

The Kingdom of Northshield Arts & Sciences Event Entrants' Handbook

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Space Needs	3
Areas of participation	4
Non-Judged Divisions.....	4
Display	4
Experimental	4
Creative Anachronism.....	5
Judged Divisions	5
Novice Competition	6
Open Competition	6
Triathlon	6
Restrictions and Substitutions.....	7
Documentation.....	7
Northshield Arts & Sciences Judging Criteria – Physical Item (Categories 1-20, 26).....	9
Northshield Arts & Sciences Judging Criteria – Food & Drink (Categories 21 & 22)	13
Northshield Arts & Sciences Judging Criteria – Performance (Category 23)	18
Northshield Arts & Sciences Research & Virtual Learning Criteria (Category 24 and 25)	22
Appendix 1 - List of Categories	26
Appendix 2 - Prohibited and Restricted Herbs list	32
Prohibited Herbs - Do Not Use.....	32
Restricted Herbs - Use with Caution and Clear Labeling.....	32

Introduction

Every year the kingdom of Northshield holds an event dedicated to the Arts & Sciences. It is a time for many things: to display what you have made, to seek input on how you can make things and advice on how to make them better, to compete with your peers. Entries must be directly related to pre-17th century cultures. Traditionally it is held in February.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THIS EVENT IS TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION, TO PROMOTE THE ARTS & SCIENCES, AND TO REWARD EXCELLENCE.

Space Needs

Space will be provided for all exhibits, both non-judged and judged. Each entry will typically be given a 36" X 30" place on a table. If more room is needed, please contact the Kingdom A&S Event Deputy (KASED) or the Kingdom Minister of Arts & Sciences (KMOAS) at least 2 weeks before the event. Adjustments might be possible depending on space available. An area can also be made available for those who have a performance they want to present. Entries must be physically present at the event. Clothing entries may not be worn except for evening court. All performing arts entries must be presented live.

Areas of participation

There are 6 areas of participation, 3 non-judged (Display, Experimental, Creative Anachronism) and 3 judged (Novice, Open, and Triathlon). The deadline for all entries is 2 weeks in advance of the event. The deadline for submitting research papers and virtual learning entries is 4 weeks in advance of the event.

Non-Judged Divisions

- Entries need not adhere to the rules pertaining to the competitive divisions but must follow rules pertaining to safety.
- Entries can be in any of the 26 categories listed in Appendix 1.
- Entries must adhere to the restrictions listed in Appendix 2.
- Each entrant will receive a card at check-in to be filled out. The card must be attached to the table listing:
 - SCA name
 - Category
 - What the item is
- Documentation is not required.
- If written documentation is included, pictures and process-based documentation is encouraged. Documentation details are listed in the documentation section.
- There are no residency restrictions on gentles participating in the non-judged divisions.
- Everyone from beginner to Laurels to judges are encouraged to participate.

Display

- A printed copy of the matching judging criteria will be provided which can be used by the participant as a guideline or roadmap. Any or all criteria may be used.
- The participant can choose to receive feedback on a specific criterion (i.e., research, materials, techniques, workmanship, complexity) or for all of them. Discussion will cover whatever the participant asks for. A participant may request advice on even a single aspect of their project.

Experimental

- This area is a display of more than one item to specifically focus on your learning process. Show your items from when you first started up to where you are now. Show your failures and what you learned from them. Show something neat you learned or figured out as you went along.
- Projects need not be complete.

Creative Anachronism

Creative: involving the imagination or original ideas.

Anachronism: an act of attributing a custom, event, or object to a period to which it does not belong.

Therefore, creative anachronism is using your imagination and/or ideas to make something that looks like it belongs to a period of time, but it really does not because some aspect is definitely modern.

This area is a display to focus on items made that look as if they could have been used pre-1600s, but on close inspection would not have been. It is the place to show off things that result in you excitedly saying, "Look what I made!", which allow us to play our game in this modern world. Examples include:

- A medieval-looking wooden chest that conceals a modern cooler.
- A medieval-looking item that holds a modern cell phone.
- A food item that looks correct for its time period but is gluten-free.

Judged Divisions

- Face-to-face judging will be used based on the established judging criteria.
- There are 4 different judging criteria:
 - Physical item: categories 1-20, 26
 - Food craft item: categories 21 & 22
 - Performance: category 23
 - Research & Virtual Learning: category 24 & 25
- The goal of judging is open and honest communication; by entering you are acknowledging your item will be examined, assessed, evaluated, judged, and given a numerical score.
- There will be 3 awards: gold, silver, and bronze; gold being awarded to the entrant with the highest score, silver to the 2nd highest, and bronze to the 3rd highest.
- Bullying is not allowed.
- Comments must be constructive and explanatory.
- There are no residency requirements for judges.
- Judges may enter as long as their entry is in a different category than what they will be judging.
- All entrants are encouraged to further participate as a judge. They may also choose to shadow a judge in order to learn the process.
- Judging training will be available before the event.
- Entries can be in any of the 26 categories listed in Appendix 1.
- Entries must adhere to the restrictions listed in Appendix 2.

- In order to be eligible for participation, an entry must have been completed within the previous 12 months. It may not have been entered in any kingdom-level or inter-kingdom competition prior to this event.
- An entrant must do their own research and documentation. Proofreading and suggestions by others are allowed.
- If written documentation is presented, each entry must have three (3) copies of written documentation for the judges.
- Standard writing styles are recommended but not required, i.e., Chicago Manual of Style, APA Style, MLA Handbook, etc.
- If oral documentation is presented, the entrant should be able to discuss with the judges where their information came from.
- The entry submitted must be made by the hand of the entrant only. Work submitted that is completed by someone other than the entrant will disqualify the entry.
- Entrants must be residents of the Kingdom of Northshield.
- Winners will be informed when all judging is completed and will be asked to leave their displays up if possible.
- Winners will be announced and presented at the beginning of evening court.

Novice Competition

- This division is for those who are relatively new at practicing an art or science, and for those who are ready to try competing on the Kingdom level.
- Laurels may not enter any item in the Novice Division.
- The entry with the highest average score within the novice division will be the gold medal winner.
- There will usually be one judge per entry.

Open Competition

- Anyone may enter the open competition. If you are a beginner in your art or science and want to enter the open division, you may.
- The entry with the highest average or consensus score within the open division will be the gold medal winner.
- You may enter 2 items providing they are in 2 different categories.
- There may be 1, 2, or 3 judges per entry.

Triathlon

- Three items will be entered in 3 separate categories.
- All 3 entries will be judged with the appropriate category's criteria.
- There will be 3 judges, one for each entry.

Restrictions and Substitutions

- All presentations using live animals must be on video.
- Brewing and Vinting entrants and judges must be age 21 years of age or older and be able to supply a photo identification.
- Open containers of toxic and hazardous materials are not allowed.
- Substitutions for products from endangered plants or animal, or for toxic or hazardous materials or ingredients, are expected and will not affect the score.
- Any herb used in an entry must be listed in the documentation by both its common English name and by its Latin botanical name.
- All entries meant to be consumed or used on the skin must clearly list all ingredients.
- Some ingredients used in medieval recipes are now known to be harmful or poisonous, and in some cases are deadly. Some of those that we know about are included in the Prohibited and Restricted Herbs List (Appendix 2) and apply to all consumable and cosmetic entries.
- Prohibited herbs must not be used. Please use a safe substitution or omit entirely.
- Restricted herbs must be clearly labeled and their status as a restricted ingredient prominently noted and displayed.

Documentation

- Each entrant will receive a card at check-in to be filled out. The card must be attached to the table listing:
 - SCA name
 - What the item is.
 - Verbal information provided during the judging session will be accepted as documentation and will count towards the overall score. Supporting information such as the sources of the information may be requested.

For written documentation:

- The entrant's SCA name should appear on the first page of the documentation.
- Each entry must have three copies of written documentation for the judges to read. The documentation will be given back to the entrant.
- A minimum of one page of written documentation is required.
- Non-research entries have a 10-page text maximum (appendices, bibliography, and pages with only pictures do not count towards the count of pages).

- There is no maximum page restriction for a research entry. Submission of documentation before the competition may be requested if research documentation is longer than 10 pages.
- The style of written documentation provided is at the entrant's discretion. For those unfamiliar with documentation, using a documentation template or guide is suggested.
 - For further assistance in writing documentation, please follow these steps:
 - Go to the Kingdom of Northshield Web page
 - Click on the A&S link under "officers"
 - Click on the "resource lists" – use any of the links
 - Ask your local A&S minister for help.
 - Ask anyone who has written documentation for help.

Northshield Arts & Sciences Judging Criteria – Physical Item (Categories 1-20, 26)

Entrant SCA name _____
 Judge's SCA name _____
 Judge's contact info _____
 Division _____
 Category # _____ Category name _____
 What exactly is to be judged _____

Research	Notes and comments
Who would have made/used it?	
What was made?	
When was it used? (time of day, period of years, what century)	
Where was it used? (what place, what country, what empire)	
Why was it made? What is its purpose?	
Number of sources	
Primary, secondary, and /or tertiary sources	
Use of images	
Total score 1-10	

Materials	Notes and comments
What tools were used in period?	
What materials were used in period?	
How much would it have cost? How much did it cost?	
Was it difficult to find the materials?	
What tools and materials did you use?	
If they are different from what was used in period, why did you use substitute?	
Are there materials used that you cannot see?	
Total score 1-10	

Techniques	Notes and comments
How was it made in period?	
How did you make it; details?	
If you used different techniques from those in period, explain why.	
What did you learn?	
Did you use techniques that are not obvious?	
Total Score 1-10	

Workmanship & Historical Aesthetic	Notes and comments
How well is the item made?	
How well does it resemble the historical article?	
Is the workmanship appropriate to the period and style of the item?	
Does it taste appropriate?	
Does it look and smell appropriate?	
Was 'hidden' work done? (Made your tools, grew ingredients, etc.)	
Total Score 1-10	

Complexity	Notes and comments
Amount of ingredients used	
Number of techniques/skills used	
How much time did it take to make?	
How much research went into the work?	
How difficult was it?	

Did you need to do a lot of experimenting	
Did you need to learn new skills, especially historical skills?	
Total Score 1-10	

Judge's Discretion	Score 1-3	Notes and comments

Points: Research _____
 Materials: _____
 Technique: _____
 Workmanship: _____
 Complexity: _____
 Judges' Discretion: _____

Grand total: _____

Additional Notes & Comments on Physical Item:

Northshield Arts & Sciences Judging Criteria – Food & Drink (Categories 21 & 22)

Entrant SCA name _____
 Judge's SCA name _____
 Judge's contact info _____
 Division _____
 Category # _____ Category name _____
 What exactly is to be judged _____

Research	Notes and comments
Who would have made/used it?	
What was made?	
When was it used? (time of day, period of years, what century)	
Where was it used? (what place, what country, what empire)	
Why was it made? What is its purpose?	
Number of sources	
Primary, secondary, and/or tertiary sources	
Images	
Total score 1-10	

Ingredients	Notes and comments
What tools were used in period?	
What ingredients were used in period?	
How much would it have cost? How much did it cost?	
Was it difficult to find the ingredients?	
What tools and ingredients did you use?	
Would seasonality and location of ingredients have affected the food?	
If they are different from what was used in period, why did you use substitute?	
Do substitutions alter the taste?	
Total score 1-10	

Techniques	Notes and comments
How was it made in period?	
How did you make it? (Details)	
If you used different techniques from those in period, explain why	

What did you learn?	
Did you use techniques that are not obvious?	
Total Score 1-10	

Workmanship & Historical Aesthetic	Notes and comments
How well is the item made?	
How well does it resemble the historical article?	
Is the workmanship appropriate to the period and style of the item?	
Does it taste appropriate?	
Does it look and smell appropriate?	
Was 'hidden' work done? (Made your tools, grew ingredients, etc.)	
Total Score 1-10	

Complexity	Notes and comments
Amount of ingredients used	
Number of techniques/skills used	
How much time did it take to make?	
How much research went into the work?	
How difficult was it?	
Did you need to do a lot of experimenting?	

Did you need to learn new skills, especially historical skills?	
Total Score 1-10	

Judge's Discretion	Score 1-3	Notes and comments

Points: Research: _____

Materials: _____

Technique: _____

Workmanship: _____

Complexity: _____

Judges' Discretion: _____

Grand total: _____

Additional Notes & Comments for Food & Drink:

Northshield Arts & Sciences Judging Criteria – Performance (Category 23)

Entrant SCA name _____
 Judge's SCA name _____
 Judge's contact info _____
 Division _____
 Category # _____ Category name _____
 What exactly is to be judged _____

Research	Notes and comments
Who would have performed/made it	
What was its purpose? (Entertainment, religious, oral history)	
Where was it performed? (Place, country, empire)	
Commentary of the piece and the style/time period of the performance	
Number of sources	
What are the primary, secondary, & tertiary sources?	
Are there any historical images showing the performance?	
Total score 1-10	

Materials	Notes and comments
What was used in period?	
What did you use?	
If you used different materials, why?	
Did you use modern instruments or tools, and why?	
What tools and materials did you use?	
Discuss the difference modern methods and/or instruments made in the finished composition.	
Total score 1-10	

Techniques	Notes and comments
How was it composed/performed in period?	
How did you compose it? Details?	
If you used different techniques from those in period, explain why	
Deviations from the historical norms explained and supported by documentation.	
Looks, sounds, feels as if you are in the Middle Ages?	
What did you learn?	

Total Score 1-10	
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Workmanship & Historical Aesthetic	Notes and comments
Well-practiced	
Memorized	
Well composed	
Well performed	
Entry is pleasing to listen to / see	
Can see, hear, understand clearly	
Entry is consistent when compared to a period piece	
Total Score 1-10	

Complexity	Notes and comments
Number of materials used	
Number of techniques used	
How much time did it take to make?	

How much research went into the work?	
How difficult was it?	
Total Score 1-10	

Judge's Discretion	Score 1-3	Notes and comments

Points: Research: _____
 Materials: _____
 Technique: _____
 Workmanship: _____
 Complexity: _____
 Judges' Discretion: _____

Grand total: _____

Additional Notes & Comments for Performance:

Northshield Arts & Sciences Research & Virtual Learning Criteria (Category 24 and 25)

Entrant SCA name _____
 Judge's SCA name _____
 Judge's contact info _____
 Division _____
 Category # _____ Category name _____
 What exactly is to be judged _____

Topic	Notes and comments
Clearly stated question to research	
Well-defined	
Information about the topic being researched: what, when, where, who	
Conclusion which answers the question	
Total score 1-10	

Sources	Notes and comments
Number of sources	
Type of sources: primary, secondary, tertiary	

Discussion of sources	
Reliability of sources	
Total score 1-10	

Critical thinking	Notes and comments
Discussion of previous scholarship	
Did the participant do their own evaluation of information?	
Depth of analysis?	
Was there a clearly stated researcher's conclusion?	
Was any new information on the subject discovered?	
Total Score 1-10	

Workmanship	Notes and comments
Well organized	
Well written	
Well formatted	
Bibliography	
Citations & references used	

Free from grammar, spelling, punctuation errors	
Overall readability	
Pictures, charts, graphs, and other visual aids used	
Total Score 1-10	

Complexity	Notes and comments
Difficulty of research	
Number of elements examined	
Fully investigated	
Clear conclusions with supporting arguments and data.	
Total Score 1-10	

Judge's Discretion	Score 1-3	Notes and comments

Points: Research: _____
 Materials: _____
 Technique: _____
 Workmanship: _____
 Complexity: _____
 Judges' Discretion: _____

Grand total: _____

Additional Notes & Comments for Research & Virtual Learning:

Appendix 1 - List of Categories

The Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences reserves the right to open new categories and make revisions as needed. This is a process that will be refined, and reviews will be established to make changes according to the needs of the Northshield Arts and Sciences community.

Examples are given below of what may go in specific categories. If you are not sure which category your item belongs in, contact the KASED or KMOAS. This is not a complete list – the list is endless.

1. Decorative Arts and Sciences

- Drawing
- Painting
- Calligraphy
- Illumination
- Cartography
- Printmaking
- Inscribed surfaces
- Embossing
- Decorative carving
- Relief
- Sculpture
- Heraldic Display

2. Clothing and Dress Accessories

- Garments
- Garment Accessories
- Headwear
- Footwear
- Handwear
- Girdles, belts
- Pouches, bags, purses

3. Textile and Fiber Arts

- Fiber preparation: carding, combing
- Felting
- Spinning
- Reeling

- Weaving
- Knitting
- Naalbinding
- Sprang
- Netting & knotted work
- Lacing/cordage: fingerloop braiding, whip cording, lucet, kumihimo
- Lacemaking

4. Needle Arts

- Embroidery
- Quilting
- Applique
- Smocking
- Drawn threadwork
- Beadwork and bezants

5. Bookbinding

- Signature stitching type
- Cover type

6. Leatherwork

- Tooling & stamping
- Mask making
- Scabbards and sheathe
- Costrels
- Quivers

7. Woodwork

- Carpentry
- Joinery
- Turning & bodging
- Carving
- Coopering
- Intarsia/marquetry
- Pyrography
- Furniture

8. Stonework

- Lapidary
- Mosaic

- Carving
- Sculpture
- Monuments: runestones
- Structural arts & architecture

9. Ceramics

- Pottery
- Beads
- Tiles
- Bricks
- Other: maiolica, lusterware

10. Glasswork

- Stained glass
- Fused glass: millefiori
- Glass blowing
- Beads
- Enameling

11. Metalwork

- Goldsmithing/Silversmithing
- Blacksmithing
- Bladesmithing (edged weapons)
- Locksmithing
- Casting
- Chasing and Repousse
- Numismatics
- Engraving
- Etching
- Ironwork
- Iron tools

12. Jewelry Making

- Goldwork/Silverwork
- Braided metalwork
- Strung beadwork

13. Armor

- Metal: mail, lamellar, plate
- Lacquer

- Leather
- Cloth: jupon, gambeson, aketon

14. Weapons

- Swords & daggers
- Hafted weapons
- Siege engines
- Bows
- Arrows & fletching
- Crossbows & bolts
- Firearms

15. Equipment and Toolmaking

- Hunting
- Fishing
- Farming
- Kitchen
- Chisels & gouges
- Punches & stamps
- General Tools

16. Instruments

- Musical
- Scientific
- Navigation
- Measuring
- Clocks
- Automata
- Table fountains

17. Social engagement

- Toys
- Games
- Cards
- Charms/Talismans/Totems
- Gambling culture

18. Historic trades and Household Crafts

- Dyeing
- Soap making

- Candle making, rush lights
- Basketry, hurdles & wattle structures, reed work, rush mats
- Tents & pavilions
- Inks, pigments, & paints
- Paper and papyrus making
- Personal adornment: Henna, tattoo, woad
- Health
- Medical care & humoral theory
- Dental care
- Drinking water technology
- Hygiene

19. Animal Accoutrements

- Equestrian
- Falconry
- Coursing

20. Plants and Animals

- Horticulture/gardening
- Agriculture (large scale plant production)
- Animal husbandry
- Beekeeping
- Sericulture

21. Herb craft

- Tisanes
- Cordials
- Distilled waters
- Pessaries
- Lozenges/pastilles/suckets
- Unguents
- Tinctures
- Perfumes
- Cosmetics

22. Food and Drink

- Cooking
- Baking
- Cheesemaking

- Food preparation: butchering, filleting, sausage making, milling, salt production, sugar refining
- Food Preservation: pickling, drying smoking, salting, jams, mustards
- Food presentation: plating, carving subtleties, entremets, marzipan
- Brewing
- Vinting
- Mead making
- Fruit
- Cordials
- Vinegars
- Non-alcoholic drinks

23. Performing Arts

- Dance: choreography, performance
- Music: Composition, performance
- Poetry: writing, recitation
- Prose: writing, saga oration, storytelling
- Theater: playwriting, performance

24. Research:

- This is an area that has endless possibilities. History, class structure, theory of warfare, gender studies, alchemy, astrology, navigation. The research may be shown in one of two ways:
- Written paper - must be submitted 4 weeks prior to event.
- Presentation

25. Virtual Education:

A tutorial of the procedure to do a craft posted on the web in video.

26. Everything else

Appendix 2 - Prohibited and Restricted Herbs list

All herbs are listed in the format: Latin name (Common name). Use this same format in the documentation.

Prohibited Herbs - Do Not Use

- *Aconitum napellus* (Monkshood)
- *Aethusa cynapium* (Dog Poison)
- *Anagallis arvensis* (Red Pimpernel)
- *Apocynum androsaemifolium* (Dogbane)
- *Arisaema triphyllum* (Jack-In-The-Pulpit)
- *Artemisia absinthium* (Wormwood)
- *Atropa belladonna* (Belladonna)
- *Bryonia alba* (White Bryony)
- *Bryonia dioica* (Red Bryony)
- *Cannabis sativa* (Marijuana)
- *Caulophyllum thalictroides* (Blue Cohosh)
- *Chelidonium majus* (Celandine)
- *Chenopodium ambrosioides* var. *Anthelminticum* (Wormseed)
- *Cinchona* spp. (Jesuits' Bark)
- *Claviceps purpurea* (Ergot)
- *Conium maculatum* (Poison Hemlock)
- *Convallaria majalis* (Lily of The Valley)
- *Corydalis cava* (Corydalis)
- *Cyclamen europaeum* (Cyclamen)
- *Cytisus scoparius* (Scotch Broom)
- *Daphne mezereum* (Mezereon)
- *Datura stramonium* (Jimson Weed)
- *Digitalis purpurea* (Foxglove)
- *Dryopteris filixmas* (Male Fern)
- *Gelsemium sempervirens* (Yellow Jessamine)
- *Helleborus foetidus* (Stinking Hellebore)
- *Helleborus niger* (Hellebore)
- *Helleborus viridis* (Green Hellebore)
- *Hyoscyamus niger* (Henbane)
- *Linaria vulgaris* (Yellow Toadflax)
- *Lobelia inflata* (Lobelia)
- *Mandragora officinarum* (European Mandrake)
- *Mercurialis perennis* (Dog's Mercury)
- *Paeonia officinalis* (Peony)
- *Podophyllum peltatum* (American Mandrake)
- *Phoradendron flavescens* (Mistletoe)
- *Phytolacca americana* (Pokeweed)
- *Sanguinaria canadensis* (Bloodroot)
- *Solanum dulcamara* (Bittersweet Nightshade)
- *Solanum nigrum* (Deadly Nightshade)
- *Spigelia marilandica* (Pinkroot)
- *Taxus baccata* (Yew)
- *Thuja occidentalis* (Arborvitae)
- *Varonicastrum virginicum* (Black Root)
- *Veratrum viride* (American Hellebore)

Restricted Herbs - Use with Caution and Clear Labeling

- *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (Bearberry)
- *Buxus sempervirens* (Boxwood)
- *Cimicifuga racemosa* (Black Cohosh)
- *Euonymus atropurpureus* (Wahoo)
- Fig Tree Latex
- *Galega officinalis* (Goat's Rue)
- *Hedeoma pulegioides* (American Pennyroyal)
- *Heracleum lanatum* (Masterwort)
- *Ilex aquifolium* (English Holly)
- *Ilex opaca* (White Holly)
- *Ilex vomitoria* (Emetic Holly)
- *Ledum palustre* (Marsh Tea)
- *Leonurus cardiaca* (Motherwort)
- *Lycopodium clavatum* (Club Moss)
- *Melilotus officinalis* (Yellow Sweet Clover)
- *Mentha pulgeium* (European Pennyroyal)
- *Oxalis acetosella* (Wood Sorrel)
- *Rhamnus frangula* (Buckthorn)
- *Ricinus communis* (Castor Bean)
- *Ruta graveolens* (Rue)
- *Sambucus canadensis* (American Elder)
- *Sambucus racemosa* (Red Elder)
- *Sisymbrium alliaria* (Hedge Garlic)
- *Urtica dioica* (Stinging Nettle)
- *Vaccinium Myrtillus* (Bilberry)