



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Sport and Community Development

THE PRIME MINISTER'S BEST VILLAGE TROPHY COMPETITION



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TROPHY COMPETITION

RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES 2024

HANDICRAFT

Updated January 18th, 2024

Handicraft Competition

Rationale: The original Best Village competition started with handicraft. There is a long tradition of handicraft industry development in Trinidad and Tobago and there are many practitioners willing and able to share their talent. This competition is a platform for these many skilled members of our communities and can serve to give them the promotion, cultural confidence and validation they need to become successful commercial artists. This category of Best Village is unique and addresses needs of community craft-persons in strategically specific areas. We wish to bring back the handicraft element as it is the first category to ever be installed and judged in the Best Village Competition.

Description: The Handicraft judges will attend and assess entrants at the Food and Folk Fair on 17th March, 2024 (Date subject to change).

CATEGORIES

Best Overall Display
Best Art: Drawing, Painting, Collage
Best Garment Construction (Clothing and Textile)
Best Leather Craft
Best Indigenous and Ethnic Craft
Best Youth Display
Best Utilitarian Craft Item
Best Decorative Craft Item
Best Craft Made with Recycled/Repurposed Materials

CATEGORY IV: NATIONAL HANDICRAFT

1. Group (A): Decorative Crafts:

Articles which have a primarily decorative function although they could have some utilitarian value as well. The emphasis is on technical excellence and artistic interest. All materials used must be local:

- a) Dolls – Folklore, ethnic, regional, national and carnival dolls in any combination of materials.
- b) Toys, Games and Models Miniature Souvenirs - Articles in various materials such as doll houses, model boats, huts, carved coconut shells, rubber, bamboo, metal, plastics, afro combs, letter openers, etc.
- c) Decorative Plaques, Hangings, Rugs - Macramé, straw, leather, metal, wood-carvings, shell and seed collage, embroidery, painted or fused glass, mosaic, clay, moulded cement, etc., including decorative painting of all kinds.
- d) Leather, Glass, Pottery, Plastics - Creative application and experiment of natural and synthetic materials including applied art - glass painting, gold leaf, painted mirrors, etc.
- e) Weaving, Dyeing, Tie-dye, Batik, Screen Printing and Stencilling - Articles in natural and synthetic fabrics, lamp shades, mats, rugs, tapestries, wall hangings, upholstery, screens, apparel, etc.

This Competition is designed for persons of all ages. Each Council or Group must present a display consisting of items selected from the undermentioned list. The total number of exhibits must not exceed thirty (30) pieces.

2. Group (B) Utilitarian Crafts

Being articles of a mainly utilitarian or functional nature, whether wholly or partially handmade, the emphasis being on design and craftsmanship for example:

- a) Fashion Accessories - Footwear, handbags, hats, belts, gloves, sweaters, head bands, bridal head dresses, jewelry, etc. in a wide range of materials – denim, leather, canvas, straw, synthetics, seeds, etc. in any combination and technique.
- b) Furniture - Small items of skillful joinery made of lathe, wood, chip carving, wrought iron, leather, canvas and cane, with special emphasis on innovative and

original design. Items such as coffee tables, lamp tables, stools, lecterns, upright chairs, trolleys, screens and small bars.

- c) Soft Furnishings - Hammocks, cushions, blinds, screens, table linens, bed linens, kitchen towels, laundry bags, lampshades, plant-hangers, potholders, beaded curtains, etc.
- d) Household Equipment - Utensils, implements, tools, bins, baskets, pots, (pottery), ironing boards, pastry press, spice racks, mirrors, bookstands, plates and cutlery racks, trays, lamps, etc.
- e) Leather Craft - Saddles, travelling bags, satchels, briefcases, maintenance jackets, riding whips, toilet accessories, coasters, etc.
- f) Metal Work - Bins, mailbox, plant stands, mirrors, frames, plant-holders, book stands, racks, trays, wrought-iron, lanterns, brackets and articles of wire, steel rod or mesh, zinc sheet, copper, brass, etc.
- g) Shoe Making - Shoes for children, men or women in any available materials.

4. Group (C) Best Indigenous and Ethnic Craft:

Authentic technique with improvisation. Crab traps, fish pots, cocoa baskets, kites, bird cages, drums, sitars, terra cotta, dholaks, tabla, tassa drums, ritualistic and religious implements and ornaments, sifters, fans, cassava press, etc.

5. Group (D): Best Art:

Drawing, painting and collage.

Notes:

- All works must be original, not from craft kits, pattern books, painting-by-numbers, Japanese Craft and other such sources.
- No article must be submitted which has been in a previous National Handicraft Exhibition.
- Points will be awarded for Functionalism, Craftsmanship, Design and Impact. Not more than thirty (30) items must be exhibited. The Organizing Committee will only take responsibility for the first thirty (30) listed items. Incentives will be given for quality and

skill of craft exhibited.

General Participation

1. Best Overall Display
2. Art: Choice of Drawing/Painting, Collage
3. Clothing and Textile: Best Garment Construction
4. Best Leather Craft
5. Best Youth Display
6. Best Indigenous and Ethnic Craft
7. Best Utilitarian Craft Item
8. Best Decorative Craft Item
9. Best Craft Made with Recycled/Repurposed Materials