

OGS Competition Rules

1. **Gourds must predominate in all classes (see Special Competition on page 23 for the exception).**
2. **All Exhibits and Entries must be in place, with proper entry tags attached, by 11:05 a.m., Saturday, October 2, 2021.** An entry number and class number must be visible on each entry tag.
3. Exhibitors may pick up printed entry tags at the Show on Friday (9 a.m. – 5 p.m.) and Saturday morning (9 a.m. – 11 a.m.).
4. **Entry Registration is due by September 20, 2021.** “On-site” entries will be accepted depending on space available. These on-site entries may be arranged at the Show on Friday (9 a.m. – 5 p.m.) and Saturday morning (9 a.m. – 11 a.m.).
5. **Entries must remain in place until 4 p.m., Sunday, October 3, 2021.** An entrant’s name (including contact information) may be made visible on the entry tag or on a separate card after judging has been completed.
6. **Entries/special exhibits are open to all and there is no entry fee.**
7. Entry forms for classes or special exhibits must be postmarked by Sept. 20, 2021, so that proper staging can be arranged. Please anticipate all entries since there may not be room for late entries. There is no penalty for failing to enter a class for which an entry tag has been requested. Circle all class numbers to be entered and mail the entry form to: Ohio Gourd Show Entry, c/o John F. Martin, 438 Sardinia Mowrystown Road, Sardinia, OH 45171. Email entries (transmitted by Sept. 22) are acceptable and may be sent to martin.jf.kl@frontier.com. Each entrant receives a unique number.
8. Only one entry per exhibitor is allowed in each class.
9. Any art/craft item (Divisions III, IV, V or VI) entered in competition in 2018-19, may not be entered in 2021. These items may be used in non-competitive, special exhibits or the “gallery” class (#139). Do not enter craft made by someone else. Judges have the authority to exclude any entry known to be in violation of this rule.
10. Entries will be judged on Saturday, October 2, 2021, starting at 11:30 a.m. Exhibitors are not to influence or interfere with judges while judging is in progress. It may be necessary to close all or portions of the display area during judging.
11. All classes will be judged from 1st through 4th place. Ribbons will be awarded in each class. Recognition will also be given for high show points in each Division and for special awards including the Jim Story Award, the Stevens Family Award, the John Stevens Award, the Judges’ Choice Award

and the People's Choice Award (see pages 20 and 21 for award information). Show Points are calculated as follows: 1st Place – 4 points, 2nd Place – 3 points, 3rd Place – 2 points, 4th Place – 1 point. Entries in two or more names are not eligible for Show Points.

12. The Ohio Gourd Society, Inc., and Delaware County Fair Board shall not be responsible for any accidents, losses or breakage of entries, containers, exhibits or displays.
13. Classes 1 through 43 in Div. I, Classes J1 through J5 in Div. V, and Classes Y1 through Y6 in Div. VI must be from the 2021 crop.
14. The Ohio Gourd Society believes that the natural qualities of gourds should be emphasized. Plastic or artificial materials are discouraged, except for the silk flower arrangement and/or functional use of a craft (i.e. items such as fantasy animals and fishing lures which may benefit from use of plastic embellishments).
15. No squash or pumpkins, including sweet dumplings and/or miniature pumpkins, are to be used in entries or displays.
16. Mature gourds that have started to dry (cure) may be exhibited. Gourds that are spoiling or diseased should not be exhibited, and may be removed from the display area by the Show Committee.
17. As stated in the AGS Judging Handbook, stems are not required in the Growers Divisions except where specifically mandated by the show rules. Stems are considered by AGS to be part of the plant, but not part of the fruit. The Ohio Gourd Show Committee suggests, however, that fresh and dried gourds (Divisions I and II) have stems attached where possible. This adds to the overall completeness and visual appeal of the gourd. Stems on gourd craft items (Division III) and all Preschool, Junior and Youth entries, are optional.
18. Live evergreens are not permitted because of fire safety concerns. Artificial trees are permissible where used as part of a display.
19. Materials from protected species (feathers, parts, etc.), animal or plant, are prohibited.
20. Accessory material is allowed except where specifically prohibited.
21. SPECIAL EXHIBITS are encouraged. Exhibits are non-competitive, and may feature the work of an artist, historically relevant displays, international work, etc. Table space (approximately 30 inches wide) will be furnished, but exhibitors must supply staging materials. For space, please contact Karen or John Martin (937-446-2174).

Gourd Show Judging

The Ohio Gourd Show conducts judging of competitive entries in accordance with the American Gourd Society Judging Handbook adopted February 2008. The Handbook is available on-line at www.americangourdsociety.org. The 2021 Ohio Gourd Show judges will utilize Option C (verbal consensus) in considering the various competitive classes. The Show Committee will arrange for the evaluation of “Special Competition” and “Special Awards” as separate judging activities.

Rule 7.6 of the AGS Judging Handbook indicates that in cases where only one entry is made in a class, that entry will generally be awarded “First Place.” The Ohio Gourd Show will follow that guideline, and a first place award will be given unless the entry does not meet the requirements of the class. Where four or more qualified entries are present, all ribbons will be awarded. Duplicate ribbons will only be given if a class is reevaluated according to AGS Rule 4.4.

PLEASE READ YOUR RULES CAREFULLY

When the Show Committee determines it to be in the best interest of the Ohio Gourd Society and visitors to the Ohio Gourd Show, the Show Chairperson, with the consent of two other OGS Officers, may waive one or more of the rules for exhibitors and vendors.

Special Awards

American Gourd Society's Jim Story Award

Jim Story from Pendleton, Indiana was a gourd gardener, a gourd manipulator, a gourd artist, an experimenter, a teacher, and an AGS supporter. He inspired many of us to try new and different techniques, a number of which he pioneered. He is a legend in the Gourd World. In his honor, AGS recognizes excellence and innovation in dry, hand-trained gourds. The winner of Class 59 is eligible to participate in the national Jim Story Award competition.

John Stevens Award

John Stevens was a major force, along with his father O.C. Stevens, in the development and continuation of the Ohio Gourd Society, the Ohio Gourd Show, and the American Gourd Society. He was a gourd grower, teacher and avid supporter of gourds. A long time show chair and judge, he especially appreciated competition among fresh (green) gourds. This award recognizes a specimen that is true to its type and of high quality/cultural perfection.

Stevens Family Award

The Stevens Family Award, honoring the accomplishments of its members with regard to gourd cultivation, gourd art and development of the Ohio Gourd

Society, is presented to the best entry in Division III, Gourd Craft. It recognizes imagination, workmanship and execution, as well as overall presentation. For this award, “gourds must predominate.”

Judges’ Choice Award

The Judges' Choice Award allows all participating Judges to vote for their favorite gourd entry! It is a measure of the quality of gourds and gourd art, without regard for classes and requirements, through the eyes of trained evaluators. The votes will be gathered on Saturday afternoon, after the official judging. The entry with the most votes wins! An award will be given at the Saturday night award ceremony.

People’s Choice Award

During the show on Friday and Saturday, visitors to, and participants in the Ohio Gourd Show will be able to cast a vote for their favorite gourd entry! This is a real measure of the popularity of an entry, and it is a highly coveted honor. The entry with the most votes will be awarded a ribbon at the Saturday night award ceremony.

2021 OGS Competitive Classes

DIVISION I

CURRENT SEASON GOURDS

- ✓ **NOTE:** Limited clear wax or oil is permitted in all classes.
- ✓ **NOTE:** Gourds must be clean and free of “soft spots”. Some evidence of natural drying may be evident.
- ✓ **NOTE:** Unless described as assorted, displays of three or six gourds should contain gourds that are identical or nearly identical.
- ✓ **NOTE:** This is a “Growers Division” as defined in the AGS Judging Handbook. Gourds must be mature and clean. Stems are not included in size measurements. Stems are required in Classes 6, 7, 15, 16, 41 and 42 (AGS Handbook 6.8.5.4.1). In all other Division I classes, stems are encouraged, but not mandatory (see Rule 16, page 19).

CLASS

- 1 Heaviest gourd by weight.
- 2 Gourd with largest circumference.
- 3 Longest STRAIGHT gourd (not a Dipper gourd), not to exceed 4” gradual curve.
- 4 Longest CROOKED gourd (including Dipper gourds), must exceed 4” total curve.
- 5 Longest STRAIGHT Dipper gourd, not to exceed 4” gradual curve.
- 6 Three small, assorted Hardshells, under 12” diameter **and** length.
- 7 Three large, assorted Hardshells, over 12” in diameter **or** length.
- 8 Three short-handled Dippers, 15” and under in length.
- 9 Three long-handled Dippers, over 15” in length.
- 10 Three Cheese gourds.
- 11 Three Canteen gourds (not Copper Canyon Canteens).
- 12 Three small Bottle gourds, 5” or less in height.
- 13 Three Bottle gourds (Birdhouse gourds, Indonesian bottles, Mexican bottles, Chinese bottles, etc.) over 5” in height. The three gourds should be of the same variety.
- 14 Any “Arbor-grown” Hardshell (no Dipper gourds).
- 15 Most unusual Hardshell (oddity or freak of natural growth).
- 16 One, or more if inseparable, manipulated (hand-trained) gourd(s).
- 17 Most unusual Ornamental (oddity or freak of natural growth).
- 18 Three Ball Luffas (*L. operculata*).
- 19 Three Luffas (e.g. ridged - *L. acutangula*, or dishrag - *L. aegyptiaca*).
- 20 Three Cannonball or Basketball gourds.
- 21 Three Copper Canyon Canteen gourds.

CLASS

- 22 Three Tennessee Spinning gourds (aka Tennessee Spinners).
- 23 Three Warty gourds (Hardshell Warty, African Warty, Warted Mayo Bule, etc.) - not ornamental gourds.
- 24 Three Hardshell Banana gourds.
- 25 Three Hardshell Apple gourds.
- 26 Three, true variety Hardshells not previously listed.
- 27 Smallest, mature Ornamental gourd.
- 28 Smallest, mature Hardshell gourd.
- 29 Three, assorted Spoon gourds, under 6" in length.
- 30 Three, assorted Spoon gourds, over 6" in length.
- 31 Three Spoon gourds.
- 32 Three Crown of Thorns gourds (any color, but all three must be the same color).
- 33 Three, assorted Crown of Thorns gourds (assorted colors, sizes, markings, etc.).
- 34 Three, assorted Autumn Wing gourds.
- 35 Six, assorted, small Ornamental Warties (under 3 ½" in diameter and 6" in length).
- 36 Six, assorted, large Ornamental Warties (over 3 ½" in diameter and/or over 6" in length).
- 37 Six, assorted, small Ornamentals (under 3 ½" in diameter and under 6" in length - no warties).
- 38 Six, assorted, large Ornamentals (over 3 ½" in diameter, and/or over 6" in length - no warties).
- 39 Six, true variety Ornamentals - any size.
- 40 Centerpiece (with fresh gourds predominating) in a tray, basket, bowl, plate, dried gourd, etc. Only natural accessory materials are permitted.
- 41 Most outstanding Hardshell (specimen gourd). Exhibitors are encouraged to display a note with the specimen naming the variety.
- 42 Most outstanding Ornamental (specimen gourd - no Luffas). Exhibitors are encouraged to display a note with the specimen naming the variety.
- 43 Two Snake gourds or Long gourds.

DIVISION II

DRY GOURDS

- ✓ **NOTE:** Clear finish (wax, varnish, oil, shellac or sealer) is allowed.
- ✓ **NOTE:** No color (paint, stain, ink, etc.) or embellishments are allowed.
- ✓ **NOTE:** Unless described as assorted, displays of three or six gourds should contain gourds that are identical or nearly identical.
- ✓ **NOTE:** This is a "Growers Division" as defined in the AGS Judging Handbook. Gourds must be dry, mature and cleaned. Stems are not included in size measurements. Stems are required in Classes 44, 47 and 48 (AGS Handbook 6.8.5.4.1). In all other Division II classes, stems are encouraged, but not mandatory (see Rule 16, page 19).

CLASS

- 44 Most outstanding, cleaned Hardshell (specimen gourd). Exhibitors are encouraged to display a note naming the specimen's variety.
- 45 Longest STRAIGHT dipper gourd, not to exceed 4" gradual curve.
- 46 Longest CROOKED gourd (any variety), must exceed 4" total curve.
- 47 Three, small, assorted Hardshells (under 12" diameter **and** length).
- 48 Three, large, assorted Hardshells (over 12" diameter **or** length).
- 49 Three Hardshell Apple gourds.
- 50 Three Cannonball or Basketball gourds.
- 51 Three Dipper gourds (any size).
- 52 Six, assorted Ornamentals (any size).
- 53 Three Ball Luffas (as in Class 18) with outer skin removed.
- 54 Three Luffas (as in Class 19) with outer skin removed.
- 55 Smallest Hardshell gourd.
- 56 Smallest Ornamental gourd.
- 57 Most unusual, natural gourd (odddity or freak of natural growth - not hand-trained).
- 58 One, or more if inseparable, manipulated (hand-trained) gourd(s).
- 59 Jim Story Award. The Jim Story Award entry must be dried, manipulated gourds (single or multiple) that have been cleaned, with no added finish. The AGS criteria and judging process for the Jim Story award will be utilized for this selection. The winner of this class will be eligible to compete in the Jim Story Award at the national level. See the AGS website for details, requirements and competition updates (www.americangourdsociety.org/jim-story-award.html).

DIVISION III

GOURD CRAFT

- ✓ **NOTE:** Stems are optional.
- ✓ **NOTE:** Gourds must predominate and be of good quality.
- ✓ **NOTE:** No feathers/parts from protected species are allowed.
- ✓ **NOTE:** Musical instruments must be functional.
- ✓ **NOTE:** Accessory materials/embellishments, including bases for gourds, are allowed where not specifically prohibited.
- ✓ **NOTE:** If opened, gourd(s) must be cleaned on the inside.
- ✓ **NOTE:** Undecorated gourds may have a clear finish (wax, varnish, etc.).

CLASS

Traditional Items

- 60 Short-handled Dipper gourd (15" and under in length) similar to those used in early times. The gourd must be opened and clean inside. Corks or plugs in the handle are optional, but no color or embellishment is allowed.
- 61 Long-handled Dipper gourd (over 15" in length) similar to those used in early times. The gourd must be opened and clean inside. Corks or plugs in the handle are optional, but no color or embellishment is allowed.
- 62 Decorated Dipper gourd (any length). The gourd must be opened and clean inside. Corks or plugs in the handle are optional. The interior/exterior may be decorated or finished by any technique(s).
- 63 Undecorated gourd bowl containing whole, dry gourds. No color, accessory material or other embellishment is permitted on the bowl or the gourds. A clear finish or sealer is allowed.
- 64 Non-holiday centerpiece of whole, dry gourds. Only natural accessory materials are permitted. The centerpiece may be contained in a dish, basket, bowl, gourd bowl, etc., and the gourds may be decorated.
- 65 Gourd pitcher, vase or bottle. Gourd pieces (such as a handle) may be attached.

CLASS

Holiday Items

- 66 One Christmas ornament (must hang).
- 67 Christmas item or display (no ornaments as in Class 66).
- 68 Santa gourd(s).
- 69 Halloween item or display
- 70 Easter item or display.
- 71 Holiday item or display (other than Christmas, Halloween or Easter). Exhibitors are encouraged to display a note naming the holiday.

CLASS**Basic and Advanced Techniques**

- 72 Whole gourd – Carving (power carving, chip carving, gouging, line work, etc.) must predominate.
- 73 Whole gourd – woodburning must predominate.
- 74 Whole gourd – painting must predominate.
- 75 Whole gourd - any technique not named in classes 72-74 above, or combination of techniques including those above.
- 76 Cut gourd (lid optional) – carving/cutting (any technique) must predominate.
- 77 Cut gourd (lid optional) - woodburning must predominate.
- 78 Cut gourd (lid optional) – painting must predominate.
- 79 Cut gourd (lid optional) - any technique not named in classes 76-78 above, or combination of techniques including those above.
- 80 Cut gourd with decorated rim (pine needles, weaving, coiling, beading, etc.) – lid optional. The gourd itself may be decorated or undecorated, but the rim work must predominate.

✓ **NOTE: For Classes 81-82, basketry/weaving/lacing techniques, including pine needle work, weaving, coiling, tenerife, plaiting, etc., must predominate. It may be on the rim, through or around the gourd.**

CLASS

- 81 Gourd basket with handle. A lid is optional.
- 82 Gourd basket /bowl/container without a handle. A lid is optional.
- 83 Gourd container (bowl, box, basket, jar, etc.) with a lid. Any decorative technique(s) may be used, including those in classes 81 and 82.
- 84 Beaded gourd. Any beading technique in or on the gourd.
- 85 Gourd decorated by pen and ink technique. Color may be added with ink, watercolor, stain etc.
- 86 Wax Art. Decorate a gourd(s) with melted wax material (e.g. crayons). Entries may include whole gourds, cut gourds, jewelry, etc.

CLASS**Musical Instruments**

- 87 Stringed musical instrument (chordophone).
- 88 Drum (membranophone), including water drums and ocean drums (no thunder drums).
- 89 Thunder drum only.
- 90 Rattle (idiophone), e.g. shaker, maraca, uli’uli, rain stick, guiro.
- 91 Thumb Piano only, (e.g. mbira, kalimba).
- 92 Shekere only.
- 93 Wind instrument (aerophone) e.g. whistle, flute, trumpet, ocarina.

CLASS Figures – Animals, Birds, Dolls, Characters, etc.

- 94 Gourd doll, character or figure.
- 95 Realistic gourd bird(s), using one or more gourds or gourd parts. Penguins are not permitted.
- 96 Gourd penguin(s).
- 97 Realistic gourd animal(s) (mammal, reptile, fish, etc.), using one or more gourds or gourd parts. Birds are not permitted.
- 98 Fantasy gourd animal(s), dragon(s) or monster(s) using one or more gourds or gourd parts.
- 99 Gourd Insect.

CLASS Wearable Creations

- 100 Jewelry set. A set consists of two or more pieces. A pair of earrings is considered one piece for this class.
- 101 Jewelry - single piece. A pair of earrings is considered one piece in this class.
- 102 Artistic, wearable, gourd name badge. The name badge must include first name and state. Additional information is optional, as are the size of the gourd(s) and the decorative technique(s). The name badge must be wearable (pin, neck strap, etc.).
- 103 Decorated gourd hat (any technique(s)). Gourds and/or gourd pieces may be attached.
- 104 Undecorated gourd hat in natural color (no stain, paint, ink, or other color). A clear finish is allowed and multiple gourds (cut or uncut) may be used.
- 105 Mask (must be a functional face mask [may be hand-held style]).

CLASS Themed Gourds

- 106 Native American theme decorated gourd(s) - no bowls/baskets.
- 107 Native American theme decorated gourd – bowls/baskets only.
- 108 Other ethnic theme – single or multiple gourds. (Please attach a note to name the theme being displayed.)
- 109 **"Show Theme."** A single item made from a gourd(s) and/or gourd pieces utilizing any technique.
- 110 **"Show Theme"** Display of multiple items made from gourds and/or gourd pieces.

CLASS The Fun Stuff

- 111 One toy (may be a set) or game made from gourd(s).
- 112 Novel article(s) made from gourd(s) (no dippers as in classes 60-62).
- 113 Useful article(s) made from gourd(s) (no dippers as in classes 60-62).
- 114 Workshop participants from Friday, may enter any class project . Entries in this class only may be removed early.

- 115 Miniature creations. Any gourd art less than 4” in any dimension.
- 116 “I did it my way”. Any gourd craft. Natural and manufactured accessories, including plastic products, are allowed.

CLASS Lamps and Luminaries

- 117 Useable, electric, gourd lamp. Accessory materials are permitted and a gourd shade is optional. If needed, a base may be used.
- 118 Gourd luminary or night light. Accessory materials are permitted. If candles or oil are used, the luminary is not to be lighted while on display at the Show. Electric devices should use low wattage bulbs (4 watt or comparable). There is no restriction on battery-powered luminaries.
- 119 Gourd oil lamp (not to be lighted during the show).

Floral Designs

✓ **NOTE: Gourd containers in Classes 120 – 126 may be natural or decorated.**

CLASS

- 120 Small, dried floral design in a gourd container (8” or less total height).
- 121 Dried floral design in a gourd container (must exceed 8” total height).
- 122 Floral design using all fresh materials in a gourd container.
- 123 Floral design incorporating fresh or dried gourds. The arrangement may be in a gourd or any other container.
- 124 “I did it my way” floral design. Gourds must predominate.
- 125 **"Show Theme"** floral design. Portray the Gourd Show theme with a floral design in a gourd container.
- 126 Silk floral design in a gourd container.
- 127 Undecorated gourd container with a live plant or plants. All plants must be planted directly into the gourd container. No hidden pots are allowed. A clear finish and/or single-color stain/dye are allowed but no accessories are permitted other than a base.
- 128 Decorated gourd container with a live plant or plants. All plants must be planted directly into the gourd container. Accessories and a base are allowed.
- 129 Undecorated, hanging gourd container with a live plant or plants. A clear finish and/or single-color stain/dye are allowed but no accessories other than hanger material. All plants must be planted directly into the gourd container.

CLASS

Decorations to Hang

- 130 Gourd wreath.
- 131 Wall hanging, swag, door crown, etc.
- 132 Wall pocket.

For the Birds

✓ **NOTE: The National Wildlife Federation notes that ventilation and drainage holes are desirable.**

CLASS

- 133 Birdhouse for House Wrens with an entrance opening of approximately 1". There should be no perch.
- 134 Birdhouse for Purple Martins. The gourd should be painted white and have drain holes and vent holes. Entrance holes (2 choices): Round – approximately 1¾" to 2¼", but 2 1/8 " is preferred; Half-moon or Starling-resistant crescent - 1 3/16 " tall by 2 ¾" to 3" wide. A porch (a long, wide, flat perch) or a tail prop board is optional.
- 135 Birdhouse (except House Wren or Purple Martin). Exhibitors are encouraged to display a note naming the bird(s) being attracted and stating the opening size.
- 136 Decorated birdhouse. Gourd must have an entrance hole (size is optional) and be cleaned inside. Painting must predominate.
- 137 Decorated birdhouse. Gourd must have an entrance hole (size is optional) and be cleaned inside. Any technique(s) other than painting must predominate.
- 138 Bird feeder (functional).

Gallery Display

✓ **NOTE: Judging for Gallery Class 139 will include the following considerations in equal weight: craftsmanship and design of individual gourds, arrangement/staging, and suitability of accessories.**

CLASS

- 139 Gallery display – 3, 4 or 5 decorated gourds arranged artistically. Accessory material is permitted, including risers. The display must fit within a 2x4-foot space (2 feet deep and four feet long, tables may only be 30 inches wide). A display cloth or table cover is suggested. The gourds may have been displayed in other classes (not the gallery class) at previous Ohio Shows. The gallery display should highlight an artist's work and may depict a common theme, spotlight a technique or characterize the artist's style.

DIVISION IV
PRESCHOOL - THRU AGE 4 AS OF 10/1/2021

- ✓ **NOTE: This division is non-competitive. NOTE: Participation ribbons awarded for each exhibit.**

CLASS

- P1 Any gourd craft design or display with single or multiple techniques.

DIVISION V
JUNIOR 5 - 11 YEARS OF AGE AS OF 10/1/2021

CURRENT SEASON GOURDS

- ✓ **NOTE: Classes J2-J3 to be judged on size/weight only.**
✓ **NOTE: This is a "Growers Division" under the AGS Handbook. Gourds may be part of the family garden.**

CLASS

- J1 Two assorted Hardshell gourds (different sizes and/or shapes).
J2 Longest gourd.
J3 Heaviest gourd.
J4 Three assorted Spoon gourds.
J5 Six assorted Ornamental gourds (warties and/or smooth).

CLASS

GOURD CRAFT

- J6 Novel and/or useful article(s) made from gourd(s). No dippers.
J7 One realistic or fantasy animal (mammal, bird, reptile, etc.).
J8 One insect.
J9 Gourd dipper. A clear finish is optional, but the dipper must be cut open and cleaned.
J10 Gourd birdhouse, undecorated (stain and/or varnish allowed), with drain holes (perch is optional). The inside should be cleaned and the house must be functional.
J11 Decorated birdhouse. Perch and drain holes are optional. The inside should be cleaned and the house must be functional.
J12 Decorated gourd pitcher, vase, bowl, bottle or dipper. The gourd must be cut open and cleaned on the inside.
J13 Gourd toy, doll or character.
J14 Gourd musical instrument. Any type of functional instrument.
J15 Floral design (fresh or dried) incorporating gourds. The arrangement may be in a gourd or any other container.

- J16 **“Show Theme.”** An item or items made from gourds.
 J17 I did it my way. Any other gourd craft not specifically listed.

DIVISION VI
YOUTH 12-18 YEARS OF AGE AS OF 10/1/2021

CURRENT SEASON GOURDS

- ✓ **NOTE: Classes Y2-Y3 to be judged on size/weight only.**
 ✓ **NOTE: This is a “Growers Division” under the AGS Handbook. Gourds may be part of the family garden.**

CLASS

- Y1 Three assorted Hardshell gourds (different size/shape).
 Y2 Longest gourd.
 Y3 Heaviest gourd.
 Y4 Three assorted Spoon gourds.
 Y5 Six assorted Ornamental gourds (warties and/or smooth).
 Y6 Arrangement, with fresh gourds predominating, suitable for a centerpiece (fresh natural accessory material only). Arrangement may be in a bowl, basket, tray, etc.

CLASS

GOURD CRAFT

- Y7 One realistic or fantasy animal (mammal, bird, reptile, etc.).
 Y8 Gourd insect.
 Y9 Gourd dipper. A clear finish is optional, but the dipper must be cut open and cleaned.
 Y10 Holiday arrangement or decoration.
 Y11 Decorated pitcher, vase, bottle, bowl or dipper (open and clean).
 Y12 Gourd birdhouse, undecorated (stain and/or varnish allowed), with drain holes (perch is optional). The inside should be cleaned and the house must be functional.
 Y13 Decorated birdhouse. Perch and drain holes are optional. The inside should be cleaned and the house must be functional.
 Y14 Gourd toy, doll or character.
 Y15 Centerpiece arrangement of dry gourds in a bowl, basket or tray (dry natural accessory material only).
 Y16 Gourd musical instrument. Any type of functional instrument.
 Y17 Floral design (fresh or dried) incorporating gourds. Container material is optional.
 Y18 **“Show Theme.”** An item or items made from gourds.
 Y19 I did it my way. Any other gourd craft not specifically listed.

SPECIAL COMPETITION

MIXED MEDIA

📌 **Note:** Entries are judged with respect to artistic quality, workmanship, originality, and depiction of gourds.

📌 **Note:** Actual gourds are not part of this special competition.

CLASS

SC1 Non-wearable Mixed Media. Depict gourds in any non-wearable medium such as photography, painting, quilting, paper art, beading, etc.

SC2 Wearable Mixed Media. Depict gourds in a wearable medium.

Selected Terms and Definitions

Accessories or accessory material: This is any material, gourd or otherwise, that is added to the gourd(s) to complete a display. Accessory material is permitted unless specifically prohibited.

Assorted: Any class calling for “assorted” gourds should contain gourds of differing shape, color and size, within the limitations stated for the class.

Base: Often gourds require assistance in order to sit firmly at the proper angle. A “base” is that support material – wood, rubber, metal, gourd, etc. that holds a gourd at the proper attitude. It may or may not be attached to the gourd.

Clear finish: Any finish, such as colorless varnish, shellac, wax, or oil, which enhances the overall appearance of the gourd or gourd craft but adds no color (except the slight darkening that may accompany the clear finish) is considered clear.

Color: This is any medium that adds to, or changes the color of a gourd (except slight darkening that may accompany a clear finish). Examples of color that may be applied to a gourd include, but are not limited to, paint (acrylic, oil, watercolor, etc.), stain, ink, dye, colored pencil and shoe polish.

Cut Gourd: A cut gourd is one in which the shell has been penetrated by cutting, carving, drilling, burning, etc. Bowls, baskets, vases, bottles, etc. are examples.

Gourd Basket: A gourd with the top cut off and a handle attached, or a gourd cut so that the top serves as the handle. Lids are generally optional.

Gourd Bowl: Usually a round gourd that is wider than it is tall. The general appearance is a container that is intended to sit still.

Hardshell: These are “white blossom” gourds of the genus *Lagenaria*. They include, but are not limited to the bottles, canteens, cannonballs, bushels, kettles, bananas, etc.

Ornamental: These are “yellow blossom” gourds which are generally very colorful. They represent the genus *Cucurbita*. They include, but are not limited to the spoon, egg, orange, crown of thorns, spinning gourd, etc.

Other: When used in the Show Schedule to define a class, the word “other” indicates a class or technique which has not been previously specified.

Paint: Color may be added to a gourd by paint, stain, ink, etc. In general paint refers specifically to acrylic, oil and water color paints, including water and solvent-based markers. Paint does not include stain, dye, or ink.

Special Exhibit: These are non-competitive displays of gourds or gourd-related items that have educational or artistic interest.

Special Competition: Those competitive classes not covered by the AGS Handbook, and not part of the Official Show, are noted as Special Competition.

Whole Gourd: This is a gourd which does not have holes or openings cut, burned or drilled completely through the shell. It may be called an “uncut gourd.” Carving may be accomplished on a whole gourd as long as it does not completely penetrate the shell.