

# SHELTOWEE ARTISANS

## JURY / MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2009



CO-CHAIRS:  
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Welcome to Sheltowee Artisans' 16<sup>th</sup> annual jury. If you live in, or within 50 miles of Kentucky's borders, want to broaden your retail and wholesale opportunities, and are interested in sharing and networking with your fellow artisans, we invite you to apply.

The Sheltowee Artisans welcome new exhibiting members whose body of work shows excellence in concept, design, and technique, regardless of style, medium, or cultural tradition.

Prospective members' work is evaluated by a jury of at least seven Sheltowee Artisans who compare actual samples to specific standards of the group. Please follow our guidelines in jurying and call us if you have a question.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Sheltowee Artisans value camaraderie when they gather at monthly meetings; produce the **Sheltowee Art Fair** in November; share their art and information on their website: [www.sheltoweeart.com](http://www.sheltoweeart.com); brainstorm and join in on art related projects and opportunities; develop professionally as artists; and share ideas and resources.

### **STANDARDS:**

The jurors produce a collective evaluation based on the following criteria: superior craftsmanship, consistent quality, individual expression and professional presentation. **Guidelines and suggestions for a successful jury presentation are on Pages 3 & 4 of this application.**

### **DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATION:**

**February 28:** Postmark deadline for Jury Application and fees.

**March 7, 12 noon-2pm:** Drop off work at 107 N. Main St., Somerset, KY.

**March 14, 12 noon-2pm:** Pick up work at 107 N. Main St., Somerset, KY.

### **DIRECTIONS TO 107 N. Main St., Somerset, KY:**

From Hwy 27, at light # 3, turn east onto Rte. 80 E. Turn south on 1247 (Main Street), continuing into Somerset. **The Carnegie Community Arts Center** at 107 N Main St. will be on the left (formerly the Pulaski County Public Library).

### **APPLICATION STEPS:**

**PRINT & MAIL** a completed Application Form (*Page 2 of this document*), with 2 checks payable to Sheltowee Artisans for \$10 jury fee (per medium) and \$35 annual membership dues to: **Sheltowee Artisans, PO Box 1284, Somerset, KY 42501, postmarked between January 1 and February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008.** If you wish to jury in with more than one medium (pottery, jewelry, oil paintings, watercolors, etc.), fill out a separate application form for each medium and include a \$10 check with each application. Membership dues will be refunded if your work does not meet the standards of the Sheltowee Artisans at this time.

**DELIVER** FIVE samples of related and current work to **107 N. Main St., Somerset, KY.** The quality of the samples to be juried is very important, as they are the basis upon which the jury makes its decision.

**PICK UP** work from **107 N. Main St., Somerset, KY.**

**EXPECT** your jury results within ten working days from the date of Pick Up.

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SHELTOWEE ARTISANS, PO BOX 1284, SOMERSET, KY 42501

CO-CHAIRS: JAMISON BRUMM (606) 875-5264; THERESA KIBBY (606) 977-9532; BECKY DEBORD (606)423-2093

*PLEASE COMPLETE A SEPARATE APPLICATION FOR EACH MEDIUM*

### PROSPECTIVE MEMBER INFORMATION: (please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site (if available): \_\_\_\_\_

Medium (pottery, jewelry, oil painting, watercolors, for example): \_\_\_\_\_

**ARTIST STATEMENT:** (Describe how you learned your skills; the process, or processes, you use in making your work; and a little about what inspires you. This is helpful to the jurors in understanding your medium and techniques. Use a separate sheet if necessary.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**AGREEMENT:** I have read this application in full and understand that if my work is accepted by the Sheltoewe Artisans, I will only exhibit related work of this quality in this medium at Sheltoewe Artisans events. I will jury any work in a new medium at a future annual jury.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### CHECKLIST:

\_\_\_\_\_ Mail this completed and signed application to the Sheltoewe Artisans address above, postmarked **between January 1 and February 28, 2009**. Use a separate application for each medium.

\_\_\_\_\_ Include your Artist Statement on this application, or on another sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_ Include two checks payable to Sheltoewe Artisans: \$10 jury fee (per medium) and \$35 annual membership dues.

\_\_\_\_\_ Deliver 5 samples of your work (per medium) to 107 N. Main St., Somerset, KY, and arrange for pickup.

## GUIDELINES FOR A GOOD JURY PRESENTATION

The Sheltowee Artisans is a *learning guild* where we *change and grow* to meet the needs of our artisans. Depending on your experience with your art practice, we realize you might be unfamiliar with the jury process. We have learned over the years that an artist applying for membership might benefit from some basic guidelines. Here are some we suggest:

- 🔊 Send in 5 samples of your **best** works as the jurors will assume that your entry represents your best work. (Small sets like a necklace and earrings may be considered one entry.)
- 🔊 The samples you send us are important also in their **cohesive grouping**. Submit samples that are current and show a relationship with each other. Balance variety with a showing of consistent craftsmanship. (A group of paintings would not be cohesive if one were a landscape, one a portrait and one a contemporary piece. It would be better to concentrate on one theme rather than three.)
- 🔊 Consider the **presentation** of your work important and include props, stands, displays, and/or a neutral underlying material where appropriate. This will be important to: showcase each piece (jewelry pieces/sets may be in frames or on neck displays), show the piece's function (garden art may need a flower pot to show off its use), provide a background for your samples (a neutral swatch of material may enhance your samples and allow us to see your work as a cohesive grouping).
- 🔊 Package your work carefully in **one sturdy box** with adequate packing materials. Outside the box, add a label with your name, medium, and any directions on how to display your samples.
- 🔊 Include an **artist statement** that itemizes your sample entries, explains your techniques and the materials you use, and includes information on what inspires you to create your work.
- 🔊 Work that will **not** be considered for jurying: items based on kits or commercial patterns, items made from commercial molds, commercial items purchased and decorated such as t-shirts or wreaths, jewelry based on commercial beads and findings, classroom or student work, work produced more than 3 years ago, work with digital impressions like clip-art or downloaded drawings.

## **SPECIFIC STANDARDS FOR THE MEDIUMS OF PAINTING, JEWELRY AND WOOD**

*(These standards may also be valuable for other mediums juried.)*

The Sheltoewe Artisans is an organization of professional level artists and craftspeople. Exacting standards of excellence are required for Membership. To help the artisans jurying with the Sheltoewe Artisans, we have been more explicit in the three mediums that are sometimes misunderstood by our prospective applicants. As a guild, we do not intend to *exclude* individuals and their work, but rather to *include* those whose work is of exemplary quality. Please call us if you have questions or wish to discuss your work further before the jury.

### **PAINTING AND TWO DIMENSIONAL FINE ART**

Sheltoewe Artisans' jury standards for two-dimensional fine art require finished work that demonstrates technical fluency and a sense of personal vision. A juror's consideration of an applicant should be open to include a range of painting approaches from innovative to more traditional in materials and content. One should see in an artist's body of work an individual style and a unified vision that is clearly his or hers. The work presented should not be "all over the place" and should feel consistent in style. Presentation should include two current samples that are framed, along with examples of finished works that may not be framed.

### **JEWELRY**

Sheltoewe Artisans' jury standards for jewelry require finished work that demonstrates mastery of a medium other than stringing commercially made beads and findings. A juror's consideration of an applicant should be open to include jewelry primarily made from innovative or traditional materials the artist has a hand in creating from raw materials. Examples of works primarily made from raw materials have in the past included the mediums of lamp wicked glass beads, hand cut sterling silver, molded sterling silver from original molds by the artist, wire wrapping in precious metals, hand dyed anodized aluminum, original pattern bead weaving, hand cut and embellished brass, and enameling. One should see in an artist's body of work an individual and consistent style that sets them apart from other jewelers. Presentation should include props for each set or individual piece, with one layer of fabric underlying the entire group.

### **WOOD**

Sheltoewe Artisans' jury standards in Wood require that the wood be fundamentally transformed by the craftsperson, resulting in finished woodwork that demonstrates technical fluency, integrity of intent and a spirited sense of personal vision. Objects should meet these criteria depending on the function of the work: finishes must be appropriate to the intention of the piece with attention to all areas of the piece; good quality hardware must be well installed and well integrated; painting and decoration must fit and enhance the form in a way that is integral to the function and expression of the piece; furniture pieces must be of proper design and construction that allows for seasonal wood movement; no glue or machine marks should be evident on the finished works.

# ABOUT SHELTOWEE ARTISANS:

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE ARTS OF SOUTHERN AND EASTERN KENTUCKY

## PROVIDING A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT . . .

- ◆ Artist Workshops
  - ◆ Guest speakers
  - ◆ Craft Demonstrations
  - ◆ Studio visits
  - ◆ Panel Discussions
  - ◆ Public School Projects
  - ◆ Partnerships with businesses, schools, arts and tourism organizations
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## NATIONALLY PUBLICIZING OUR REGION . . .

- ◆ Art Collections at the White House
- ◆ Artist Exhibits at the Smithsonian
- ◆ Artist features in national magazines
- ◆ An Artist's appearance on a national talk show
- ◆ A modern website which provides visitors with information and examples of Shelto wee Artisans' work

The Shelto wee Artisans partner with the Master Musicians Festival, held in July at the Somerset Community College, to add a fine art and craft element to this award winning music festival.

The annual Shelto wee Art Fair in November and Art Studio Tour in December offer opportunities to see many of our artists at work and a chance to purchase their creations from the artists themselves.

Many of our members represent themselves nationally at wholesale and retail shows bringing a wide range of experience back to the group.

Work by Shelto wee Artisans work is exhibited at many galleries and shops throughout the region.

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## SHELTOWEE ARTISANS: HISTORY AND MISSION:

The Sheltoewe Artisans was founded in 1994 by a small group of artists who wanted to build a friendly arts community based in Somerset, Kentucky. Because the beauty of our area is often a theme in our work, we call ourselves the “Sheltoewe Artisans” after the 250 mile historic hiking trail, the Sheltoewe Trace, which meanders through our region. Our logo is the turtle because the name “Sheltoewe” was given to Daniel Boone by the Shawnee many years ago and means “Big Turtle.” Today the arts guild has more than 75 juried artists.

Our mission is to establish settings to support and educate artists of this region, to make people aware of the fine art and crafts made in our area, and to build partnerships with businesses and organizations in southern and eastern Kentucky.

To become a Sheltoewe Artisan, artists must live within 50 miles of Kentucky’s borders and submit their work to be juried in the annual standards jury process. Criteria for membership includes superior craftsmanship, consistent quality, individual expression, and professional presentation. Please visit the Sheltoewe Artisans Membership Application page for details on the application process.

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## BENEFITS OF SHELTOWEE MEMBERSHIP:

- ◆ Opportunities to share experiences with other working artists and contribute to building a strong artist community.
- ◆ Monthly meetings which offer workshops and mini-sessions on craft marketing.
- ◆ Longstanding venues for Sheltoewe Artisans to promote, exhibit and sell artwork in the region.
- ◆ *Turtletalk*: Sheltoewe’s monthly minutes and announcements of interest, available via email.
- ◆ An individual web page at [www.sheltoeweart.com](http://www.sheltoeweart.com)