

Dear Artist:

Thank you for your interest in having your handmade merchandise for sale in the Mint Museum Shops. It's wonderful that you have developed a talent for creating something special. I'm often looking for new merchandise for our shops and hope that your work is just what the shops need.

The Mint Museum

The Mint Museum was founded in 1936 as the first art museum in North Carolina.

The Mint Museum Shop was begun in 1958 to raise funds for the Museum and that is still our mission today. On October 1, 2010, the Museum opened a new location in Charlotte's Center City - Mint Museum Uptown Contemporary and American works from the Mint Museum of Art and the entire Mint Museum of Craft + Design collection are showcased in Mint Museum Uptown. Mint Museum Randolph focus on European Art, costumes, decorative arts and the Spanish colonial and Pre-Columbian collections. Both Mint Museum Uptown and Mint Museum Randolph have a Museum Shop which reflects the collections and exhibitions of that location. For more information about the museum, its collections and exhibitions, please visit our website, www.mintmuseum.org.

Merchandise Needs

Be aware that we are a museum shop, not an art gallery. Our merchandise needs to compliment our permanent collections and special exhibitions. Along with crafts, we sell a wide variety of art-related merchandise.

Please realize that if I say "no" to what you've made, it's not personal. My not selecting your work has nothing to do with the quality of your work. Often absolutely beautiful things just don't fit what the shops need, or we have plenty of inventory or the shops already have an artist doing something similar. Your work may not be appropriate now, but could be in the future. This region is recognized for its crafts and our shops reflect that tradition. We're known for specializing in "Crafts of the Carolinas." If you live outside of North or South Carolina, there is a good chance that not choose your merchandise.

Assessing Your Merchandise

- If you can, stop by to see our shops to see what we sell.
- Send me information by mail. This should include photographs with sizes and wholesale prices, a bio and any other pertinent information you think would help me to learn about you and your merchandise.
- Do not just e-mail me and say "look at my stuff on my website." If you a website with the information I need, please take the time to print this out and mail it to me. Having information and images in my hand is the BEST way for me to first see your work. I Like to keep information sent to me, but if you need your photographs back, please let me know.
- You're welcome to call and tell me you're sending information. However, please don't call just to tell me about your merchandise. I'm a visual person and hearing a description just isn't enough.

Orders Placed

- Please deliver the merchandise on the agreed upon date. Often, I'm ordering merchandise to compliment a particular exhibition or doing a major display theme. If you're having trouble and know that the merchandise won't arrive when I requested, please contact me so I can let you know if I can still accept it at a later date.
- If at the time an order is placed, you know right then that you can't get your work to me when I request it, please tell me immediately. I greatly appreciate openness and honesty.
- The shops do not accept COD packages nor will checks be written if you deliver the merchandise. Invoices are processed through the business office.

This list of what I ask of you is quite long, so I think it is only fair for me to say what I will do for you:

- Give your art my full consideration. Hopefully you have made an item that will be that that will be a top seller for the shops!
- Order merchandise in a timely matter.
- Pay bills on time. The shops work on a Net 30 system, but we have an excellent reputation for paying quickly.
- Help customers know about you and your art. Using the biography and other information you send, an information card will be written that each customer will receive when purchasing your merchandise.
- Display your art to show it off to its best advantage.

Again, thank you for your interest in The Mint Museum Shops. I can be reached by:

Letter: 2730 Randolph Road, Charlotte, NC, 28207
Phone: 704-337-2038 Fax 704-337-2101
E-mail: sandy.fisher@mintmuseum.org

With highest regards,

Sandy Fisher
Manager and Buyer for Retail Operations