

2024 COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

By proceeding with the entry form, entrants agree to abide by the rules of the AGTA Spectrum & Cutting Edge Awards competition and the final decision of the judges.

In submitting an entry for consideration, entrants agree to hold the American Gem Trade Association (AGTA), its officers and directors, its staff and employees, its advertising and publicity agencies, and its members harmless from all claims, litigation, and other legal proceedings. The entrants understand that AGTA will be responsible only for the replacement value of the material and labor, payable in the event of a loss, theft, or damage of any entry while in the possession of AGTA. While in possession, the entrant understands that AGTA insures the entry against loss, damage or theft, whether occasioned by negligence or not. Entrants also understand that AGTA will take every reasonable precaution to ensure the safety and security of jewelry and gemstones submitted for judging.

Entries that arrive after the entry deadline will not be accepted unless prior arrangements have been made. International entries (those outside the U.S. and Canada) will not be accepted.

Entries that do not meet these rules of entry will be disqualified. Disqualified entries will be returned to the entrant without being judged.

If an entry is found to have damage upon receipt, the entry will be shipped back to the entrant for repair and resubmission. AGTA is not responsible for entries that are damaged during the shipping process. If this occurs, please contact your shipper for their damage policy.

The AGTA Cutting Edge Awards portion of the competition exists to honor creativity and excellence among lapidary artists; hence this portion is open only to gemstone materials of natural origin.

In the AGTA Spectrum Awards portion of the competition, gemstone jewelry entered in the competition must utilize natural colored gemstones or cultured pearls. Entries may use enhanced colored gemstones or cultured pearls and diamonds of any color (enhanced or natural). Entrants acknowledge, however, that the competition exists for the purpose of promoting natural colored gemstones and cultured pearls, and that the judges will consider the requisite use of these gemstones in comparison to diamonds in the selection of winners. Jewelry suites will be accepted individually requiring a separate entry fee per piece.

Assembled stones and stones of man-made origin are not eligible for the competition.

All jewelry designs must be original.

Entrants agree to clearly indicate, to the best of their knowledge, gemstone enhancement information for all gemstones or gemstone jewelry entered in the competition. Gemstones so commonly

enhanced that they are considered ubiquitous in the trade (such as the heating of ruby or sapphire) will be assumed to be treated, unless otherwise noted by the entrant. If the entry form indicates an untreated gemstone where this is rare or unusual, and/or a specific country of origin, the entry must be accompanied by a laboratory report verifying this. Entrants unfamiliar with common gemstone enhancements can view [the AGTA Gemstone Information Manual at this link](#).

Piece Exposure – social media & print & other contests. If the piece has been previously submitted to other competitions, published in a print publication, or has been on social media, its eligibility is subject to exclusion.

For the purposes of publicity, the entrant and the collaborators will be granted credit. Only one trophy will be awarded per entry regardless of the number of people involved. Please complete the entry form carefully, no changes to the information on this form will be accepted or allowed after the conclusion of judging.

By entering this competition, entrants acknowledge and agree that, although the competition is intended to honor creativity and excellence among lapidary artists, designers and manufacturers, neither the judging of the entries nor the designation of winners constitutes or shall be deemed or construed to be a determination by AGTA, the AGTA Spectrum & Cutting Edge Awards competition or the judges thereof that the design, cut, composition or appearance of any entry was originally developed or created by the entrant thereof.

Because winning entries historically have received substantial publicity, entrants must agree to consign winning entries to AGTA for the purpose of photography, display, and promotion.

Winning entries may be displayed at the AGTA GemFair Tucson.

AGTA reserves the right to photograph all gemstones and jewelry submitted for judging in the competition for promotional use without payment or royalty to the entrant for such use.

Entrants grant AGTA competition judges the right to make corrections or adjustments to an entry form, if the judges believe the entry would be better suited to win in another category. Judges also reserve the right to refrain from awarding a winner in categories where the number or nature of entries does not warrant recognition, in their opinion.

At the discretion of the judges, up to three winners in each category or division will be awarded trophies. Additionally, one "Best Use of Pearls", "Best of Show" and one "Best Use of Color" trophy will be awarded. Manufacturing Honors (if any) trophies can be awarded in every category. Editors' Choice trophy will be awarded. Honorable mentions (if any) will receive a certificate. The Buyers' Choice trophy will be selected at AGTA GemFair Tucson.

A "Best of Single Entries" trophy will be awarded to both AGTA Spectrum Awards (finished jewelry) and AGTA Cutting Edge Awards (loose gemstones).

The Alfie Norville Women in Excellence Award (ANW) sponsored by Alan Norville & family, is open to women entering any of the Spectrum categories. One award will be given in each Spectrum category. These entries will be judged separately.

For the Platinum Honors sponsored by PGI, each Spectrum category will be awarded one Platinum Honors award, along with one "Best Use of Platinum and Color" and one "Best Use of a Platinum Crown." For a piece to be eligible in this division, the platinum must meet ISO standards (900 or 950) and must comprise at least 90 percent of the metal used. All entries meeting these qualifications will be judged separately in the Platinum Honors division.

- Judging will take place in October.
- Winners will be notified by telephone and/or email after the conclusion of the competition.
- Please note that AGTA cannot guarantee the return of your original packaging materials, custom boxes, or bags.

Shipping

Shipping to the competition is the responsibility of entrant.

AGTA will pay the return shipping, via FedEx, for all entries with a replacement value under \$70,000, unless the entrant is self-insuring.

Entrants that submit pieces with a replacement value over \$70,000 will be responsible return shipping.

Any fees AGTA incurs from international shipments will be billed back to the entrant.

Insurance

- Entries valued at \$15,999 or less will not require additional insurance fees.
- Entries valued at \$16,000 and up will require insurance fees of \$2.50 per \$1000 of the replacement cost value.
- Entries with a replacement cost over \$250,000 are responsible for providing their own insurance coverage.
- AGTA is not responsible for any loss in excess of \$250,000 replacement cost.

Replacement cost = labor + cost of materials in like quality or kind.

Entry and insurance fees must accompany the item(s) entered in the competition and be drawn on a U.S. bank. Fees are in U.S. dollars and may be paid by check, Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. AGTA strongly recommends that the entrant should retain a copy of entry forms and rules.

AGTA is not responsible for any duties or fees associated with shipments from Canada. Fees charged by customers are the responsibility of the entrant.

Please ship all packages to:

AGTA
Attn: Marketing
3030 LBJ Freeway, Suite 840
Dallas, TX 75234

All Canadian shipments must be accompanied by a NAFTA form (B232) or it will be refused.

IMPORTANT SHIPMENT INFORMATION

DO NOT USE the words *gems* or *jewelry* in your shipping label