

Frequently Asked Questions



We're all getting ready for this year's OHCG Virtual Annual, **Creativity - the thread that binds**, on **April 17!** There's lots going on, and you probably have many questions. Virtual conferences are new to all of us, so we've started a Frequently Asked Questions page on the OHCG website. This document is a work in progress, as we learn more about this virtual world, so expect frequent updates!

ZOOM

Are there rules of conduct for Zoom Classes and Workshops?

Yes! Here's a [link to a newly created document](#) from the Teacher's Branch, outlining best practices that benefit both students and teachers in a classroom setting. Make sure you are familiar with them before your first Zoom class.

What equipment do I need to take a Zoom Class?

You'll need to have an internet connection with a computer, laptop, tablet, iPad or smartphone. Most of those will come with a camera/webcam, speakers and microphone built in, tho some older computers may have them as separate components. You'll need to be able to get to [zoom.com](https://zoom.us), and/or download the zoom app. More information on getting started with Zoom can be found in Robin Whitford's newsletter article [here](#), or, sign up for our Intro to Zoom class with Jennifer Curran, taking place in March.

Do I need a camera/webcam & microphone to participate in Zoom?

You need to have a camera/webcam and microphone to take part in a Zoom class or workshop. They are important components of the classroom experience!

You DO NOT, however, need a camera/webcam or microphone to participate in the virtual Annual on April 17! This is because the Annual will be a presentation with videos you can watch, much like a television show or movie. This will also be a bonus for those folks reluctant to participate in Zoom as it's hard to figure out who is speaking when there are many participants on the screen. The Annual will appear on your screen with a single image at a time, so it will be clear who is talking at all times!

My computer/laptop/iPad/phone screen is so small! Is there any way I can view the Virtual Annual on a larger screen?

Go BIG! If you have purchased a TV in the past few years, chances are you can connect your laptop/iPad to it and stream internet content....which means that you could be watching the Annual on a big screen TV. Just think of the wonderful display of projects appearing on your TV instead of your laptop or iPad! Check in with the techie in your life to see if this is a possibility for you!

Who will get a Zoom link to the virtual annual conference?

All 2021 members who supply an email address to the OHCG with their membership renewal will receive a link to the virtual annual conference sometime in mid April.

Frequently Asked Questions

Judged & Displayed Projects

I've heard a lot about this display of projects that will be at the virtual annual, but what exactly will it look like?

Our very own Image Advisor, Leslie Knight, has provided us with a sample, using images from the 2019 Annual, Birds of a Feather. You'll be seeing a video of each project, along with info on each creator. [Check it out here](#) (look for the video).

Why can't I just wait until we have our next in-person annual conference to show my rugs?

You're welcome to hold off showing your projects until we can meet in person, but you should know that the 2022 Annual Conference is expected to be a hybrid Virtual Conference. The display & judging of projects will be via video, the same as we are doing for the 2021 Annual. The effort required to hold an in-person conference takes a considerable amount of time and effort to plan, and we need to be sure that pandemic conditions are safe enough before committing to such an endeavour.

My branch isn't doing a display of projects, but I have a rug I want to show. How can I do that?

You're in luck! The Georgetown Branch has graciously offered to help out folks wanting to display rugs when their own branches have opted to not participate. For further information, please contact Shirley Reed at bruce_shirl@hotmail.com. (And a big thank you to Georgetown!)

How do I enter a project in the Beginner category?

You should contact the teacher of your project. The teacher will enter it via the Teacher's Branch.

With the cancellation of the 2020 Annual my piece was shown in the 2020 Newsletter instead. Can I enter it in the 2021 Annual?

Yes! Please do!

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PHOTOGRAPHY

Do I need special camera equipment to take photos of my projects for Display and Judging?

No! Most recent (e.g. in the last 5 years) smart phones will take photos that will meet the quality required for display and judging at the annual. You don't need a special camera or special skills!

What are the requirements for photos submitted for Display and Judging of projects?

Photos must be at least 1 MB (megabyte) in size and in jpg, tif or png format.

As indicated above, most smart phones can produce photos of this quality. Go to the [OHCG Annual webpage](#) for more details regarding Judged and Displayed projects.

Are there any guidelines for taking photos for Display and Judging?

- Use natural light if possible: outdoors on a cloudy day is good as there are minimal shadows affecting your photo
- Don't crop the photos of your projects if at all possible. This will ensure they are as large as can be.
- Place your projects on a neutral surface to photograph them - a white sheet or black background are good choices. There should be a minimal amount of background included in your photos, but keeping it neutral means the colours in the project remain true.
- Try to take the photo looking directly at the project. Hang it on a wall or stand directly over it if placed on the floor. A ladder could be a helpful tool here. The key is to avoid your project looking like a trapezoid (unless, of course it IS a trapezoid!).
- Check out Rug Hooking Magazine. They did a 2-issue feature on photography best practices in 2019. Also, here's [an article from Deanne Fitzpatrick's blog](#) with a few more tips.

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I need to send a photo of the back of my project for judging, but it's a footstool/bag/pillow/framed item and the back is hidden. Does that mean I can't enter it for judging?

You may enter projects, even if the back is covered due to the design of the item. Here's the explanation from our Judging Committee:

The back of the rug should be as pleasing to the eye as the front. A covered back does not preclude you from entering such an item. Members can see the criteria judges will be using on the OHCG judges score sheets.

Click [here](#) for the Judges Scoresheet, and [here](#) for the Alternative Fibres and Techniques Judges Scoresheet.