



Americana Contest
P.O. Box 185
201 W. Galena Street (Route 30)
Big Rock, Illinois 60511
630-556-9665
info@illinoisgreenpastures.org

DEADLINE: May 15, 2007

GreenPastures
Fiber Cooperative

2007 Americana Contest Terms and Rules

The theme for the Americana Contest is “The America of Your Imagination”. We would love to see your expression of what America means in your heart. What comes to mind when you think on that word and close your eyes? Rolling hills of grain... purple mountains... an eagle soaring in the clouds? Or a great person of the past- or a hero of today? Perhaps it is traditional- red, white and blue- or maybe not. Whatever be your inspiration, share it with us, and let the fiber be your canvas to tell the story.

Please be creative and original. We are looking for the best way that fiber is used in portraying patriotism!

Criteria

The entrant must use, in their piece submitted, some form of Illinois fiber. This can be, but is not excluded to wool, alpaca, llama, camel, angora, mohair, cashmere, or other animal fiber, silk, linen (flax), hemp, cotton, or other natural, plant fiber. The actual animal or cultivated field must reside in Illinois, USA.

It can be from any farm or residence in Illinois, whether yours or another's. The Illinois Green Pastures Fiber Co-Op, www.illinoisgreenpastures.org or 630-556-9665, also offers a wide range of products from their member's farms.

The artist will be required to recognize component of the piece using Illinois fiber in the application form, and also reference the place it was purchased/obtained from.

The definition of “fiber art” includes, but is not limited to, knitting, weaving, spinning, crochet, braiding, needle felting, wet felting, nuno felting, rope making, etc. You are welcome to be as creative as you'd like! This contest is open to anyone across the nation.

The definition of “artist” includes beginners, students, amateurs, professionals, teachers, instructors, lovers of the art, and anyone else not mentioned. We welcome all! It can be a group submission or an individual's work. We urge schools, guilds and classes to submit a group project.

The piece must be no bigger than 40” by 75” for hanging (and have proper mountings) or 3 square feet for free standing display.

How to apply

Entries are due by **May 15th, 2007**. Please fill out Entry Form and include when submitting your entry. Entries will be taken through Esther's Place in Big Rock, IL. You are welcome to mail entries to:

Americana Contest, P.O. Box 185, Big Rock, IL 60511 (For United States Postal Service delivery) or to

Americana Contest, 201 W. Galena St. (RT 30), Big Rock, IL 60511 (For UPS Delivery).

If you are local, you are also welcome to drop it off in person, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am- 6 pm at Esther's Place. Please enclose a picture or sketch of how you desire for it to be displayed, and we will strive to accommodate it in the best way possible. Table as well as hanging mechanisms will be available at the show.

Judging

The judging of the entries will take place at the “Fleece to Fiber Festival” at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, IL, on June 16th and 17th. A beautiful setting, filled with 15 acres of neatly manicured lawns, trees, flowers and a beautiful homestead mansion of the former Chicago Tribune publisher, Colonel Robert McCormick grace the grounds. The judging will take place Saturday, and the judging panel will consist of professionals in the fiber art community.

Awards and Recognition

The Grand Prize Winner will receive the opportunity to exhibit their piece in Washington, D.C. for one year, a large basket of fiber arts items, and a year's subscription to Interweave Press' Fiber Arts Magazine, and a commemorative

plaque. The First Prize winner will receive the opportunity to exhibit their piece in Springfield, Illinois for one year, and a year's subscription to Interweave Press' Fiber Arts Magazine, and a commemorative plaque. Both pieces will be displayed on the Co-Op and Esther's Place website, and the winners will be promoted in the press campaign to follow the show.

The Honorable Mention Prize winners will each receive a commemorative plaque.

Announcement of winners

Winners of the Americana Contest will be announced at the Saturday, June 16th, at the Gala Event, held at 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 16th at the beautiful Visitor Center at Cantigny Park. The ceremony, preceded by hor d'hourves, will commence by welcoming USDA and local government officials. Following that, a brief overview will be given by the Co-Op's Executive Director, Donna Lehrer and the winners will be announced by the judging panel. We ask that the winners remain until after the program for photographs. If you are unable to make the event, please note that on the entry form, and we will be sure to mail your award to you.

Artwork Pickup

The artist can pick up their piece at the conclusion of the show, between 5:30-6:30 Sunday, June 17th. Other items will be brought to Esther's Place, where they can be picked up for up two week's length after the show. If the item is to be shipped back, please specify the correct shipping address on the entry form and provide a container and shipping charges. Items without shipping information and funds will not be considered for submittal.

Disclaimers

The Illinois Green Pastures Fiber Co-Op will handle transportation of the utmost care to ensure your pieces gets to and from without trouble. Great care will be taken to ensure your piece is protected throughout the storage time proceeding the show, during the show, and for pickup. It is required to obtain insurance on the piece you are submitting both in transit and for the duration of the show. The Illinois Green Pastures Fiber Co-Op, Amdur Productions Inc., Fleece to Fiber Festival and Esther's Place are not held liable for any damage due to theft, fire, weather or acts of God. They also reserve the ability to modify these rules to better the contest and the right to rule on any issue that should arise.

The entrant pledges to allow the said entities to use, reproduce, publish, display, distribute, show on screen, etc. your piece submitted, your name, town and state and title and meaning of the piece, for the purpose of promoting the contest, and Illinois fiber.

The entrant agrees to the terms and rules put forth for the Americana Contest and recognizes the judge's word is final. They will be held for any costs incurred to ship their item.

The said entities will not, nor ever will, sell your information for mailing lists, but will use it for the Illinois Green Pastures Fiber Co-Op and Esther's Place newsletters, etc.

Questions or comments may be directed to Natasha or Donna Lehrer at info@illinoisgreenpastures.org or 630-556-9665

Have fun with your fiber, and we'll see you and your wonderful pieces in June!



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 past or present, let Illinois fiber be your medium!

2007 Americana Contest Entry Form

First and Last Name (As wanted seen on publications, etc.)

Date of Birth (Month, Day, Year)

Organization Name (if Applicable)

Check if
Group Project

Address (Shipping / Mailing)

City

State

Zip Code

Daytime Phone

Evening / Mobile Phone

Fax (if applicable)

E-Mail Address

I hereby state that, to the best of my knowledge, the above information is true and correct and that I have read and agree with all the terms and rules of the Americana Contest.

Signature

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian if Under the Age of 18

Date

Title of Fiber Art Piece

Technique (Identify Illinois Fiber)