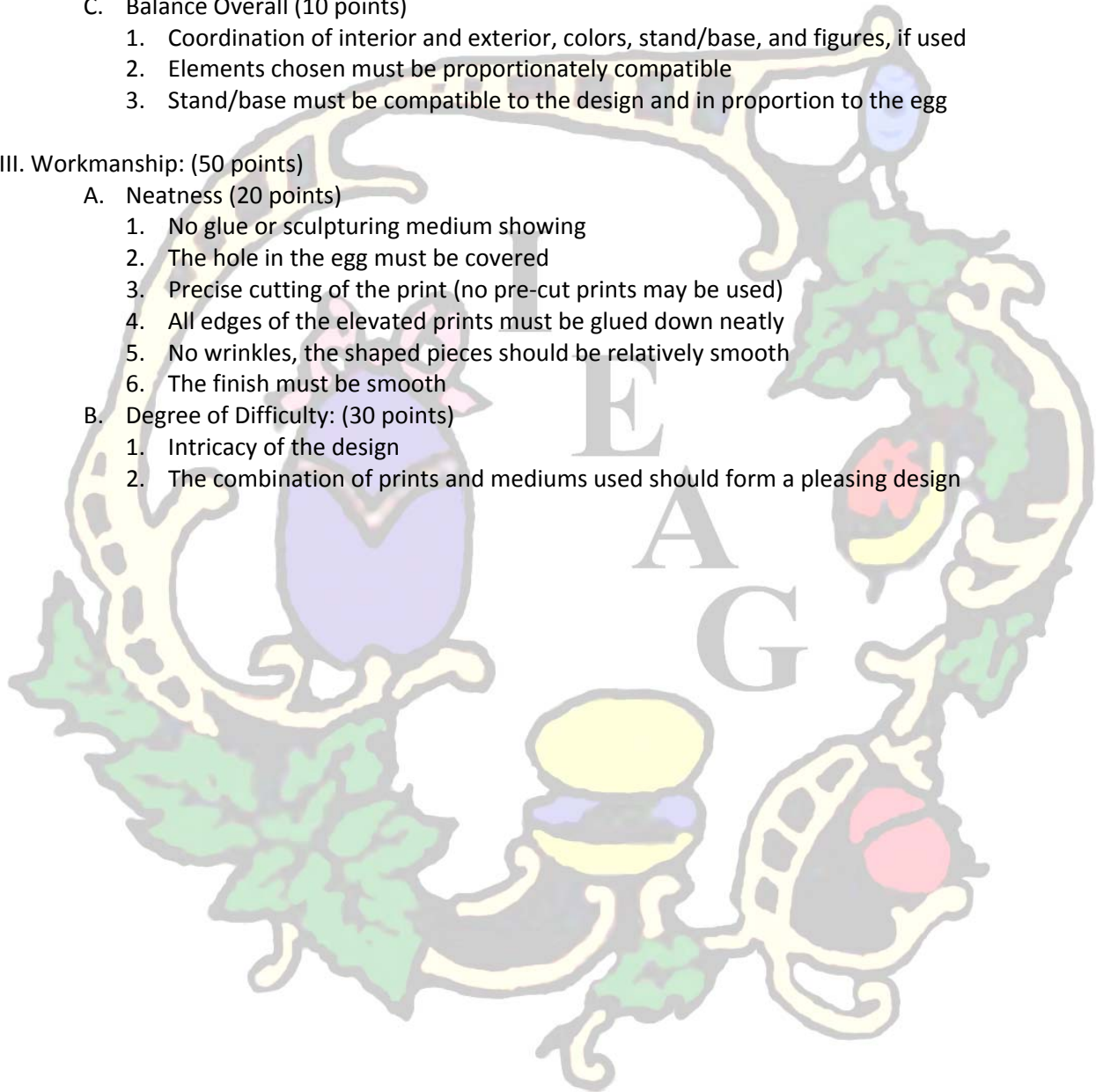
- A. Originality (15 points)
 1. An inventive or creative work as opposed to any copy or imitation. (No seminar or instruction kits allowed)
- B. Overall Impression (5 points)
 1. Pleasing to the eye

II. Design: (30 points)

- A. Form/Shape (5 points)
 - 1. Retention of the egg shape (must still look like an egg)
- B. Harmony and Color (15 points)
 - 1. Coordination of background, color, raised areas and stand/base
- C. Balance Overall (10 points)
 - 1. Coordination of interior and exterior, colors, stand/base, and figures, if used
 - 2. Elements chosen must be proportionately compatible
 - 3. Stand/base must be compatible to the design and in proportion to the egg

III. Workmanship: (50 points)

- A. Neatness (20 points)
 - 1. No glue or sculpturing medium showing
 - 2. The hole in the egg must be covered
 - 3. Precise cutting of the print (no pre-cut prints may be used)
 - 4. All edges of the elevated prints must be glued down neatly
 - 5. No wrinkles, the shaped pieces should be relatively smooth
 - 6. The finish must be smooth
- B. Degree of Difficulty: (30 points)
 - 1. Intricacy of the design
 - 2. The combination of prints and mediums used should form a pleasing design



BEADED AND JEWELED CATEGORY

DEFINITION: An egg that has been extensively decorated with beads and/or jewels. The focus of the egg should be the beading. Your choice of beads or jewels includes but is not limited to; no-hole pearls, string pearls, crystal flatbacks, 2-cut beads, 3-cut beads, seed beads, etc.

CATEGORY INFORMATION: The indicated amount of beading/jewelling required in each level is the minimum. You may choose to exceed this requirement. The focus of the egg should be the beading so there is a limitation to the amount of braid/cording allowed (see B-3 under workmanship). Workmanship counts for one-half of the score. Your work should be neat and clean with no visible glue. All braids and beads should be abutted or mitered properly. This means where the rows start and stop should not be obvious. Your rows must be straight with no space between the beads/jewels. Beads should not be loose or missing. There are different schools of thought on leaving the strings in or taking the strings out of beads when they are glued to the eggshell. If you decide to leave the strings in the beads, the string must not be visible. Judges will feel the egg to check for beads that do not lay flat against the eggshell. Your beadwork should be smooth and even.

Degree of difficulty is determined by the size and type of beads/jewels used and the pattern in which they are applied. Fused beads or rhinestone chain is far easier to apply than strung beads or individual crystals. It is much more difficult to get perfect rows with 3-cut beads than it is using the very uniform Ceylon beads. Larger beads cover more space and generally are considered less difficult than smaller beads. While a novice entry might have beads applied in simple rows or around a simple cut or pattern, an intermediate or master entry should be much more detailed and have more intricate patterns. This can be achieved by using multiple (coordinated) colors, different sizes of beads/jewels and combinations of rhinestones and beads.

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Novice: 50 Points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Eggshell may be cut or uncut
3. Egg may be with or without a stand/base
4. One-third (1/3) of the outer eggshell must be beaded/jeweled

Intermediate: 85 Points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Eggshell must be cut in some manner
3. Egg must be adhered to a stand
4. Must use two types of beads/jewels
5. Two-thirds (2/3) of the outer eggshell must be beaded/jeweled

Master: 95 Points needed for qualification

1. Must use an ostrich eggshell
2. Eggshell must be cut in some manner
3. Filigree or multiple cuts may be used in some manner. However, no more than 10% of the shell shall be removed leaving 90% to be beaded and/or jeweled

4. Egg must be with a base/stand (may or may not be attached to stand)
5. Must use AT LEAST three types of beads/jewels

STANDARDS: (Judging Criteria)

I. General Creativity: (20 points)

- A. Originality (15 points)
 1. An inventive or creative work as opposed to any copy or imitation. (No seminar or instruction kits allowed)
- B. Overall Impression (5 points)
 1. Pleasing to the eye

II. Design: (30 points)

- A. Form/Shape (5 points)
 1. Retention of the egg shape (must still look like an egg)
- B. Harmony and Color (15 points)
 1. Coordination of base/stand to the design
 2. Total design must be color coordinated
- C. Balance Overall (10 points)
 1. Elements chosen must be proportionately compatible.
 2. Stand/base must be compatible to the design and in proportion to the egg

III. Workmanship: (50 points)

- A. Neatness (20 points)
 1. No glue showing
 2. The hole in the egg must be covered.
 3. Braid/beads must be abutted or mitered properly
 4. Overall neatness
- B. Degree of Difficulty (30 points)
 1. Figures/objects used must be in proportion and compatible to the egg
 2. Trim should be compatible to the design
 3. No more than 10% of the entire décor on the egg can consist of braid. 90% must be jewels or beads
 4. Bead/jewel lines must flow with the design
 5. Bead/jewel applications should be consistent, level to the shell surface; with no loose beads; no string showing and the beginning and end of each line should not be obvious

DECOUPAGE CATEGORY

DEFINITION: The cutting of a paper print away from the background and applying it to an eggshell in a pleasing design. The use of water-slide or slip decals or pre-cut prints is not permitted. The amount of shell area to be covered with the print(s) is the minimum amount required. The more intricate the print, the higher the degree of difficulty. The prints must be "sunk" well by applying many coats of a decoupage medium, wet sanding, reapplication (if needed) of the medium and wet sanding until a smooth finish is achieved. A glaze or sealer may then be applied.

CATEGORY INFORMATION: A well decoupaged egg looks as if the print is part of the shell. This requires many coats of medium, five to seven at a time, and then wet sanding until smooth. It may take as many as five or six repetitions of this process to completely "sink" the print so that it appears to be part of the egg itself. Careful application of the print and thorough wet sanding creates the smooth finish. After the wet sanding is dry (at least overnight), close your eyes and using a T-shirt or thin cotton cloth, gently run your hand around the shell in all directions. If you feel **any** lumps, ridges, "valleys", edges, scratches, or overlaps of the print, your egg is not ready for judging.

The judges will feel the egg as they look for defects in the medium (glitter, flecks of dirt, brush hairs) and breaks in the print that were not properly mended before decoupage. They will also look for any background that was not cut away from the print. At each level there is a minimum amount of shell that must be covered. Be sure to meet or exceed that amount. You do not have to hide the entire eggshell. The prints should be placed completely around the shell, top to bottom in a pleasing manner. Remember a larger egg like a rhea or ostrich shell is harder to do and will result in a higher degree of difficulty score. More prints and more intricate the cutting, including inside cutting between elements in the interior of the print will also increase the degree of difficulty score. The final finish should also be blemish free. Poorly applied sealer can ruin a lot of hard work. It is very important that you do not wrap the finished egg in tissue before it is completely dry and cured. This will destroy your smooth finish by creating creases and dents in your work. An egg can take 4 weeks or more to cure depending on your weather conditions.

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Novice: 50 points needed for qualification.

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Egg may be with or without a stand/base
3. A commercial print may be used (no water-slide/slip or pre-cut prints are permitted)
4. Print must cover at least one-third of the eggshell

Intermediate: 85 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Egg must be adhered to a stand
3. Commercial or hand painted* print may be used. (*A black and white print which you have hand colored with water colors, color pencils, or any other color medium)
4. Must use an intricately cut print from which all background color has been removed
5. Print(s) must cover at least one-half (1/2) of the eggshell

Master: 95 points needed for qualification

1. Must use rhea, emu, or ostrich eggshell
2. Egg must be with a base/stand (may or may not be attached to stand)
3. Commercial or hand painted* print may be used. (*A black and white print which you have hand colored with water colors, color pencils, or any other color medium)
4. Must use an intricately cut print from which all background color has been removed
5. Print(s) must cover at least 85% of the eggshell

STANDARDS: (Judging Criteria)

I. General Creativity: (20 points)

- A. Originality (15 points)
 1. Inventive or creative, an original work as opposed to any copy or imitation. (No seminar designs or instruction kits allowed)
- B. Overall Impression (5 points)
 1. Pleasing to the eye

II. Design: (30 points)

- A. Form/Shape (5 points)
 1. Retention of the egg shape (must still look like an egg)
- B. Harmony/Color (15 points)
 1. Coordination of the background color, prints, stand/base
- C. Balance Overall (10 points)
 1. Elements chosen must be proportionately compatible
 2. Print must be in proportion to the egg
 3. Stand/base must be compatible with the design and in proportion to the egg

III. Workmanship: (50 points)

- A. Neatness (20 points)
 1. The prints shall be properly "sunk" with no loose edges, bubbles, pits or creases.
 2. A smooth finish to the touch
 3. No glue showing
 4. The hole in the egg must be covered
 5. Overall neatness
- B. Degree of Difficulty (30 points)
 1. Intricacy of the prints
 2. A combination of prints applied to form a pleasing design

DIORAMA CATEGORY

DEFINITION: An egg decorated in a manner that places the major focus on a three dimensional scene built within the eggshell.

CATEGORY INFORMATION: The egg may have any number of openings, and be with or without doors. Keep in mind, THREE dimensional when creating your scene, it must have a background, mid-ground and foreground. Glitter does not count as a dimensional component to the diorama; it may only be used as an accent. The background or treatment on the inside of the eggshell should give the scene depth. It is very important to state on your 3x5 card how you created the scene. Commercial figures may be used on each level; however, they must be reworked. You cannot simply purchase a doll figure and build a scene around it without making changes to the doll. (i.e.: change hair color, make new clothing, etc). You must include information about how you reworked your figures on your 3x5 card. Note: handmade figures will receive more “degree of difficulty” points than reworked commercial figures.

Judges will look for the theme to be carried throughout the egg (inside, outside, stand and/or base). The diorama scene must be the major focus of the egg. Eggs that are very unique and intricate will earn the most points, i.e.: using a handmade figure with handmade flowers, swing, fences, and a sky with clouds formed in modeling paste. Judges will also look for and deduct points for glue showing, for a poorly covered blow hole, for figures that are not in proportion to each other or in proportion to the egg used.

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Novice: 50 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Must have a minimum of one opening (may be with or without doors)
3. May use reworked commercial figures and scenery
4. Exterior design must tie in with interior design
5. Egg may be with or without stand or base

Intermediate: 85 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Must have a minimum of one opening (may be with or without doors)
3. Must be a multi-figured scene (three or more)
4. If using commercial figures they must be extensively reworked
5. Interior of the eggshell must be hand painted or print-lifted/decoupage and applied as a background scene
6. Exterior design must tie in with interior design
7. Egg must be adhered to stand

Master: 95 points needed for qualification

1. Must be swan, emu, rhea or ostrich eggshell
2. Multiple openings and/or filigree cuts must be used
3. Must be a multi-figured scene (five or more)
4. Figures or objects should be handmade or designed by the applicant. If using commercial figures or objects, they must be extensively reworked (see definitions)
5. Exterior design must tie in with interior design

6. Egg must be with a base/stand (may or may not be attached to stand)

STANDARDS: (Judging Criteria)

- I. General Creativity: (20 points)
 - A. Originality (15 points)
 1. Inventive or creative, an original work as opposed to any copy or imitation
 - B. Overall Impression (5 points)
 1. Pleasing to the eye
- II. Design: (30 points)
 - A. Form/Shape (5 points)
 1. Retention of the egg shape
 - B. Harmony/Color (15 points)
 1. Base/Stand must be coordinated to the design
 2. Total design must be color coordinated
 - a) Exterior b) Interior c) Base/stand
 - C. Balance overall (10 points)
 1. Elements chosen must be proportionately compatible
- III. Workmanship: (50 points)
 - A. Neatness (20 points)
 1. No glue showing
 2. The hole in the egg must be covered
 3. Overall neatness
 - B. Degree of Difficulty (30 points)
 1. Detail used in diorama scene
 - a) Mechanics
 - b) Hand painted background or applied prints
 2. Figures are handmade or extensively reworked

ETCHED CATEGORY

DEFINITION: An eggshell that has been etched with an acid compound into its natural shell. The acid compound has been applied with a pen or pin or the egg has been maxed off with wax in a particular design then dipped into the acid compound to form a design in natural shell color. Color may be added to enhance depth perception by use of acrylics, oils, or watercolors after the shell has been etched; however requirements must be met for the etched shell. Class A' Peels or stickers may NOT be used at any level.

CATEGORY INFORMATION: Etching is a process used to remove parts of the egg shell with an acid to create raised areas, giving your egg a textured surface. Commercial acids (muriatic) or natural acids (vinegar) can be used. Waxed areas are protected from the acid and thus stay intact, versus the exposed areas which are eaten away. In this category, there is no requirement that the hole be covered. There are specific amounts of the eggshell that must contain the design. Putting a finish on your egg, while not required, adds to the degree of difficulty. Keep in mind linear perspective, color coordination, value changes and shading. All information including any preparation should be included on the 3x5 card so the judges can accurately assess the degree of difficulty.

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Novice: 50 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a chicken or duck eggshell
2. Egg may be with or without a stand/base
3. At least one-third (1/3) of the shell must be covered by the design
4. Finish may be applied

Intermediate: 85 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Egg must be adhered to a stand
3. At least one-half (1/2) of the shell must be covered by a design
4. Finish may be applied

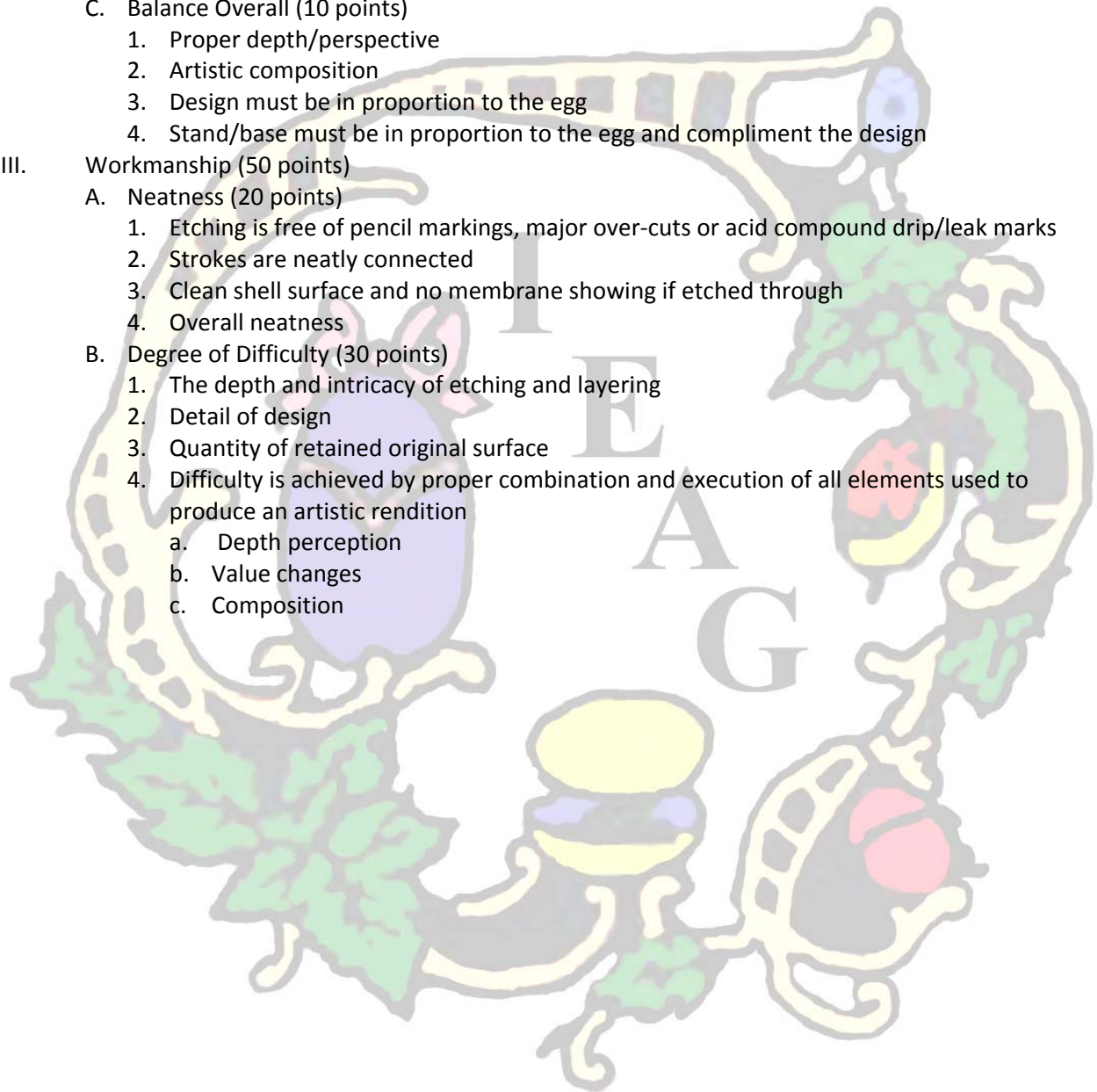
Master: 95 points needed for qualification.

1. Must use a rhea, emu, cassowary, swan, or ostrich eggshell
2. Egg must be with a base/stand (may or may not be attached to stand)
3. Two-thirds (2/3) of the shell must be covered by the design
 - a. If an emu egg is used and not etched all the way through, at least 90% of the eggshell must be etched to the second layer and at least 1/3 of this is to be to the white layer
 - b. Eggshells other than emu must be obvious that there is some degree of varied levels of etching employed to develop the overall design
4. Finish must be applied

STANDARDS: (Judging Criteria)

- I. General Creativity (20 points)
 - A. Originality (15 points)
 1. Inventive creativity within the design
 - B. Overall Impression (5 points)
 1. Pleasing to the eye

- II. Design (30 points)
 - A. Form/Shape (5 points)
 - 1. Shell is well formed, free of flaws
 - 2. Retention of the egg shape
 - B. Harmony and Color (10 points)
 - 1. Proper value changes/shading
 - C. Balance Overall (10 points)
 - 1. Proper depth/perspective
 - 2. Artistic composition
 - 3. Design must be in proportion to the egg
 - 4. Stand/base must be in proportion to the egg and compliment the design
- III. Workmanship (50 points)
 - A. Neatness (20 points)
 - 1. Etching is free of pencil markings, major over-cuts or acid compound drip/leak marks
 - 2. Strokes are neatly connected
 - 3. Clean shell surface and no membrane showing if etched through
 - 4. Overall neatness
 - B. Degree of Difficulty (30 points)
 - 1. The depth and intricacy of etching and layering
 - 2. Detail of design
 - 3. Quantity of retained original surface
 - 4. Difficulty is achieved by proper combination and execution of all elements used to produce an artistic rendition
 - a. Depth perception
 - b. Value changes
 - c. Composition



FILIGREE CATEGORY

DEFINITION: A whole egg with an intricate design of cuts which leaves a delicate lace-like or geometric pattern of shell which is the major focus of the egg.

CATEGORY INFORMATION: Shell must not be strengthened in any manor prior to cutting. Use of any flying saucer, half saucer, or any other specialty cutting bits is prohibited. Judges will be looking for a very delicate design in the pattern of cuts. The more delicate the design the more points will be earned for degree of difficulty. In this category particular care must be taken with covering and disguising the blow hole. Bridges are the sections of eggshell left when cutting the openings to create your pattern. These bridges are very important when judges consider the degree of difficulty. While there is no measurement requirement for the width of the bridges at any level the more advanced the level the more delicate the bridges should be. You should pay attention to making very clean, smooth cuts/edges and not leaving tool marks. Removal of the membrane and cleaning is very important in this category. Points will be deducted in workmanship if the membrane is not completely removed or if pencil marks are showing. You may not use glitter. Glitter obscures cut lines and the judges will not be able to determine the smoothness of your cuts. Cording around your filigree cuts is also not permitted in this category for the same reason. At some levels a stand is not required; however, it does require skill to develop a pattern of cuts so that an egg can be adhered to a stand straight and therefore requires more "degree of difficulty".

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Novice: 50 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Egg may be with or without a stand/base
3. A print may be applied after cutting
4. Exterior of shell must have a finish applied after cutting
5. Must have a minimum of 25 openings
6. Original hole in shell must not be obvious

Intermediate: 85 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. At least 50% of the entire shell must be intricately cut developing a pleasing design
3. Egg must be with a base/stand (may or may not be attached to stand)
4. Exterior of shell must have a finish applied after cutting
5. A print may not be used
6. Original hole in shell must not be obvious

Master: 95 points needed for qualification.

1. Must use an emu, rhea, swan, or ostrich eggshell
2. A print may not be used
3. Entire shell must be intricately cut developing a pleasing design
4. Egg must be with a base/stand (may or may not be attached to stand)
5. Exterior of shell must have a finish applied after cutting
6. Original hole in shell must not be obvious

STANDARDS: (Judging Criteria)

I. General Creativity (20 points)

- A. Originality: (15 points)
 - 1. Inventive or creative, an original work as opposed to any copy or imitation. (No seminar designs or instruction kits allowed.)
- B. Overall Impression (5 points)
 - 1. Pleasing to the eye

II. Design: (30 points)

- A. Form/Shape (5 points)
 - 1. Retention of the egg shape
- B. Harmony and Color (15 points)
 - 1. Coordination of colors in/on the eggshell and stand/base
 - 2. Total design must be color coordinated
 - a) Exterior b) Interior c) Base/stand
- C. Balance Overall (10 points)
 - 1. Elements chosen must be proportionately compatible

III. Workmanship: (50 points)

- A. Neatness (20 points)
 - 1. Cuts to be smooth with clean edges and no jagged marks
 - 2. No glue showing
 - 3. Clean shell surface and no loose or ragged membrane showing
 - 4. Original hole in the shell must not be obvious. (incorporated into design)
 - 5. Overall neatness
 - 6. Even application of finish
- B. Degree of Difficulty (30 points)
 - 1. Difficulty of the design
 - 2. Intricacy of the cuts

HAND PAINTED CATEGORY

DEFINITION: An egg on which a design is created by hand using a paint medium.

CATEGORY INFORMATION: The artist must paint the image freehand. The design must be the artist's original concept and work. Tole and one-stroke painting is not allowed. You will be judged not only on the beauty of your creation, but also on your ability to create depth, shadow and distance, as well as use proper color coordination and compatibility. At each level there are specific requirements as to the amount of shell which must be covered by the design. You should not consider the first coat of background paint as part of the overall shell needed to be covered by the design unless it contributes substantially to the overall painting. If you have any doubt that you are meeting the minimum, you may always exceed that minimum.

Judges will be looking for composition, shadowing, and depth: How have the elements of the painting been placed? Does your eye flow across the whole painting or does one element dominate? Is the main focus of the painting in the center of the painting (both vertically and horizontally), or off to one side? Is there anything that draws your eye into or across the painting? One of the most crucial aspects for creating a realistic image is to have the direction of the light consistent across all the elements in a painting. If you have light in your paintings, you need contrasting areas of shadow. Judges will look for depth in the image. Overlapping is the strongest indicator of relative distance or using diminishing scale where larger appears to be closer than the smaller.

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Novice: 50 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Egg may be with or without a stand/base
3. One-third (1/3) of the outer shell to be hand painted with the design
4. May not be cut in any manner

Intermediate: 85 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Egg must be adhered to a stand
3. One-half (1/2) of the outer shell to be hand painted with the design
4. May be cut in some manner, with or without doors. If cut, may be painted on the inside

Master: 95 points needed for qualification

1. Must use an emu, rhea, swan, or ostrich eggshell
2. At least two-thirds (2/3) of the outer eggshell to be painted with the design
3. Egg must be with a base/stand (may or may not be attached to stand)
4. May be cut in any manner

STANDARDS: (Judging Criteria)

- I. General Creativity (20 points)
 - A. Originality: (15 points)
 1. Inventive or creative, an original work as opposed to any copy or imitation. (No seminar designs or instruction kits allowed.)
 - B. Overall Impression (5 points)

1. Skillful union of all parts to create a pleasing and unified complete design
- II. Design: (30 points)
- A. Form/Shape (5 points)
 - 1. Retention of the egg shape
 - B. Harmony and Color (15 points)
 - 1. Color perspective (to show depth, shadow, and distance)
 - 2. Proper value changes
 - 3. Proper mingling to all hues
 - 4. Total design must be color coordinated
 - a) Exterior
 - b) Interior
 - c) Base/stand
 - C. Balance Overall (10 points)
 - 1. Artistic composition
 - 2. Elements chosen must be proportionately compatible
 - 3. Design must be in proportion to the eggshell
 - 4. Stand must be compatible with design and in proportion to the egg
- III. Workmanship: (50 points)
- A. Neatness (20 points)
 - 1. No glue showing
 - 2. Original hole in the shell must not be obvious
 - 3. Overall neatness
 - B. Degree of Difficulty (30 points)
 - 1. Difficulty of the design is achieved by proper combination and execution of all five elements used to produce any artistic rendition:
 - a) Linear perspective
 - b) Color perspective
 - c) Value changes
 - d) Proper combination of differing hues
 - e) Intricacy of design

PAPER TOLE CATEGORY

DEFINITION: Paper Tole is the modern technique of creating a three-dimensional look by cutting apart several identical prints and building them up in layers.

CATEGORY INFORMATION: Paper tole, also known as three-dimensional decoupage, is the art of handcrafting three-dimensional pictures from flat prints. Paper tole art is created by skillfully cutting, shaping, and assembling pieces of paper layered onto an image until a three-dimensional version of the image emerges. Precise cutting of the print with no tattered or cracked edges is the key to creating the pieces that are reassembled onto the paper tole project. Your edges should be blended. An understanding and knowledge of perspective is important in paper tole. The paper layers you add do not have to stay flat; you can curl the edges up or down or prop up sections with extra glue. You cannot use the paper shapes made with punches so popular in scrap booking. Using these punches does not demonstrate to the judges your ability to determine the various depths of your picture or your ability to cut pattern and shapes yourself. There are specific percentages of your egg that must contain the relief work for each level. You can always exceed the minimum requirements and it is usually to your advantage to do so.

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Novice: 50 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Egg may be with or without a stand/base
3. Applicant's choice of medium (sculpturing product) and may use more than one
4. One-third (1/3) of the shell to be covered with the sculptured prints
5. Eggshell may not be cut in any manner
6. Must use background print, and at least two layers

Intermediate: 85 points needed for clarification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Applicant's choice of medium (sculpturing product) and may use more than one
3. Two-thirds (2/3) of the shell to be covered with the sculptured prints
4. Egg must be adhered to a stand
5. Eggshell may not be cut in any manner
6. Must use background print and, at least three layers

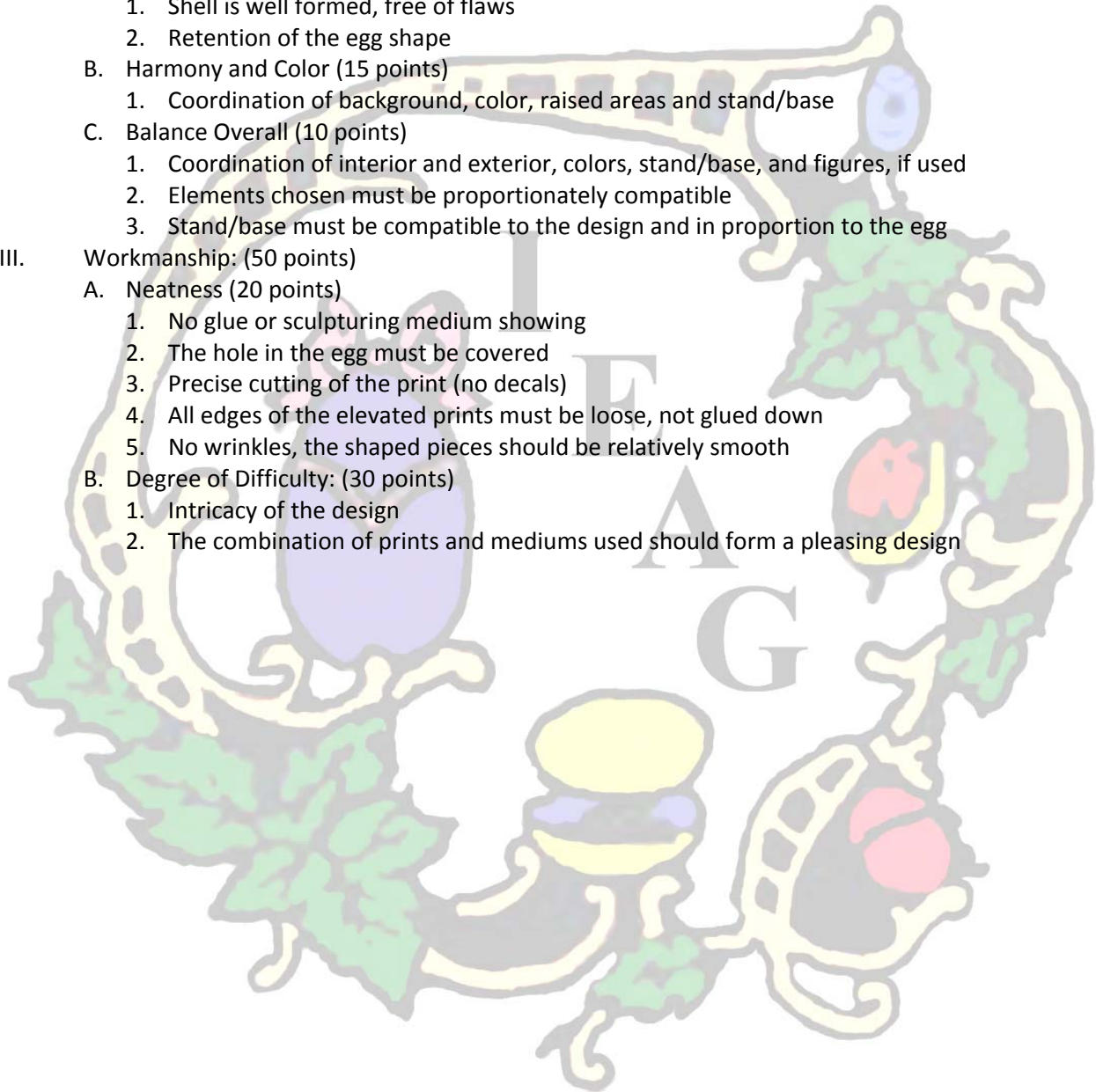
Master: 95 points needed for qualification

1. Must use emu, rhea, swan, or ostrich egg
2. Applicant's choice of medium (sculpturing product) and may use more than one
3. More than three-quarters (3/4) of the shell to be covered with the sculptured prints
4. Eggshell must be cut in some manner
5. Egg must be with a base/stand (may or may not be attached to stand)
6. Must use background print and at least four layers

STANDARDS: (Judging Criteria)

- I. General Creativity: (20 points)
 - A. Originality (15 points)

1. An inventive or creative work as opposed to any copy or imitation. (No seminar or instruction kits allowed)
- B. Overall Impression (5 points)
 1. Pleasing to the eye
- II. Design: (30 points)
 - A. Form/Shape (5 points)
 1. Shell is well formed, free of flaws
 2. Retention of the egg shape
 - B. Harmony and Color (15 points)
 1. Coordination of background, color, raised areas and stand/base
 - C. Balance Overall (10 points)
 1. Coordination of interior and exterior, colors, stand/base, and figures, if used
 2. Elements chosen must be proportionately compatible
 3. Stand/base must be compatible to the design and in proportion to the egg
- III. Workmanship: (50 points)
 - A. Neatness (20 points)
 1. No glue or sculpturing medium showing
 2. The hole in the egg must be covered
 3. Precise cutting of the print (no decals)
 4. All edges of the elevated prints must be loose, not glued down
 5. No wrinkles, the shaped pieces should be relatively smooth
 - B. Degree of Difficulty: (30 points)
 1. Intricacy of the design
 2. The combination of prints and mediums used should form a pleasing design



RELIEF CARVED CATEGORY

DEFINITION: Egg upon which an intricate design has been engraved and/or cut away to develop a scene or a pleasing design creating a sculptured effect on the surface. Shell may not be artificially strengthened in any manner prior to cutting. Not a series of cuts through the shell as in the Filigree Category.

ENGRAVING: Cutting lines into the surface of the eggshell (deeper than scratch carving)

CUTTING: Making smooth-edged openings in the egg. The design is cut through the eggshell

SCULPTURE: Removing layers of the eggshell to make a dimensional pattern (includes cuts and engraving)

CATEGORY INFORMATION: In this category, you have a choice of Ratite eggshells (ostrich, emu, or rhea) at all levels. Painting or spray finish seal after carving is not considered strengthening. There are specific percentages of your egg that must contain the relief work. You can always exceed the minimum requirements and it is usually to your advantage to do so. Using an electric rotary tool is the most common and practical way to sculpt/engrave an egg.

Relief carving deals with compression of depth. Your average coin is a testament to how much the depth dimension can be compressed while still allowing you to carve a perfectly normal looking relief. Workmanship is of the utmost importance and is worth 50 points. Judges will be looking for attention to the details, smooth cut edges, crisp lines, texture lines, highly detailed designs, and stippled backgrounds. Detailing techniques can enhance your work no matter what type of eggshell you like to work on. Carving to the white layer, especially large areas, without breaking through demands a high level of control. This control and attention to detail is needed at the master level.

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Novice: 50 points needed for qualification

1. May use a rhea, emu, cassowary, or ostrich eggshell
2. Egg may be with or without a stand/base
3. At least one layer of shell is to be removed in the design
4. At least one-third (1/3) of the shell must be carved with the design
5. The drain hole must be incorporated into the design or covered
6. Finish may be applied

Intermediate: 85 points needed for qualification

1. May use a rhea, emu, cassowary, or ostrich eggshell
2. Egg must be adhered to a stand/base
3. At least two layers of shell is to be removed in the design
4. At least two-thirds (2/3) of the shell must be carved with the design
5. The drain hole must be incorporated into the design or covered
6. Finish may be applied

Master: 95 points needed for qualification

1. May use a rhea, emu, cassowary, or ostrich eggshell
2. Egg must be with a base/stand (may or may not be attached to stand)
3. At least three-fourths (3/4) of the shell must be carved with the design

- a. If an emu egg is used and not etched all the way through, at least 90% of the eggshell must be etched to the second layer and at least 1/3 of this is to be to the white layer
 - b. Eggshells other than emu must be obvious that there is some degree of varied levels of etching employed to develop the overall design
4. Finish must be applied

STANDARDS: (Judging Criteria)

- I. General Creativity (20 points)
 - A. Originality (15 points)
 1. Inventive creativity within the design
 - B. Overall Impression (5 points)
 1. Pleasing to the eye
- II. Design (30 points)
 - A. Form/Shape (5 points)
 1. Shell is well formed, free of flaws
 2. Retention of the egg shape
 - B. Harmony and Color (10 points)
 1. Coordination of colors, if used, on the eggshell and stand/base
 2. Total design must be coordinated
 - C. Balance Overall (10 points)
 1. Elements of the design must be proportionately compatible
 2. Base/stand must incorporate the design and be in proportion to the egg
- III. Workmanship (50 points)
 - A. Neatness (20 points)
 1. Eggshell is free of pencil markings and major over-cuts
 2. No glue is showing
 3. The drain-hole in the egg must be covered or coordinated into the design
 4. Cuts must be smooth with no jagged or uneven edges
 5. Clean shell surface and no membrane showing
 - B. Degree of Difficulty (30 points)
 1. The depth and intricacy of engraving, cutting, layering, and detail in design
 2. Bridging in the design should compliment design
 3. Precision of relief sculpting; depth should be relatively uniform within the varied levels of the shell
 4. Quality of retained original surface (refer to level requirements)
 5. No bur burn marks or patches
 6. No breakthroughs

SCRATCH CATEGORY

DEFINITION: An eggshell that has been dyed (chemical or natural dyes). No paint or ink. The dye has been scratched away by sharp hand tools to form a two tone design on the egg shell surface.

CATEGORY DESCRIPTION: In this category the artist may use either natural dyes (from botanical sources or chemical dyes (e.g. the dyes sold for pysanky). Use of natural dyes will add to the degree of difficulty as these are more difficult to work with (plant materials have to be collected, boiled, stained, mordant added, and then used to dye the eggshell).

After dying the eggshell is scratched using any sharp fine pointed tool to create a design on the colored egg. Judges will look for over-scratches and tool slip marks. The artist must keep in mind linear perspective, color coordination, value changes, and shading. In this category there is no requirement that the original hole in the egg be covered. All information, including any dye preparation should be included on the 3x5 card so the judges can accurately assess the degree of difficulty. Using natural dyes (plant materials) as opposed to packaged chemical dyes will increase the degree of difficulty.

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Novice: 50 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Egg may be with or without a stand/base
3. One-third (1/3) of the shell to be covered by the design
4. Finish must be applied
5. Must be applicants original work

Intermediate: 85 points needed for qualification

1. Must use a goose eggshell
2. Egg must be adhered to a stand
3. At least one-half (1/2) of the shell must be covered by the design
4. Finish must be applied
5. Must be applicant's original work

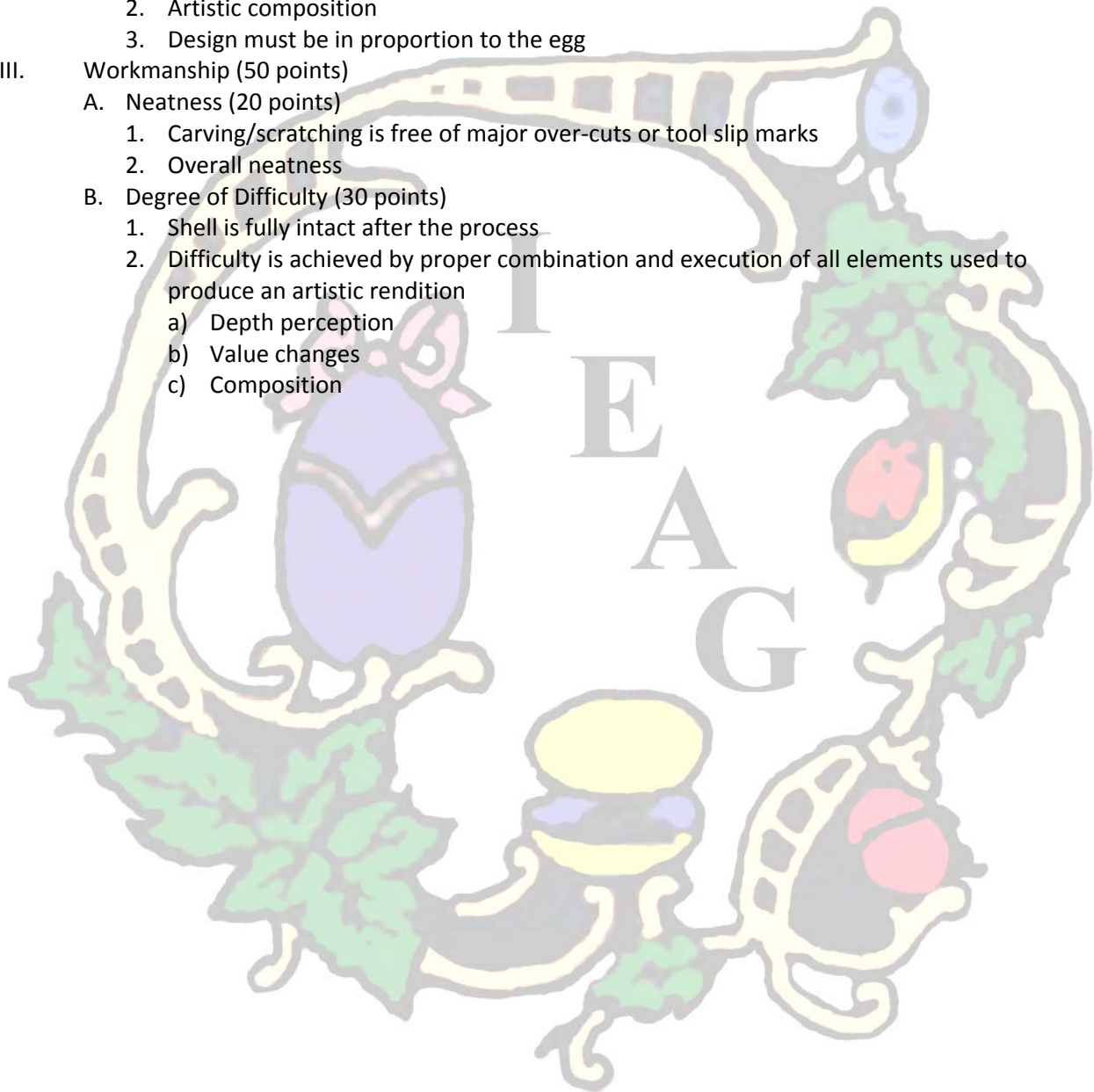
Master: 95 points needed for qualification

1. Must use rhea, swan, or ostrich egg
2. Egg must be with a base/stand (may or may not be attached to stand)
3. Two-thirds (2/3) of the shell must be covered by the design
4. Finish must be applied
5. Must be applicant's original work

STANDARDS: (Judging Criteria)

- I. General Creativity (20 points)
 - A. Originality (15 points)
 1. Inventive creativity within the design. (No seminar or instruction kits allowed)
 - B. Overall Impression (5 points)
 1. Pleasing to the eye
- II. Design (30 points)
 - A. Form/Shape (5 points)

1. Shell is well formed, free of flaws
2. Retention of the egg shape
- B. Harmony and Color (10 points)
 1. Proper value changes/shading
- C. Balance Overall (10 points)
 1. Proper depth/perspective
 2. Artistic composition
 3. Design must be in proportion to the egg
- III. Workmanship (50 points)
 - A. Neatness (20 points)
 1. Carving/scratching is free of major over-cuts or tool slip marks
 2. Overall neatness
 - B. Degree of Difficulty (30 points)
 1. Shell is fully intact after the process
 2. Difficulty is achieved by proper combination and execution of all elements used to produce an artistic rendition
 - a) Depth perception
 - b) Value changes
 - c) Composition



WAX RESIST FOLK ART CATEGORY – Pysanky and Batik-Style

DEFINITION: A traditional method of using wax and dyes to "write" symbols or patterns on an egg. Pysanky refers to eggs using the "wax-resist" method of dyeing AND the strict use of traditional Ukrainian symbols and patterns. Batik-style refers to eggs using the "wax-resist" method of dyeing with limited or no use of traditional Ukrainian symbols and patterns.

CATEGORY INFORMATION: For pysanky entries you must use an original combination of traditional symbols written on a blown-out eggshell. Batik entries should be an original design creating a pattern or image which is not a traditional pysanky symbol. The writing medium shall be melted wax applied with a stylus (primitive manual tool, contemporary manual tool or electric), pin tool, or feather used in the traditional process. The areas under the wax will retain the dye color. When complete, the wax is removed, revealing the brilliant colors underneath. You may not deliberately etch or score your egg during the waxing process. The colors must be even and without blotching. Judges will look for balanced designs that are artistic and creative. Lines must be joined properly without an obvious beginning and ending point. The pattern and design must be balanced and repeated components must match in size and shape. You may utilize a drain hole plug during the wax/dye process, however, it is not required. You are not required to cover the drain hole in this category. If you sign your egg your signature must be covered in some manner. You must identify your entry as either pysanky or batik-style on the 3x5 card. For pysanky entries you must include the symbols used and their meaning on your 3x5 card.

Level Requirements:

Novice: 50 points needed for qualification

1. Chicken eggshell must be used
2. May be with or without a stand/base
3. At least one-half (1/2) of the shell must be covered by design
4. Finish may be applied
5. Must use a minimum of 4 colors (natural egg shell is considered 1 color)

Intermediate: 85 points needed for qualification

1. Goose eggshell must be used
2. May be with or without a stand/base
3. At least two-thirds (2/3) of the shell must be covered by the design
4. Finish may be applied
5. Must use a minimum of 6 colors (natural egg shell is considered 1 color)

Master: 95 points needed for qualification

1. Rhea or Ostrich eggshell must be used
2. May have a stand, base or hanger
3. Entire shell must be covered by an intricate design
4. Finish may be applied
5. Must use a minimum of 8 colors (natural egg shell is considered 1 color)

Standards: (Judging Criteria)

- I. General Creativity (20 points)
 - A. Originality (15 points)

- B. Overall Impression (5 points)
 - 1. Design of interest to the eye
- II. Design (30 points)
 - A. Form/Shape (5 points)
 - B. Harmony/Color (15 points)
 - 1. Color contrast planned between adjoining areas
 - 2. Harmonious use of color based upon artistic color wheel principles
 - 3. Total design color coordinated
 - C. Balance Overall (10 points)
 - 1. Divided symmetrically at least half by half
 - 2. Precise repetition is complete in each half or smaller design division
 - 3. Design must be in proportion to the size of the eggshell
 - 4. Stand, base or hanger (if used) must be compatible with the design and in proportion to its style or period
- III. Workmanship (50 points)
 - A. Neatness (20 points)
 - 1. Overall neatness
 - 2. No cracks in shell or around hole (if egg is drained)
 - 3. All wax removed, no wax blobs, no pencil marks showing
 - 4. Lines and motif edges are not blurred by dye intrusion under wax
 - 5. Strokes are neatly connected
 - 6. No embellishments (no beads, no gold paint, no acrylic, oil, nor watercolor paints, no trims, no lace, no decals, etc.)
 - B. Degree of Difficulty (30 points)
 - 1. Corners, angles, and perpendiculars to lines are well defined
 - 2. Stroke connected to form longer line
 - 3. Line-drawn or drop-pull lines must be regular and uniform
 - 4. Vertically or horizontally oriented design must be true to vertical or horizontal lines of the egg in proportion
 - 5. Repeated designs should be comparable throughout the egg
 - 6. Dye work should be even, colors clear, with nothing in design missed
 - 7. Artist has demonstrated mastery of designs and tools
 - 8. The finish must contain no dust particles, lines, blobs, bubbles or show signs of yellowing

Please note:

Some artists experience confusion with the terms “pysanky” “batik-style” and “wax-resist.” The term “batik” is actually a textile art term (not an egg term) to describe a piece of decorated cloth using the “wax resist” method. The “wax resist” method means taking wax, applying it to an object, and then dyeing that object. The wax “resists” accepting the dye in the areas it was placed. Once the wax is removed, a pattern is formed where the wax once existed. Layers of wax and dyes create intricate designs. For egg art, the term “pysanky” refers to a very specific type of decorated egg that (1) uses the wax-resist method and (2) must use traditional Ukrainian symbols, motifs, and patterns. If the egg only uses the (1) wax-resist method but doesn’t use the Ukrainian symbols, then the egg is referred to as a “batik-style” egg. Both “pysanky” and “batik-style” eggs are “wax-resist eggs.” The only difference between “pysanky” and “batik-style” eggs is that pysanky uses Ukrainian symbols and batik does not.

MECHANICAL CATEGORY

DEFINITION: An egg design that uses a system of parts that operate or interact and perform a certain action or function (lights, sounds, movement).

CATEGORY INFORMATION: No pre-wired stands or kits may be used. At each level you must use the minimum number of mechanisms that is required. The 3x5 card must contain information that includes the type of mechanism/works you used, how you made your connections (using shrink tubing, soldering, other). You can always exceed the minimum requirements. Your 3x5 card is critical in this category and the judges will count heavily on the information (or lack of information) contained on your card. The judges will be looking for originality and creative use of components. The components will also be considered in the degree of difficulty, i.e.; did you wire a microchip board to create sound or use an electric music box, are your mechanics powered by manual crank or wired for battery power.

LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Novice: 50 Points needed for qualification

1. Applicant's choice for type of eggshell used
2. Must be cut in some manner
3. Exterior design must tie in with interior design
4. Must have a minimum of one mechanical mechanism
5. Stand must be coordinated to the design

Intermediate: 85 Points needed for qualification

1. Applicant's choice for type of eggshell used
2. Must be cut in some manner
3. Exterior design must tie in with interior design
4. Must have a minimum of two different mechanical mechanisms
5. Stand must be coordinated to the design
6. No manual or hand winding. Must be battery operated
7. Only one switch may be used to operate both mechanical mechanisms

Master: 95 Points needed for qualification

1. Applicant's choice for type of eggshell used
2. Must be cut in some manner
3. Exterior design must tie in with interior design
4. Must have a minimum of three different mechanical mechanisms
5. Stand must be coordinated to the design
6. No manual or hand winding. Must be battery operated
7. Only one switch may be used to operate all mechanical mechanisms

STANDARDS: (Judging Criteria)

- I. General Creativity: (20 points)
 - A. Originality (15 points)
 1. Inventive or creative, an original work as opposed to any copy or imitation
 - B. Overall Impression (5 points)
 1. Pleasing to the eye
- II. Design: (30 points)

- A. Form/Shape (5 points)
 - 1. Retention of the egg shape
 - B. Harmony/Color (15 points)
 - 1. Base/Stand must be coordinated to the design
 - 2. Total design must be color coordinated
 - a) Exterior b) Interior c) Base/stand
 - C. Balance overall (10 points)
 - 1. Elements chosen must be proportionately compatible
- III. Workmanship: (50 points)
- A. Neatness (20 points)
 - 1. No glue showing
 - 2. The hole in the egg must be covered
 - 3. Braid/beads must be abutted or mitered properly
 - 4. Overall neatness
 - B. Degree of Difficulty (30 points)
 - 1. Figures/objects used must be in proportion and compatible to the egg
 - 2. Trim should be compatible to the design
 - 3. Mechanics operate smoothly and reliably
 - 4. Use of battery power, resistors, switches, etc
 - 5. Complimentary merging of individual actions/functions to create cohesive themed design

