

Calligraphy

Category Rules: The category includes fine handwriting done with pen, brush or reed when appropriate to the style of calligraphy, on paper or other writing surface. Simulated writing, such as embroidery, etching or inlaying, should be dealt with under the appropriate category.

Documentation (0 to 4 points):

Definitions for this category:

Primary source - actual selection of calligraphy, viewed in a museum or private collection (with pictures provided that were taken at the time of viewing) or physically on the table. The first, not subordinate to or derived from something else; original; independent; often with the connotation having something else derived from, or dependent on, it; fundamental, radical

Secondary source – a picture from a book or online resource of a period piece of calligraphy. Having only a derived authority; acting under the direction of another, subordinate. Belonging to the secondary order in a series related by successive derivation, causation, or dependence; derived from, based on, or dependent on something else which is primary; not original, derivative.

Tertiary source – a painting of someone doing calligraphy; a description of a type of calligraphy by someone who is not the calligrapher. Of, in, or belonging to the third order, rank, degree, class, or category; third; completely dependant on something which is secondary in nature.

0: No documentation provided with entry.

1: Minimal information consisting of time, place and style.

2: As in #1, plus use of general sources; reliance 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.

2: Use of **both** modern materials **and** methods to produce a work that looks or feels authentic to the time period it purports to be.

3: Use of period materials **or** methods to produce a work that looks or feels authentic to the time period it purports to be.

4: Use of totally authentic materials and methods (ex: derivation/interpretation of letter forms from period manuscripts or facsimiles, use or modification of period recipes for ink, use of vellum or parchment, etc.).

Scope (0 to 6 points): There are six elements relevant to judging Scope. Rank the ambition, **not** the success, of the entry on a scale of 0 to 6 for **each** of the following elements. If the element does not apply, do not score the piece in that area – for example, if there are no embellishments, do not score the area and do not give the entry a zero for that element; it is simply not scored. Calculate the average for the total Scope score by taking the sum of the element scores and divide by the number of elements pertinent to the entry—ie, if there is no score for embellishments because the piece does not have any, but contains the other five elements, the scores should be divided by 5. This is the score for scope.

- Difficulty of script (s): account for number of strokes, changes in pen angle, number of special letter forms and/or ligatures, foreign scripts. Foreign scripts are scripts that do not use the Roman alphabet, such as: Cyrillic, Arabic, and Hebrew.
- Embellishment (not including illumination).

- Variety of elements used.
- Scale of undertaking (scroll, book, etc.).
- Effort made to ensure authenticity of techniques used (for example: were all letters made with pen or were some pen or were they outlined with modern draft pen and then filled in with brush? Is this in keeping with calligraphic practice for that hand from that time and place?).
- Type of pen or stylus used. A cartridge pen should score lower than a reed pen, for example.

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 5).

- Letter forms.
- Control of medium.
- Letter/word spacing and evenness, as appropriate to period, style and place. For example, if the entrant has a primary source on the table and the primary source is lacking in evenness and has what the modern eye considers spacing issues, the entry should follow the primary source, not the modern conception.
- Execution of capitals.
- General proportioning (interrelation of scripts, margins, etc.), as appropriate to period, style and place. For example, if the entrant has a primary source on the table and the primary source has what the modern eye considers lopsided proportioning; the entry should follow the primary source, not the modern conception.

Creativity (0 to 4 points):

0: Standard style with no innovations.

1: Logical combination of elements with some innovation or embellishment or techniques, all logical to period context.

2: Logical combination of elements with more innovation or embellishment or techniques, all logical to period context.

3: Same as #2, plus a great deal of individual interpretation and interpolation logical to period.

4: Same as #3, plus each element is logically innovative to itself. Elements work together in a cohesive fashion.

Judge's Observations (0 to 6 points): Comments from the judge are required, if there are no comments, this score will be disregarded and not counted toward the final score of the entrant. The entrant's score will then be adjusted to fit a scale for placement (1st, 2nd, etc.) without this mark.

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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