

Borealis Arts & Sciences Judges Rubric



Impression

This covers how the entry is presented to the Judge.

Points	Item	Performance	Research Paper
9-10	Excellent The display is excellent. Not only does it give some context for the object in either construction or period, but it is also artistically pleasing. i.e. As below but may contain several illustrations of the object in period circumstances.	Excellent Totally Engaging. The performance draws the audience into the piece through the performance. i.e. Excellent use of acting to portray the subject matter of the performance. Multiple people may be used to accompany the piece in such a way that the overall whole adds great understanding to the entry. Period costumes may be involved.	Excellent Professional Look: Typed and bound with cover page and table of contents. May contain numerous related pictures.
	Good The display is pleasing to the eye and includes several elements that enhance the relevance of the object. i.e. As below but with other in period objects to give some context for the item.	Good Performed with a good artistic flair. i.e. They portray some of the emotions in the piece through body and facial movements or they have multiple people accompany their piece without overshadowing the main entry. Period costumes may be involved.	Good Semi-Professional look: Typed and bound with a cover page and numerous related pictures.
5-6	Average Presented with a few decorative elements. i.e. As below but may also include some of the tools used in construction.	Average Performed with some attempt at artistic flare. i.e. They smile through the performance, use their body to emphasize main points or they are accompanied through the piece.	Average Typed with a cover page and/or a few pictures.
	Simple Presented with a single decorative accompaniments. i.e. The item may have a picture of the original or a table cloth.	Simple Performed with a minimal amount of expression. i.e. Some facial expression but may appear shy, movement kept to a minimal or a basic accompaniment is used to keep time.	Simple Neatly hand written or typed.
1-2	Basic Presented with no extra decoration or display. i.e. The item on a bare table.	Basic Performed without artistic content. i.e. No facial expressions, movement or outside support.	Basic Difficult to read. Sloppy hand written work.

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Documentation

This covers the research done and submitted for the entry.

Points	Item / Performance	Research Paper
11-12	Excellent As below but either access to several primary sources for examination, or an interview with an expert in the related field.	Excellent Multiple easily accessed and rare sources used as well as interviews with experts in the field and some access to primary manuscripts.
	Good As below but there may be multiple common sources, several rare sources or access to a single primary source for reference purposes.	Good Multiple easily accessed and rare sources as well as either interviews with experts or some access to primary sources.
5-7	Average The documentation includes all 5 Ws. 2 or more common sources may be cited or 1 rare source.	Average Multiple common sources and/ or a few rare sources.
3-4	Simple The documentation covers 3 or 4 of the 5 Ws. 1 or two common sources may be cited.	Simple Two or three easily accessed sources and/ or a single rare source.
1-2	Basic The documentation covers one or two of the 5 Ws. No external sources are cited.	Basic One or two easily accessed sources used to support the main thesis.

Common Source: This is a source that is commonly found or used in the field for the area of study. For example Pleyn Delit for cookery, or Medieval Calligraphy: Its History and Technique for calligraphy would be considered common sources. Common sources may be ones which do not have the highest academic standards.

Rare Source: These books are used by those who do a great deal of research in the field, but these books are hard to come by. They may be out of print, or they may require special orders from a library. Examples of rare sources are Stepping Through Time: Archaeological Footwear from Prehistoric Times Until 1800 for shoemaking or Fashion in the Age of the Black Prince: A Study of the Years 1340-1365 for costuming.

Primary Source: This is when the original medieval source can be examined by the entrant. This may be through a copy of medieval texts on the subject or by examinations of the object used in period.

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Technical Ability

This covers how difficult the project was to manufacture/ complete, and how much skill the entry reveals.

Points	Item	Performance	Research Paper
12-14	Excellent Flawless. Not only technically perfect but beautiful to behold. The craftsperson used multiple techniques very well or has mastered a single technique and everything in the piece is of a high caliber of skill.	Excellent Breathtaking. The quality of the performer's ability is amazing, and it draws the audience to a strong emotional reaction. Professional quality.	Excellent The thesis is clear and the support is very strong. There is a logical progression of points and the ideas developed redefine the topic they are dealing with. This should be published.
	Good The project is almost perfect. The craftsperson shows multiple techniques in its construction with one or two of those techniques surpassing the others or exceptional skill with working in a single technique.	Good The performer's delivery was strong. It may not be perfect, but the overall strength of the performance carries the audience through. No reference notes were needed.	Good The thesis is clear and the support is strong. The writer leads the reader from point to point logically. New ideas on the topic are developed in the text. With some work, this paper could be published.
6-8	Average The project is good, but there may still be a few elements that need to be polished for a good final result.	Average It was adequately performed, nothing was missing or off-key. Used reference notes.	Average The thesis is clear and the support is ok, though it may rely on some leaps of logic. Some new ideas on the topic may be developed in the text.
	Simple The project is finished, but has some aspects which need to be finished off.	Simple A few forgotten pieces or one or two notes off key. It needed more practice. Mostly read from reference papers	Simple The thesis is clear, but the support may be spurious. It has a few intriguing ideas, but they might not be fully developed.
1-2	Basic Roughly done. There is no finish to the project.	Basic Many forgotten sections or totally off key. It needed much more practice. Read from reference papers.	Basic Poorly realized thesis with inadequate support. It brings little new to the topic.

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Authenticity

This covers how medieval or historically accurate the piece is.

Points	Item / Performance	Research Paper
12-14	Excellent Museum Quality. All the materials involved were in period including the tools and techniques used. i.e. The dress as below but using a bone needle and linen thread or a period song with medieval arrangements, themes, sung in the original language with period looking sheet music.	Excellent The paper has a totally specific focus on a specific time or period and the ideas and philosophies of that period. It makes the actions of that period logical and easily understandable.
	9-11	Good All the materials used are in period, and the whole project was made with period techniques though modern tools were used. i.e. The dress as below using modern thread and needles and sewing tools or a period song that deals with medieval arrangements and themes but uses modern sheet music.
6-8		Average Almost all the materials are in period and the method of construction uses some modern elements, but these are hidden or not noticeable by the lay person. i.e. The dress as below made and serged on a sewing machine, but with all the finishing seams hand done or a piece of music that has a period arrangement and themes, but modern lyrics.
	3-5	Simple The materials used are not period and the methods of construction/ presentation are modern but the overall style is definitely medieval. i.e. A poly-cotton 14 th century side less surcoat made and serged on a sewing machine or a piece of music that has a period arrangement, but modern instruments, lyrics and themes.
1-2		Basic The materials used are not period and the methods of construction/ presentation are modern, but the overall style is medievalish. i.e. A poly-cotton t-tunic made and serged on a sewing machine or a piece of music that sounds like it could be medieval but it is lacking any of the defining qualities of the medieval pieces that inspired it.