

# **MID-CITIES STAMP CLUB EXPO, EXHIBITOR RULES AND REGULATIONS**

## **1. ELIGIBILITY**

- A. Exhibiting at the Mid-Cities Stamp EXPO is open to all collectors regardless of club affiliation or residence. Exhibits having previously won a Grand Award at this show are ineligible to compete for the Grand Award in subsequent Mid-Cities Stamp Shows. Exception: Previous Grand Award exhibits may be entered if 50% or more of the material is new to the exhibit and this material has not been shown at a Mid-Cities Stamp EXPO before.
- B. Each exhibit must be the bona-fide property of the exhibitor and may not contain any material which is being offered for resale by a philatelic dealer. All work shown in the exhibit shall represent the owner's sole efforts. Material with dual or corporate ownership will be respectfully declined.
- C. Any counterfeit and/or bogus material must be clearly identified as such.
- D. Anonymous exhibits may be accepted. Other exhibitors will be listed by name, if wanted, by nom de plume.
- E. Mini-exhibits (One or Four-Page entries at \$1 each) must be developed specifically for that type of composition and are open for exhibiting to the general public.

## **2. CLASSIFICATIONS**

- A. Exhibits shall be divided into multi-frame, display, one frame and youth divisions. Exhibits shall be further divided into classifications primarily for the convenience of set-up and viewing by the public. Classifications shall not affect the criteria used in evaluating exhibit for general awards.
- B. Exhibitors may enter as many classifications as desired, subject to the frame limits in Rule 4, but a separate entry form is required for each exhibit.
- C. The Jury Panel or Exhibit's Chair may reclassify exhibits that are in their opinions not entered in the proper class.
- D. One and 4-page exhibits will be segregated from 1 frame or multi-frame exhibits, but are not divided into further classifications and require a separate entry form for Mini-Exhibits.

## **3. ENTRY**

- A. Applications for entry of full frame exhibits must be made on the OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM or facsimile with appropriate ENTRY FEES PAID AT THE TIME OF THE APPLICATION. One clear copy of the exhibit title page should be enclosed. If it is not ready at the time of entry, it must be sent to arrive before October 12. We strongly recommend a separate SYNOPSIS be sent in one copy to better assist judges in evaluating exhibits. (If you are unsure about a Synopsis, contact the Exhibits' Chair for additional information).
- B. Entries should be mailed by October 8th and will be accepted through October 12th. Exhibits not previously shown at MCSC will be given priority in being accepted. We have only 60 frames available. Previously shown entries will be considered based on dates received. Entries received thereafter may be accepted on a space-available basis.
- C. Notice of acceptance (or on standby if previously displayed) will be sent to exhibitors. No exhibits are to be forwarded until such notice has been received.
- D. The Exhibit's Chair reserves the right to reject any entry before the opening of the exhibition and to return the entry forms with the related fees.
- E. Failure to exhibit after notification of acceptance may result in forfeiture of all entry fees. The Exhibit's Chair may override this rule under certain circumstances that were not the fault of the exhibitor.
- F. Non-competitive exhibits may be accepted only by invitation.

## **4. FRAMES AND FEES**

- A. Each frame accommodates 16 pages of 8 ½ x 11 size or 12 pages of 11 ½ x 11 inch width.
- B. Modular or oversized poster displays (frame dimensions) may be accepted from exhibitors who have made prior arrangements with Exhibit's Chair and who deliver & pick up their own exhibits in person or by their agent.
- C. Each page of an exhibit shall be numbered consecutively and bear the exhibitor's name on the back of the page.
- D. Enclosure of each page in a transparent sheet protector is highly recommended.
- E. Each exhibitor is limited to a total quantity of 10 frames for all exhibits entered.
- F. (Adults) Entry fees are \$6.00 per frame whether one frame or multi-frame exhibits are entered.
- G. (Youth – ages 18 and younger) The first two frames of exhibits are free. Subsequent frames are \$3.00 each.
- H. All fees are payable to the Mid-Cities Stamp Club and must be submitted with the application entry. Send payment to Mid-Cities Stamp Club, c/o Ray E. Cartier, 2509 Buffalo Dr, Arlington, TX 76013-1209..

## **5. DELIVERY OF EXHIBITS**

A. Exhibitors shall assume all responsibility for getting their exhibits to the Exhibition Hall whether by mail or package service or by personal hand delivery.

B. Personally delivered exhibits will be mounted by their owner or their designated agent at the Grapevine Convention Center on Thursday between 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm. With prior permission of the Exhibit's Chair, one or two exhibits may be approved to be mounted on Friday between 8:15 am and 9:15 am, but must be finished by 9:45 am.

C. Mailed exhibits should arrive no later than noon on Wednesday before the show and should be insured and/or registered via U.S. Postal Service or FEDEX or UPS and addressed to Mid-Cities Stamp Club, c/o Ray E. Cartier, 2509 Buffalo Dr., Arlington, TX 76013-1209.. Please package your exhibit for shipping so that the same packaging materials can be reused for return.

## **6.. REMOVAL OF EXHIBITS**

A. No exhibit, nor any part thereof, shall be removed from the Exhibition Hall prior to the close of the show at 4:00 pm on Saturday. However, rarely the Exhibit's Chair may make an exception for exceptional circumstances.

B. Exhibitors desiring to remove their exhibit in person, or through an agent, must provide authorization on the entry form. The exhibitor or the agent may then remove the exhibit only on proof of identity and signing the release form.

C. Exhibitors desiring return of exhibits must provide a sufficient provision for return postage via Priority Expedited Mail, FEDEX or UPS. (Use of Parcel Post is not recommended).

## **7.. INSURANCE, LIABILITY AND SECURITY**

A. Insurance of the exhibits is the responsibility of the exhibitors.

B. All reasonable care will be taken to safeguard each exhibit; however, neither the MID-CITIES STAMP CLUB, the GRAPEVINE CONVENTION CENTER nor any officer, member, employee, agent or associated group of the same, shall be liable for loss of, or damage to, any exhibit material arising from any cause or reason whatsoever.

C. Security service will be provided from 9:00 pm on Thursday to 8:00 pm Saturday.

## **8. AWARDS**

A. The best and second best multi-frame exhibits, as well as the best and second best single-frame exhibits, will receive the Grand and the Reserve Grand Award respectively. Special awards will be made available for the best exhibits in the Multi-Frame, One-Frame and Youth divisions. Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze and Bronze Awards will be presented on an open-show basis. Certificates of Participation will be given to the remaining exhibits.

B. A number of philatelic societies will be offering special awards which may be subject to certain requirement limiting their availability. Mini-exhibits will have cash awards. The TSDA Award will be announced at 3:00 pm on Saturday. All the other awards will be presented at an Awards Dinner at 7:00-9:00 pm Friday.

## **9. JUDGING**

A. A jury panel of American Philatelic Society accredited judges will evaluate exhibits according to accepted standards of the American Philatelic Society. The panel will make decisions by deliberating and consulting among themselves.

B. The Title Page you submit may be preliminary and may be changed by the exhibitor in the final exhibit. Neither the preliminary Title Page nor the Synopsis will be considered by the judges in making their decisions.

C. The criteria of the sponsoring groups will be considered when evaluating exhibits for special awards.

D. Specific criteria will be used to evaluate exhibits entered in the Youth and One-Frame exhibits.

E. No award shall be made if, in the opinion of the jury panel, a particular exhibit lacks sufficient merit.

F. The decisions of the jury panel will be final and no appeals will be considered by the Mid-Cities Stamp Club sponsors.

G. Mini-exhibits will not be judged according to APS standards.

## **10. RULING AUTHORITY**

All questions not covered by these rules and regulations will be decided by the Exhibit's Chair, whose decision is final.

## **11. ACCEPTANCE**

The exhibitor's signature on the OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM signifies acceptance of these rules.

## **12. IMPORTANT DATES**

October 12, 2021 .....Closing Date for acceptance of entry form, fee, title page and synopsis.

October 22, 2021 .....Latest date for receipt of revisions to title page and synopsis.

November 3, 2021 ..... Earliest date for mail-in exhibits to arrive.

November 9, 2021 ..... Latest date for mailed-in exhibits to arrive.

November 11 & 12, 2021 Exhibit mounting: exhibitors mounting their own exhibits may do so between 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm Thursday and 8:15 am and 9:45 am Friday.

November 12, 2021 ..... EXPO Opens at 10:00 am.

November 12, 2021 ..... EXPO Awards Banquet 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Tickets may be purchased on or before Nov. 5.

November 13, 2021 .....EXPO Opens at 10:00 AM and closes at 4:00 PM