

# HOW TO BECOME A SPANISH MARKET ARTIST

## *The Spanish Colonial Arts Society Guidelines for Traditional Spanish Market and Winter Market*

The Spanish Colonial Arts Society (Society) was founded in 1926 with the mission to “collect, preserve, and exhibit the Spanish Colonial art of New Mexico and beyond, and educate the public about its related cultures and living traditions.” One of the programs inspired by this mission is the annual Traditional Spanish Market (Market) held the last full weekend of July each year. The Summer Market is the oldest and largest juried Spanish Market in the United States and it, along with the Winter Market, helps to maintain, promote and educate the public about the traditional Hispanic art forms of New Mexico and southern Colorado.

The Market artists in their respective categories, in conjunction with the Society, have developed a set of Guidelines to ensure quality and fidelity to the spirit of the Spanish Colonial traditional art of New Mexico and southern Colorado. Further, all artists must follow these Guidelines relative to their respective art forms and are encouraged to educate themselves about the culture, language i.e. artistic terminology, vocabulary, iconography, tools and history of these artistic traditions. The Museum of Spanish Colonial Art provides resources to juried Market artists by opening its library and archival collections to further the knowledge of the Hispanic traditions and beyond.

This unique Market is one in which artists take pride in their hand-made artwork and maintain the highest quality of craftsmanship and design. Artists shall not imitate or duplicate copyrighted pieces, nor copy the unique style of other artists. Artists must agree to abide by the requirements laid out in the Market Contract they sign as part of their application process for Market. Artists who do not participate in Summer Market for two years running are moved to an inactive status and must re-jury if they wish to participate in future Markets.

### **Requirements to Participate in Market:**

Artists wishing to participate in the Market must:

- 1) document their lineage of being at least ¼ Hispanic heritage and having generational roots in New Mexico or Southern Colorado;
- 2) **provide 3 (three) pieces in each category** they wish to be juried into at the specified time and place set by the Society. These pieces must adhere to the Guidelines and show a faithful adherence to Hispanic artistic tradition in methods and materials, techniques, subject matter and iconography. No portfolios or digital images will be accepted in lieu of a piece of artwork.
- 3) if accepted into the Market, each artist is required to be re-juried every five years to ensure the highest quality and consistency in following the guidelines;

Youth artists must meet the following requirements to participate in Summer Youth Market:

- document their lineage of being at least ¼ Hispanic and having generational roots in New Mexico or Southern Colorado;

- be between the ages of 7 and 18 years of age at the time of Market;
- must be mentored by a participating adult Spanish Market artist working in the same art category;
- must adhere to all the same artistic Guidelines as the adult Market artists.
- must apply to and be registered with the Director of Spanish Market to be on the roster for information pertaining to Market and Market events

**Current Market Categories:**

Colcha Embroidery

Copper Engraving

Furniture and Furnishings

Gesso Reliefs

Hide Paintings

Ironwork

Painted Bultos

    Bultos en Nicho

Painted Reliefs

Pottery

Precious Metals

Retablos

    Altarscreens

Revival Arts

    Leatherwork/Rawhide

    Bone Carving

    Ramilletes

    Basketry

Straw Appliqué

Tinwork

Unpainted Bultos

    Bultos en Nicho

Unpainted Relief Panels

Weavings

Woodcarving

Innovations Within Tradition

Guidelines for each category are available from the Director of Spanish Market upon request by e-mail to [market@spanishcolonial.org](mailto:market@spanishcolonial.org) or by phone 505-982-2226 X 111.

*(Revised 6/14)*