
WHAT IS A MASTERWORK?

A masterwork is an arts project that shows the artisan has "mastered" the creation and history of that particular art form. The masterwork entry shall prove a successful quest for knowledge and skill in the arts.

WHAT IS A MASTERWORK PROJECT?

A masterwork project is where an artisan joins with several judges, and they work together on the project. The artisan does all the work and the research, but the judges can point out improvements along the way. At the end of the project, it should be awarded a masterwork.

IS A PROJECT THE ONLY WAY TO GET A MASTERWORK?

No. If the judges see an entry that is exemplary, they can award a spontaneous Masterwork.

HOW DO I GET A SPONTANEOUS MASTERWORK?

You enter a project in a tournament and it meets all the requirements of a masterwork (see the Arts Manual). The score is at least 30, and the judges all agree it meets the criteria of a masterwork.

WHAT IF THE ENTRY IS PRETTY SIMPLE, BUT IT'S DONE REALLY WELL?

A masterwork shows mastery of the art form. It needs to be fairly complex in order to demonstrate that mastery.

CAN I USE SUBSTITUTIONS AND STILL GET A MASTERWORK?

Yes. You should use as many period ingredients, materials, and methods as possible. But substitutions are allowed - just be sure you understand the original materials and techniques.

DO I NEED BETTER DOCUMENTATION FOR A MASTERWORK?

Yes. A masterwork requires at least three primary sources, where a regular entry does not.

WHAT IS A PRIMARY SOURCE?

A primary source could be an untranslated publication from the period. Or it could be a photograph or photocopy of an actual publication, manuscript, quote, item or picture from the period. The word "primary" means it is firsthand knowledge, not something that is secondhand, or even thirdhand.

DOES MY ENTRY HAVE TO BE PERFECT?

Not at all. This is not a project that is perfect - perfection is NOT what the judges are looking for. A masterwork is judged as excellent artisan-level work.

IS A MASTERWORK ALSO A TOURNEY WIN?

Yes.

WHAT IS A MASTERPIECE?

A masterpiece shows the highest level of competency of the art or science. A masterpiece is to be considered equivalent or better than a masterwork for determining knighthood milestones.

WHAT GOOD IS A MASTERPIECE?

Right now, it is only a way for the judges to acknowledge an entry that is beyond excellent. It is good only for bragging rights.

RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION:

ARTS AND SCIENCES MANUAL, 2002

ARTS JUDGING MANUAL, 2002