



Jurying Guidelines for Members

Why Jury My Work?

The VCPG was founded in 1957 with ten members. At the April 1959 meeting, the first new member was voted in and required to submit three ceramic pieces for critique, or jury. The goal of the current VCPG jury process, as outlined in the VCPG Bylaws, is to assure that all work sold or shown at VCPG events is held to the same standard of craftsmanship and aesthetic merit established by our founders.

This document provides you with information and guidance regarding the jury process. Our intention is to support you. The process is designed to be in alignment with our organization's mission:

The Ventura County Potters' Guild is a nonprofit organization committed to stimulating public interest in ceramic arts by providing networking, education and sales opportunities in an inclusive environment for all levels and interests.

Overview:

You must be an active member of the Guild for six months and have successfully completed the jury process in order to participate in our sales, shows, or exhibits, including the VCPG Gallery, Online Store and annual Ojai Sale. Any exceptions to the jury requirement will be clearly noted in the specific event/venue information. As an example of the timing of these requirements: you could join VCPG in December, register and attend the Pre-Jury Workshop in February, pass the jury in April and be able to sell your work at the June Ojai Sale. You would have been a member for 6 months and passed the jury.

The jury is a two-part process that includes a Pre-Jury Workshop and the Final Jurying. A description of each step in the process is provided below.

Note: If your style of work changes significantly, you could be asked to jury the new work. For instance, if you are currently a hand builder and submit only hand-built work for jurying, you would need to be re-juried in order to show or sell wheel-thrown work at VCPG venues.

When can my work be juried?

The first part of the jurying process, the Pre-Jury Workshop, takes place at the VCPG Members' Meeting at 6:30pm in either February or September. To be eligible to have your work juried, you must attend a Pre-Jury workshop. The Final Jurying takes place at the VCPG Members' Meeting held in April and November starting at 6:30pm. You can find the dates of the members' meetings on the VCPG webpage or in the newsletter. Important dates are:

February 10th	Deadline to register for Workshop	February Meeting	Pre-Jury workshop	April Meeting	Jury
August 10th	Deadline to register for Workshop	September Meeting	Pre-Jury Workshop	November Meeting	Jury

Who to Contact:

A link for Pre-Jury Workshop Registration Form is available on our website. Any questions regarding the jury process are to be directed to the VCPG Jury Chairperson and submitted by the dates identified in the chart above. The Jury Chair's contact information can be found in the current VCPG Directory, VCPG Board Organization Chart, and newsletter.

What work is acceptable?

Refer to "Guidelines of Shows and Sales in your VCPG Member Directory." Which is available on the Website.

Pre-Jury Workshop:

You are required to participate in a Pre-Jury Workshop in order to review how Craftsmanship, Aesthetics, and Personal Identity apply to your work being juried. In this workshop, you will set up your pieces on a table, where two jurors will meet with you and discuss your work. The jurors will offer their advice on how your work meets the criteria identified by the Guild and offer guidance if improvements are needed.

In most cases, these same jurors will review your work at the Final Jury. You will not be present for the Final Jury.

How many items do I bring to the Pre-jury Workshop and Jury?

Provide eight to ten pieces, representative of the work that you are interested in selling at Guild events. This should be work created within the last two years. You do not need to bring the same items to the Pre-Jury Workshop that you bring to the Final Jury for evaluation.

What criteria are used to evaluate my work?

The jurors will read the information you provided on your Jury Registration Form. They will carefully examine your pieces and score your work using a 5-point scoring system:

- 1. Craftsmanship:** This standard encompasses technical mastery and a general control of the materials used. Jurors are looking to determine if the following criteria are suitable for the: apparent purpose, materials, forming method, function, foot and lip resolution, glaze and firing type used and freedom from firing defects?
- 2. Aesthetics:** This standard addresses the concept of beauty. Do the glaze, stain, slip selection, glaze type and color, application, texture, and form integrate the work and provide impact and vitality?
- 3. Personal Identity:** This standard reflects the degree to which the artist's personality and integrity come through the work. The jury considers the overall concept and effect, such as form, proportion, balance, interest, tactile pleasantness, variation and originality. The jury assesses whether or not the applicant has explored the medium enough to develop his/her own personal means of expression or is it a derivative of other artists' work?

How is the Score Determined?

- 5 Points:** Excellent
- 4 Points:** Good — meets Guild standards
- 3 Points:** Inconsistent — some does and doesn't meet standards
- 2 Points:** Fair, with room for improvement
- 1 Point:** Does not meet Guild standards

The **Craftsmanship** score is weighted at **60%**.
The **Aesthetics** score is weighted at **30%**
The **Personal Identity** score is weighted at **10%**

Juried work that received at least 35 points of the possible 50 points from two jurors will have passed the jury process. If one juror rates the work at 35 or above and the other rates the work at 34 or below, a third juror is asked to make another evaluation and complete a Juror Score Sheet. If the third juror's evaluation is 35 or above, the applicant will have passed the jury; if 34 or below, the applicant's work will not have passed.

After the jurying:

You'll receive a copy of the comments and scores from the jurors in the mail or in email; our goal is to have your results to you the following morning. If you would like to speak to a juror regarding their comments, contact the VCPG Jury Chairperson and they will facilitate that connection. Contact information for the Chairperson is in the current VCPG Directory, VCPG Board Organization Chart, and newsletter. Photos will be taken of the work that passes the jury so that the Guild is familiar with your juried work.

Document History Page and Discussion Points

Revision Date	Description of Revision	Revised by
January 2021	General clean-up and adding mission statement.	B. Burgess
February 2019	Developed sections of the document addressing the Pre-Jury Workshop providing a calendar, description of the workshop and contact information.	Crystal Davis, Jury Chairperson, and Brenda Burgess
December 2017	Changed the month of the Fall Pre-Jury Workshop to September and the Jury to November. Removed text that indicated that Jury Application was available on the VCPG webpage. Jury Guidelines for Members 1.2	B. Burgess and reviewed and approved by Jury Chairperson Gayle Swanson
January 2017	Minor wording changes based on revision to version 1.1: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "The goal of the current VCPG jury process, as outlined in the VCPG" vs mentioning specific Article/Section• Jury Registration Forms are available from the VCPG Jury Chair or through venturapottersguild.org. The Jury Chair's contact information is in the current VCPG Directory, VCPG Board Organization Chart. Update: webpage address and reference to directory for contacting Jury Chair	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After the Jury: contact information revised with reference to director for contacting Jury Chair. 	
<p>February 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Title of document changed from Jury Process to 2016 Jury Guidelines for Members ❖ Text change on purpose of document: This document provides you with information and guidance in regard to the jury process. Our intention is to support you. The process is designed to be in alignment with our organization’s mission. ❖ When can I be Juried? Added: To be eligible to have your work juried you must attend a Pre-Jury Workshop in either February or July. ❖ “Overview” section created and the remainder of the 2011 document organized under that heading ❖ Added to Overview: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ You must be an active member for 6 months and have been successfully Juried in order to participate in any of our sales venues. The jury process includes a pre-jury meeting 2 or 3 months before the formal jurying. Details follow. ❖ Pre-Jury Workshop added as a requirement and defined ❖ What work is acceptable” revised to state “refer to Guidelines for Show and Sale” ❖ “Where do I take my work for Jury?” deleted ❖ “How many items do I bring to Jury?” As a reminder, should the nature or style of your work change significantly, you may be asked to submit to If your style of work changes significantly in the future, you could be asked to jury the new work. ❖ Criteria for Jury <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Added: 3 Points: Inconsistent — some does and doesn’t meets standards ❖ Criteria are weighted: Craftsmanship score is weighted at 60%, Aesthetics 30%, Personal Identity 10% ❖ Number of points to pass changed from 12 of possible 15 to 35 of a possible 50 ❖ Stated order of descriptions of criteria changed to first being Craftsmanship, second Aesthetic, and last Personal Identity. ❖ “Then What”? Changed to “After the Jurying” and was simplified to a copy of score sheet will be mailed to you and if you have any questions contact the Jury Chair. Removed: no announcement in meeting and newsletter and maintaining of documentation (ie. Photos of juried work) by Jury Chair 	<p>2015-2016 VCPG Board of Directors</p>

September 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Where do I take my work for jury? When you enter the jury room, please stay with your work until you have been checked in by the Jury Chairperson ❖ How many items do I bring for jury? Clarified statement about if you bring only one form to jury and the nature or style of your work changes, you may be asked to re-jury.... 	2011-2012 VCPG Board of Directors
November 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Who to Contact: section made generic instead of referencing the current Jury Chairperson by name/telephone/email ❖ Additional description of requirements for glass Note: description incorporated into applicable sale/show document 	2010-2011 VCPG Board of Directors
2008	<p>New Document</p> <p>Drafted this document to provided information and guidance to members that want to be juried. Under "What work is acceptable" aligned this description with the description in Guidelines for Show-Sales</p>	2008-2009 VCPG Board of Directors