

NMWS Exhibition Framing Requirements

Framed art work entered in the NMWS Exhibitions must meet professional, gallery-quality standards. Paintings must be framed in metal or wood, matted in white or off-white (outer mats). Thin colored liners (inner mats) of 1/4" or less, are acceptable. Plexiglas must be used on all water-soluble works and non-varnished works. Mats must be clean, protected by Plexiglas, and have no debris between the Plexiglas and the mat.

Size: Minimum image size is 80 square inches. Maximum image size is 30" x 38".

Wire: The hanging wires must be firmly attached to sides of frame, of heavyweight strength, and peak at 3-1/2" below the top of the frame. Use of coated wire is recommended.

Backs of paintings must be neatly finished.

Backs of paintings in wood frames should be finished/sealed with clean paper dust covers, without rips, mars or writing. Cradled paintings with hanging eyelets and wires mounted entirely inside the back are exempt from dust covers.

Backs of paintings in metal frames may be: *(your choice)*

a) finished/sealed with clean, unmarked paper dust covers, without rips, using double-sided tape (no masking tape),

OR

b) finished/sealed with white artists' tape, covering the gap between foam core and frame, while neatly hiding exposed staples, clips, brads, or nails. The visible foam core should be otherwise clean, unmarked, and without ragged edges;

OR

c) cut and insert a piece of clean, unmarked foam core, without ragged edges, so that it fits **SNUGLY** into the back of your painting, filling the space, hiding all staples, clips, brads or nails. The back of the foam core should be flush (even) with the back of the metal frame. Depending on the style of the metal frame, you may need to slightly notch the foam

core to accommodate the hanging wire. The "filler" foam core can be adhered to the foam core back of the actual painting (inside and not visible) with double sided tape or glue, so the added foam core doesn't fall out.

***If the only foam core you have available at present is marred, has writing on it or is otherwise dented or disfigured, then you may wrap the foam core in brown paper, (like wrapping a gift) so that the visible foam core is completely covered and the paper wraps around it smoothly, with neat edges and corners. The foam core & paper covering should fit securely in the space in the back of your painting hiding hardware, except the hanging wire. Recommended, but not required at present, is to then use wide (2" or wider) artists' tape or brown paper tape, (no masking tape) with good adhesive, to "bridge the gap" between the back of the metal frame and the foam core, (covered with paper or not) to seal the "filler" foam core in place and provide a smoothly sealed painting back.

Please see the accompanying photos of "acceptable" vs. "unacceptable" examples of framing.

IF YOU ARE UNSURE - PLEASE **ASK** THE EXHIBITION CHAIR

Tina Stallard - 505-897-9221 or 505-385-0432, tmstallard@comcast.net

Labels: Will be provided for you and will contain your name, phone number, title, price, medium and will be placed on the back of each painting at the time of check-in. Your address will be omitted to preserve privacy.

No name plaques or other identification is allowed on the front of frames.

Repair Fees: If the wire or frame needs to be adjusted or repaired after delivery to the venue, there will be a minimum \$5 charge for repair.

Paintings not meeting these framing requirements will not be hung in the NMWS Exhibits.