

Applied Beadwork - Embroidery

Category Rules: The category includes embroidery entirely of beads, and embroidery containing beads as accent. Beadwork applied to costume should be evaluated in the Applied Beadwork-Costume category.

This category **does not** include loom, brick stitch/peyote/woven beadwork, wire/freeform beadwork, or other non-cloth bound beadwork styles (see: Division IV, Freeform Beadwork), nor does it include larger bead and trade bead jewelry accessory pieces.

Beads should be constructed of materials available in period, such as glass, precious materials and metal. The bead variety should be considered and compared with those available in period in the entrant's documentation.

Pearl, coral, gold and other expensive, rare and precious materials may be substituted for faux, look-a-like varieties. The cost and lack of availability of some materials (such as gold, pearls, coral, etc.) should be considered in judging of entries. The judges should not penalize the Methods & Materials score if reasonable substitutions were made and justified in the documentation.

Documentation (0 to 4 points):

- 0 No documentation provided with entry.
- 1 Minimal information consisting of time, place and style.
- 2 As in #1, plus use of general sources; emphasis on tertiary sources with perhaps one secondary source (ex: use of encyclopedia articles with a possible additional use of a book or article that refers to a period source.).
- 3 As in #2, plus a developed discussion making use of critical references; sources are largely secondary (ex: sources refer to period references; documentation discusses, compares, and contrasts the source's views).
- 4 As in #3, plus explanation of original research/experiment and relation of source material to it. Primary sources, if available, are emphasized (ex: sources used are from the appropriate period for the entry, such as period manuscripts, paintings or artifacts).

Methods and Materials (0 to 4 points):

- 0: Entry is completely modern with no relationship to period elements or practices.
- 1: Use of modern materials and methods to produce a work that would not be accepted in period but either bears some relationship to an authentic work or which might be useful within SCA Culture. Entry is inconsistent to period, location and persona. (ex: some period elements, but doubtful authenticity of materials, colors, technique, design or planned use)
- 2: Use of **both** modern materials and methods to produce a work that looks or feels authentic to the time period, location, culture and economic class for which it was constructed.
- 3: Use of **either** modern materials **or** methods to produce a work that looks or feels authentic to the time period, location, culture and economic class for which it was constructed.
- 4: Use of materials and methods entirely documentable to the period for which it was constructed methods (ex: real pearls, real hide parchment or handwoven cloth, hand spun linen thread used, decoration made using period methods or stitch), or the use of modern materials in a way that does not detract from the appearance and feels appropriate to the persona for whom the item was constructed. Substitutions of modern fabrics and embellishment materials for materials which are no longer readily available will not be penalized so long as an effort has been made to substitute materials with a close appearance and drape to the original.

Scope (0 to 6 points):

Rank the ambition, not the success, of the entry on a scale of 0 to 6 for each of the following elements and average for the total Scope score (Total of element scores divided by 3).

- Complexity of the endeavor (design has a open sections of ground material visible instead of a solid beaded piece, details of smaller elements versus use of simple shapes, etc.)
- Design appropriate to time period (Design is medieval or modern?)
- Extent gone to ensure authenticity (both materials and design, Beads and materials chosen are appropriate for the piece as documented).

Skill (0 to 6 points):

How well is the entry made? Rank the success of the entry on a scale of 0 to 6 points for each of the following elements and average for the total Skill score (Total of element scores divided by 4).

- Complexity of techniques attempted (ex. Concentric lines of beadwork contouring to form objects in the design, giving them depth and detail - like a tree or flowing robes versus straight lines making flat shapes, unless consistent in the sources given.)
- Accuracy of design (straight lines, smooth curves, small details clear & understandable).
- Neatness (absence of overlapping rows, beads and threads, sagging or arching rows, pulled fabric, uneven bead spacing).
- Durability and structure (threads should hold work firmly and feel secure. Absence of loose beads).

Creativity (0 to 4 points):

- 0: Rote-copied item with mistakes added. Use of a commercially available kit.
- 1: Rote-copied item with no innovations or documented knowledge of the range of period style. Use of a commercially available kit.
- 2: Logical combination of period elements with some innovation of embellishment or techniques, all logical to the period context of the persona for whom the costume is constructed.
- 3: As in #2, plus much individual interpretation and interpolation logical to the period context of the persona for whom the item is constructed; that is, within the range of possible styles with innovative combinations which appear to fit together.
- 4: As in #3, plus each element/layer shows such consideration and choice. Elements work together in a cohesive fashion that is specific to the needs of the persona for whom the item is constructed.

Judge's Observations (0 to 6 points):

Rank the entry as a whole. How well do all the separately judged parts fit together? The entry's overall effect is judged in this section. This is the only section of the Criteria where the judge may allow her/his personality, private opinions and personal preferences to influence scoring.

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