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Past and present members of the Artisan Committee
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Joy Bell for designing the Apprentice Smocking Sampler

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PURPOSE

The Artisan Program is a self-enrichment program designed to recognize excellence in the field of smocking and the related needle arts as demonstrated through a competency evaluation based on the Smocking Arts Guild of America’s (SAGA) established standards.

STRUCTURE

The areas of study in which a SAGA member may enroll are:
- Smocking
- Fine Hand Sewing
- Fine Machine Sewing
- Embroidery

Each area of study has three levels of increasing difficulty:
- Apprentice (Level I)
- Artisan (Level II)
- Master (Level III)

ENROLLMENT

A. Fees:
   1. Apprentice: $35 (US $40 for non-U.S. Resident)
   2. Artisan: $60 (US $70 for non-U.S. Resident)
   3. Master: $85 (US $95 for non-U.S. Resident)

B. Enrollment is open to any member in good standing of SAGA.

C. There is no limit to the number of areas one may study and no time limit for completion of each level.

D. Each level must be completed prior to enrollment in the next level of the same area of study.

E. Once enrolled in an area of study and level, the required number of Artisan points can be accrued by participating in a number of educational activities.

F. An Artisan participant may apply points that were awarded up to 30 days prior to enrollment.

G. If the participant’s SAGA membership lapses for up to two years, the participant may re-enroll in the program by establishing current SAGA membership and no penalty will apply to maintain previously-acquired points. No credit will be given for points acquired during the lapse in membership.

H. If the participant’s SAGA membership lapses for more than two years, the participant may re-enroll in the program by establishing current SAGA membership and again paying the required Artisan Program enrollment fee(s) to reinstate previously-acquired points. No credit will be given for points acquired during the lapse in membership.

I. Replacement handbooks may be ordered from the Artisan Chair.
ARTISAN POINTS

Artisan Card Procedures

A. Artisan points for eligible activities, as specified in the section Accruing and Recording Artisan Points, must be recorded on the Artisan card. It is the responsibility of the participant to maintain an accurate accounting of all points and proper supporting documentation.

B. SAGA assumes no responsibility for replacement of an Artisan card that is lost or damaged. *It is advised that the participant keep a photocopy of all records.*

C. When submitting the Artisan card for verification of points, a legible photocopy, not the original should be sent. Legible copies of required documentation for the points accrued should also be included when necessary.

D. Write in each column:
   1. Activity: exact class title and/or activity
   2. Location: where or with what group/organization
   3. Date: date attended
   4. Points: number of points awarded or number of hours if unsure of points
   5. Signature: signature of either the teacher or other required or denoted individual or “See Attachment Number ” for other required types of documentation that would accompany the card
   6. Note corresponding number on the top right hand corner of any supporting document
   7. Examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity/Exact Class Title</th>
<th>Location and Function</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Date Completed</th>
<th>*Proof of Participation Signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Stitching with Floss</td>
<td>2020 SAGA Convention Anywhere, USA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4/1/06</td>
<td>Susie Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Advanced Stitching</td>
<td>EGA Correspondence Course</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4/1/06</td>
<td>See Attachment #1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E. Points may continue to be recorded on the Artisan card until the competency evaluation has been successfully passed. After this time, a participant must enroll in another level or area of study within 30 days of class in order to record any additional points.

F. Carry-over points
   1. After completion of a level, the participant must submit a photocopy of that level’s card for final verification to the Artisan Chair.
   2. A final verification of total points on the card will be made.
   3. All points verified above the number required for the completed level may be carried over to the next level or another area of the program.
   4. Verified carry-over points will remain valid unless the participant’s SAGA membership lapses for a period of two years or more.
   5. Carry-over points may be applied to a new area/level at any time with final point verification letter.

G. Transferring Points
   1. Enroll in a new area of study
   2. Points accrued within 30 days are eligible to transfer
   3. Letter from Artisan chair will verify the point transfer
Accruing and Recording Artisan Points

Artisan points may be accrued in a variety of ways. The program currently recognizes the activities for credit listed below. Artisan points are awarded on a one-time basis. SAGA suggests that at least one-half of the Artisan points be accrued through SAGA-related activities. Proper documentation is required to record eligible points on the Artisan Card.

A. Points required
   1. Apprentice: 25 points
   2. Artisan: 30 points
   3. Master: 40 points with an additional five points earned from research article

B. Classes
   1. SAGA-approved classes taken at SAGA national conventions, SAGA chapter meetings/workshops or in retail shops
      1 point / 3 hour class
      To Document: Class title, hours, date and the signature of the teacher are required.
   2. Related classes taken at specialty schools, sewing shops or online, subject to review and approval by the Artisan committee
      1 point / 3 hour class
      To Document: Class information including location, class description, hours, date and the signature of the teacher are required. Online class documentation must also include photos, course material and certificate of participation.
   3. Related classes taught by teachers of related guilds, subject to review and approval by the Artisan committee
      1 point / 3 hour class
      To Document: Class information including location, class description, hours, date and the signature of the teacher are required.
   4. Related classes taught at accredited adult education programs or accredited vocational or technical institutions, subject to review and approval by the Artisan committee
      2 points / course
      To Document: Class information including location, class description, hours, date and the signature of the teacher are required.
   5. Related classes taken at accredited academic institutions, subject to review and approval by the Artisan committee
      2 points / credit hour granted by the institution
      To Document: Class information including location, class description, number of credit hours, date, and proof of completion are required.

C. Correspondence Courses
   1. Completed SAGA Correspondence Course
      2 points / lesson
      To Document: Certificate or letter of completion signed by instructor is required.
   2. Completed correspondence courses of related guilds/organizations
      2 points / lesson
      To Document: Course information including name of the organization, course description, number of lessons, date and the signature of the teacher are required.
Subject to review and approval by the Artisan committee

3. Participation in a SAGA Correspondence Course “Test Group”
   2 points / lesson
   To Document: Copy of letter from Correspondence Course chair verifying participation

D. Publications (Publications must be in journals of related guilds or organizations that are non-profit, educational and with unrestricted membership.)
   1. Publication of educational articles directly related to needle arts in a SAGA publication
      2 points
      To Document: Copy of letter from Publications Chair indicating number of points awarded.
   2. Publication of original design in a SAGA publication
      3 points
      To Document: Copy of letter from Publications Chair to the participant indicating number of points awarded.
   3. Publication of educational articles in journals of related guilds or organizations
      2 points
      To Document: Copy of article from published journal sent to the participant within 30 days of publication.
   4. Publication of original designs in journals of related guilds or organizations.
      3 points
      To Document: Copy of design from published journal sent to the Artisan Chair within 30 days of publication.

E. SAGA Stitches Programs
   1. Author of an approved SAGA Stitches Program
      2 points
      To Document: Copy of the notification of the acceptance of the program by the Education Committee.
   2. Participation in a SAGA Stitches Program “Test Group”
      1 point
      To Document: Copy of letter from SAGA Stitches chair verifying participation.
   3. Participation in a SAGA Stitches Program
      1 point
      To Document: Copy of participation form included with the program.
   4. The leader of SAGA Stitches Program
      2 points
      To Document: Copy of participation form included with the program indicating the role of leader.
   5. Participation in a SAGA Smock-Along Program
      2 points
      To Document: Post a photo of completed project to the leader. Retain a copy of email signed by leader.

F. Kids Can Stitch Programs
   1. Author of an approved Kids Can Stitch Program
      2 points
      To Document: Copy of the notification of the acceptance of the program by the Education Committee.
2. Participation in a Kids Can Stitch “Test Group”
   **1 point**
   *To Document: Copy of letter from Kids Can Stitch chair verifying participation*

3. The leader of a *Kids Can Stitch* Program
   **2 points on a one-time-only basis**
   *To Document: Copy of participation form included with the program indicating the role of the leader*

4. The “helpers” of *Kids Can Stitch* Programs
   **1 point on a one-time-only basis**
   *To Document: Copy of participation form included with the program indicating the role of the helper*

G. Design Shows

1. SAGA Design Show:
   a) Entry into the Design Show – **1 point**
   b) Design winning Best Overall – **5 points**
   c) Awards in the Design Show:
      1) First Place – **5 points**
      2) Second Place – **4 points**
      3) Third Place – **3 points**
      4) Fourth Place – **2 points**
      5) Honorable Mention – **1 point**
   *To Document: Copy of the Design Show certificate is required*

2. Acceptance into a regional or national juried needlework show with an unrestricted call for participation.
   **2 points, regardless of the number of entries accepted**
   *To Document: Copy of call or invitation for entries, or show description, along with acceptance documentation to verify participation. Subject to review and approval by the Artisan committee*

H. Teaching

1. SAGA-approved classes
   **2 points / hour of class time; one-half of the points earned when approved and remainder when class first taught**
   *To Document: Copy of the SAGA approval letter is required for first half of the points and after teaching the class for the first time, a signature verifying class was taught.*

2. SAGA Correspondence Courses
   **2 points / lesson for an individual or group course on a one-time only basis**
   *To Document: Copy of the notification of SAGA acceptance of the course.*

3. Teaching related courses at accredited academic institutions
   **2 points / credit hour granted by the institution on a one-time only basis**
   *To Document: Copy of the course description published by the institution.*

4. Teaching related classes at an accredited adult education program or an accredited vocational/technical institution
   **3 Points / course on a one-time only basis**
VERIFICATION PROCEDURES

A. Once the required points have been recorded, send a copy of the Artisan card and any supporting documents to the Artisan Chair.
B. Artisan Chair will provide:
   1. Verification letter
   2. Packaging instructions
   3. Liability form
   4. Stitch guide form (if required)
   5. Required submission information form for each level/area (if required)
C. Upon receipt of above listed information, the participant is ready to prepare and ship submission to the Artisan Chair.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

A. Submissions will be accepted from January 1st through July 1st in any year. New submissions will not be accepted between July 2 and December 31 in any year.
B. The participant is responsible for postage and insurance for shipping the submission to the Artisan Chair. The enrollment fee covers all other postage and insurance when applicable.
C. Ship required pieces to the Artisan Chair according to the packaging instructions sent by the Artisan Chair with verification.
D. The stitch guide and required submission information must be completed and submitted with submission as required.
E. Unacceptable submissions may be reworked and corrected for re-evaluation.
F. Acceptable submissions will indicate completion of the level, and a certificate of achievement will be awarded with recognition noted in SAGA publications.
G. Upon completion of competency evaluation, Artisan participant is eligible to enroll in the next level of the area of study.

EVALUATION PROCEDURES

A. Three members of the Artisan Evaluation Committee anonymously evaluate the participant’s work based on established standards.
B. Each participant’s work will be evaluated by objective measures and the criteria for grading will be applied equally.
C. Proficiency in technique, construction, and design consistent with the program level will be expected at the competency evaluation.
D. Adult garments may be submitted for evaluation at the Artisan (II) Level. All required techniques must still be met as specified in the Artisan Handbook. This may be interpreted for all four areas of study.
E. Each requirement will be evaluated and must meet the minimum criteria to pass according to the standards set by the Artisan Committee: Apprentice (80%), Artisan (85%) and Master (90%)
SMOCKING – APPRENTICE (SMK I)

Basic smocking and pleating

Submission Pieces:
1. A sample of pleated fabric
2. A smocked sampler using design provided

Pleating Sample Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. ¼” gingham, cotton or polyester-cotton blend
   2. Selvage left intact
   3. Top and bottom edges remain unfinished
B. Size:
   1. Hand pleating and 16 row machines — Cut fabric 22” on crosswise grain by 11” on lengthwise grain.
   2. 24 row machines — Cut fabric 22” on crosswise grain by 13” on lengthwise grain.
   3. 32 row machines — Cut fabric 22” on crosswise grain by 14” on lengthwise grain.
C. Pleating:
   1. The pleating may be done by hand or machine.
   2. Center pleating vertically (equal amount of fabric is left unpleated on top and bottom).
   3. Pleating threads are to be clearly visible, tied in pairs at both ends, and measure approximately 27” knot to knot. (Evaluators should be able to spread pleated fabric flat.)
   4. Machine-pleated sample
      a) Use all full-space needles (16, 24, or 32).
      b) Pleat on the crosswise grain.
      c) Do not remove any pleating stitches.
   5. Hand-pleated sample
      a) Pleat 16 rows on crosswise grain approximately ½” apart using the markings of the gingham.
      b) Pleat depth is to be approximately ⅛” from the top of the pleat to the bottom of the valley.
      c) Pleating threads are to begin and end ½” from the vertical edge.
D. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.

Smocking Sampler Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Fabric: any solid color cotton or cotton/polyester blend broadcloth
   2. Thread: any solid color stranded cotton embroidery thread that may be separated into strands suitable for smocking
   3. Size: Pleat fabric with 16 full-space rows
B. Preparation:
1. Center pleating vertically (equal amount of fabric is left unpleated on top and bottom) and horizontally (equal amount of fabric is left unpleated at right and left sides).
2. Tie off center 154 pleats to required size 7½" ± ½".
3. Leave top and bottom edges unfinished.
4. Leave selvages intact.
5. Pleating threads, tied in pairs at both ends, to be left in place during evaluation.

C. Stitching:
1. Center the design.
2. Follow the design provided.
3. Work with three strands except for lazy daisies (two strands) and stacked cable hearts (four strands).
4. Begin and end smocking at points indicated on the graph.
5. Colors will be chosen by candidate.

D. Design:
1. Directions
   a) Stitch all rows exactly as shown on stitch graph and centered on 154 pleats.
   b) Row 1 (top) – Stem
   c) Row 1 (bottom) – Outline
   d) Rows 2 - 3 – Full-space chevron/wave with half-space chevron/wave crossover between Rows 2¼-2¾
   e) Rows 4 - 4½ – Half-space chevron/wave
   f) Rows 4½ - 5¼ – Quarter-space trellis
   g) Rows 6½ - 8½ – Quarter-space trellis and cable stitch combinations positioned as shown on stitch graph
   h) Row 7½ – Alternating combinations: (a) flowerette / French knot / lazy daisy leaves; (b) lazy daisy flower / lazy daisy leaves / French knot
   i) Rows 9, 10 and 11 – Back smock
   j) Rows 9½ - 10¼ – Stacked cable hearts
   k) Row 10 – Flowerettes
   l) Rows 11½ - 13 – Three rows half-space chevron/wave
   m) Row 14 – Two rows mirror-image cable

E. Packaging Instructions:
1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
Graph for SMK I sampler
SMOCKING – ARTISAN (SMK II)

Advanced pleating, smocking, design and construction

Prerequisite: Completion of Apprentice Level in the same area of study

Submission Pieces:
1. Three pleating samples
2. One original sampler, diagram, and written directions
3. Two garments:
   a) Girl’s yoke dress with smocked skirt or boy’s garment with smocked insert;
   b) Bishop dress

Pleating Sample Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Silk
   2. Wool
   3. Corduroy
B. Size:
   1. Silk – Cut fabric 22” on crosswise grain by 9” on lengthwise grain.
   2. Wool – Cut fabric 22” on crosswise grain by 5” on lengthwise grain.
   3. Corduroy – Cut fabric 22” on crosswise grain by 5” on lengthwise grain.
C. Pleating: Samples may be hand or machine pleated.
   1. General for machine or hand pleated samples
      a) Pleat 10 full-space rows on the crosswise grain.
      b) Samples should be steamed to set pleats.
      c) Pleating threads are to be clearly visible, tied in pairs at both ends, and measure approximately 27” knot to knot. (Evaluators should be able to spread fabric flat.)
      d) Center pleating vertically on fabric (equal amount of fabric is left unpleated on the top and the bottom)
      e) Do not remove any pleating stitches.
      f) Leave top and bottom edges unfinished.
      g) Do not finish side edges in any manner.
   2. Additional for hand pleated samples
      a) Pleat 10 rows on the crosswise grain approximately ½” apart.
      b) The pleat depth is to be approximately ⅛” from the top of the pleat to the bottom of the valley.
      c) Pleating threads are to begin and end ½” from the vertical edge.
D. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
Smocking Sampler Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Fabric: Any fabric suitable to the design
   2. Thread: Any stranded fiber that may be separated into strands suitable for smocking

B. Size: Design area must be a minimum of 12 full-space rows.

C. Preparation:
   1. Leave selvages intact.
   2. Leave top and bottom edges unfinished.

D. Stitching:
   1. The ten required stitches may be demonstrated among the sampler and the two garments.
   2. Apprentice (SMK I) stitches may also be used and will be subject to evaluation.
   3. Center the design.
   4. Back smock where necessary.
   5. Pleating threads must remain in sampler.
   6. Required stitches to be demonstrated on either sampler or garments:
      a) Bars
      b) Bullion
      c) Chain stitch
      d) Feather
      e) Herringbone
      f) Honeycomb
      g) Stacked cable (must have at least two identical figures with at least three horizontal color changes: three different colors, or three shades of one color
      h) Surface honeycomb
      i) Spools
      j) Van Dyke
   7. Graph, directions and stitch guide:
      a) Graph may be computer generated.
      b) Graph and directions must each accurately represent the design.
      c) Stitch guide to indicate colors, number of strands, and all stitches (SMK I and II) used.

E. Design:
   1. The sampler must be an original design and accompanied by written graph, directions, and stitch guide.
   2. Design should incorporate enough of the chosen required stitches to demonstrate proficiency.

F. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
Garment Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Fabric: Any fabric suitable to the design of the garment
   2. Thread: Any stranded fiber that may be separated into strands suitable for smocking

B. Size: One 18” or larger doll garment is acceptable only if there is ample room to demonstrate the techniques.

C. Design: Smocking need not be original, but credit must be given as to the source of the design.

D. Construction:
   1. All of the construction techniques must be demonstrated between the two garments.
   2. Construction may be by hand or machine.

E. Required techniques
   a) Yoke joined to smocking with self-made corded bias piping
   b) French seam
   c) Set-in gathered sleeve or set-in eased sleeve
   d) Peter Pan collar with self-made corded bias piping
   e) Bias neck binding on bishop neck
   f) Continuous bound placket
   g) Buttons with either hand or machine buttonholes or loops
   h) Hand-stitched hem
   i) Smocking manipulated into a shape on a bishop without distortion

F. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
FINE HAND SEWING – APPRENTICE (FHS I)

Basic heirloom hand sewing and embroidery

Submission Pieces:
1. Thirteen hand-sewn samples
2. One construction sampler
3. One embroidery sampler and stitch guide

Hand - Sewn Sample Requirements

A. Materials:
1. Fabric: 100% cotton Swiss batiste
2. Lace: 90% – 100% cotton
3. Entredeux: 100% cotton, imported
4. Sewing thread: To be inconspicuous on the materials

B. Size: Finished size includes fabric and trims

C. Stitching: Make individual samples to demonstrate each of the listed techniques:
1. Fabric cut on grain (3”x 6” finished size)
2. Roll and whip two adjacent edges of fabric, squaring the corner (6”x 6” finished size)
3. Entredeux-to-fabric with squared corner; roll, whip and attach entredeux to two adjacent edges (6”x 6” finished size)
4. Ungathered lace to fabric (6” length of lace attached to fabric, 3”x 6” finished size)
5. Ungathered lace-to-lace (6” lengths of lace attached to fabric, 3”x 6” finished size)
6. Ungathered lace to 6” length of entredeux (attached to fabric, 3”x 6” finished size)
7. Gathered lace to 6” length of entredeux; 2:1 fullness (attached to fabric, 3”x 6” finished size)
8. Roll, whip, and gather one 6” fabric edge to 3” (3”x 3” finished size)
9. Roll, whip and gather one 6” fabric edge and attach to 3” strip of entredeux (3”x 3” finished size)
10. Three equidistant 1/16” pin tucks; each 6” in length, approximately ⅜” apart, stitch line to stitch line (3”x 6” finished size)
11. Three ¼” narrow tucks, each 6” in length, ½” apart, stitch line to stitch line (3”x 6” finished size)
12. Three whipped tucks, each 6” in length, ¼” apart, stitch line to stitch line (3”x 6” finished size)
13. Two pieces of fabric joined with 6” French seam, no wider than 3/16” (3”x 6” finished size)

D. Packaging Instructions:
1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
Construction Sampler Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Fabric: 100% cotton Swiss batiste
   2. Lace: 90% – 100% cotton
   3. Entredeux: 100% cotton, imported
   4. Sewing thread: To be inconspicuous on the materials

B. Size: Not to exceed 8”x10”

C. Stitching:
   1. Construct the sampler following the design provided.
   2. Center the design.
   3. Stitch order
      a) Fabric with your choice of tucks
      b) Entredeux
      c) Two pieces lace insertion
      d) Entredeux
      e) Fabric with your choice of tucks
      f) Finish top with entredeux and gathered lace
      g) Finish bottom with entredeux, gathered fabric ruffle, and flat lace
      h) Sides do not need to be finished

D. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.

Construction Sampler for Apprentice Fine Hand Sewing
Embroidery Sampler Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Fabric: 100% cotton Swiss batiste
   2. Thread: One strand of six-stranded cotton embroidery thread

B. Size: Not to exceed 8”x 10”

C. Stitching:
   1. Follow the design provided.
   2. Center the design on the fabric.
   3. Edges do not have to be finished.
   4. Colors will be chosen by candidate; thread brand and color number used to be noted on stitch guide.

D. Design:

E. Stitch Guide:
   1. Roses
   2. Shaded petals and leaves
   3. Open petals
   4. Flower centers and circles
   5. Stems
   6. Bow
   7. Bow center

   Three bullions forming a circular shape
   Satin stitch
   Lazy daisies
   French knots
   Outline and stem
   Feather stitch
   Satin stitch

F. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
FINE HAND SEWING – ARTISAN (FHS II)

Advanced heirloom hand sewing, design, embroidery, and construction

Prerequisite: Completion of Apprentice Level in the same area of study

Submission Pieces:
1. Seven hand sewing samples
2. One original sampler and diagram
3. Two garments: Girl’s yoke dress with gathered skirt and Boy’s garment

Hand Sewn Sample Requirements

A. Materials:
1. Fabric: 100% cotton Swiss batiste; 100% handkerchief weight linen may be used for hemstitching sample
2. Lace: 90% – 100% cotton
3. Entredeux: 100% cotton, imported
4. Fine sewing thread: To be inconspicuous on the materials

B. Size: Not to exceed 8” x 10” except for detached round lace collar

C. Stitching: Make individual samples to demonstrate each of the required techniques
1. Puffing attached to entredeux – Cut fabric 18” x 2¼”; finished ratio 2:1.
2. Faggoting – Cut two pieces of fabric 6” x 8”. Fold so they are 3” x 8”. Join the two 8” folded edges with faggoting.
3. Curved lace edge – Cut 6” square of fabric. Curve one corner; roll and whip bias/curved edge. Attach entredeux and slightly gathered flat lace edging to curved edge of fabric.
4. Lace corner, seamed and mitered corner with entredeux and lace – Cut a piece of fabric 6” square. Finish two adjacent sides with entredeux and flat lace edging (¾” minimum width), to form a seamed and mitered lace corner.
5. Hemstitching – Work three equidistant lines of hemstitching 6” long.
6. Curved lace appliqué with pin stitch – The appliqué is to include a loop of lace.
7. Curved lace-to-lace – Make a detached, round lace collar with entredeux at neck edge to fit one of the construction projects.
   a) Join the lace with a whipstitch
   b) Use no fewer than three widths of lace
   c) Finish the outer edge, including the center back, with entredeux and a lace ruffle
   d) Submit the guide used for the collar

D. Packaging Instructions:
1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
Embroidery Sampler Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Fabric: 100% cotton Swiss batiste
   2. Thread: Stranded cotton embroidery thread
   3. Size: Not to exceed 8”x 10”
B. Design:
   1. The sampler must be an original design and accompanied by diagram and stitch guide.
   2. Apprentice (FHS I) stitches may also be used and will be subject to evaluation.
   3. The design should incorporate enough of the required stitches to demonstrate proficiency.
C. Stitching:
   1. Shadow embroidery to include specific shapes:
      a) Bow – Use two values of one color
      b) Heart, teardrop, or circle
   2. Fil tire’ in a shape no smaller than ½” in diameter
D. Diagram and stitch guide:
   1. Diagram of sampler and stitch guide must be accurate representations of the work.
   2. Stitch guide to indicate colors, number of strands, and all stitches (FHS I and II) used.
E. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.

Garment Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Fabric: Any 100% solid color natural fiber fabric suitable to fine hand sewing and the design of the garments
   2. Lace: 90% – 100% cotton
   3. Entredeux: 100% cotton, imported
   4. Thread: Any fine sewing thread to be inconspicuous on the materials
B. Size:
   1. One garment must be the correct size for the detached collar made as the stitching sample.
   2. One 18” or larger doll garment is acceptable only if there is ample room to demonstrate the techniques.
C. Construction:
   1. All construction techniques must be demonstrated between the two garments.
   2. Apprentice (FHS I) techniques may also be used and will be subject to evaluation.
D. Required techniques
   1. Yoke joined to gathered skirt with entredeux
   2. French seam
   3. Flat-felled seam with pin stitch
   4. Set-in gathered sleeve with entredeux
   5. Set-in eased sleeve
   6. Attached collar
   7. Self-made corded bias piping
8. Bias binding
9. Continuous bound placket
10. Buttons with buttonholes or thread loops
11. Hand stitched dress hem

E. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
FINE MACHINE SEWING – APPRENTICE (FMS I)

Basic machine heirloom sewing

Submission Pieces:
1. Eleven machine-sewn samples
2. One construction sampler

Machine Sewn Sample Requirements

A. General – All work is to be done using a conventional sewing machine (no sergers, etc.).
B. Materials:
   1. Fabric: 100% cotton Swiss batiste
   2. Lace: 90% – 100% cotton
   3. Entredoux: 100% cotton, imported
   4. Sewing thread: To be inconspicuous on the materials
C. Size: Finished size includes fabric and trims
D. Stitching: Make individual samples to demonstrate each of the listed techniques
   1. Fabric cut on grain (3”x 6” finished size)
   2. Rolled and whipped 6” edge (3”x 6” finished size)
   3. Entredoux-to-fabric-with-squared-corner; attach entredoux to two adjacent edges (6”x 6” finished size)
   4. Ungathered lace-to-fabric (6” length of lace attached to fabric, 3”x 6” finished size)
   5. Ungathered lace-to-lace (6” length of lace attached to fabric, 3”x 6” finished size)
   6. Ungathered lace-to-entredoux (6” length attached to fabric, 3”x 6” finished size)
   7. Gathered lace to 6” length of entredoux; 2:1 fullness (attached to fabric 3”x 6” finished size)
   8. One 6” fabric edge gathered and attached to 3” strip of entredoux (3”x 3” finished size)
   9. Three equidistant folded or twin needle 1/16” pin tucks, each 6” in length, approximately ⅛” apart, stitch line to stitch line (3”x 6” finished size)
10. Three ¼” narrow tucks, each 6” in length, ½” apart, stitch line to stitch line (3”x 6” finished size)
11. Two pieces of fabric joined with 6” French seam, no wider than 3/16” (3”x 6” finished size)
E. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
Construction Sampler Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Fabric: 100% cotton Swiss batiste
   2. Lace: 90% – 100% cotton
   3. Entredeux: 100% cotton, imported
   4. Sewing thread: To be inconspicuous on the materials
B. Size: Not to exceed 8”x 10”
C. Stitching:
   1. Construct sampler following design provided.
   2. Center the design.
   3. Edges do not have to be finished.
D. Design: Construction sampler stitch order
   1. Fabric with your choice of tucks
   2. Entredeux
   3. Two pieces lace insertion
   4. Entredeux
   5. Fabric with your choice of tucks
   6. Finish top with entredeux and gathered lace
   7. Finish bottom with entredeux, gathered fabric ruffle, and flat lace
E. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.

Construction Sampler for Apprentice Fine Machine Sewing
FINE MACHINE SEWING – ARTISAN (FMS II)

Advanced machine heirloom sewing, design, and construction

Prerequisite: Completion of Apprentice Level in the same area of study

Submission Pieces:
1. Eight machine-sewn samples
2. Two garments:
   a) Girl’s yoke dress with gathered skirt
   b) Boy’s garment

Machine Sewn Sample Requirements

A. Materials:
1. Fabric: 100% cotton Swiss batiste; 100% handkerchief weight linen may be used for hemstitching sample
2. Lace: 90% – 100% cotton
3. Entredoux: 100% cotton, imported
4. Fine sewing thread: To be inconspicuous on the materials except for faggoting sample

B. Size: Not to exceed 8”x10”, except for detached round collar

C. Stitching: Make individual samples to demonstrate each of the required techniques
1. Puffing attached to entredoux: Cut fabric 18”x 2 ¼”; finished ratio 2:1
2. Faggoting: Cut two pieces of fabric 6”x 8”. Fold so they are 3”x 8”. Join the two 8” folded edges with faggoting
4. Seamed and mitered corner with entredoux and lace: Cut a piece of fabric 6” square. Finish two adjacent sides with flat lace edging (¼” minimum width), attached to entredoux to form a seamed and mitered lace corner.
5. Hemstitching: Cut a 6” square of fabric. Work three equidistant lines of hemstitching 4” long, with first line approximately 1” from edge of fabric. Hemstitch a fourth line 2” long, make a 90° turn, and hemstitch an additional 2”.
6. Curved lace appliqué with pin stitch: The appliqué is to include a loop of lace pin stitched using a size 110/18 or 120/19 universal needle.
7. Curved lace-to-lace: Make a detached round lace collar with entredoux at neck edge to fit one of the construction projects.
   a) Join the lace with zigzag stitch
   b) Use no fewer than three widths of lace
   c) Finish the outer edge, including the center back, with entredoux and a lace ruffle and blind/narrow hem
   d) Submit the guide used for the collar
8. Machine blind hem/narrow hem: Cut 12”x 16” piece of fabric. Turn up 3” hem allowance plus ½” turn under to work a machine blind hem along 16” length. Work a narrow hem on the other side of 16” length.

D. Packaging Instructions:
1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
Garment Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Fabric: Any 100% solid color natural fiber fabric suitable to fine machine sewing and the design of the garments
   2. Thread: Any fine sewing thread to be inconspicuous on the materials

B. Size:
   1. One garment must be the correct size for the detached collar made as the stitching sample.
   2. One 18” or larger doll garment is acceptable only if there is ample room to demonstrate the techniques.

C. Construction techniques:
   1. All construction techniques must be demonstrated between the two garments.
   2. Apprentice (FMS I) techniques may also be used and will be subject to evaluation.
   3. Construction must be by machine, except for hand-stitched dress hem.

D. Required Techniques
   1. Yoke joined to gathered skirt with entredeux
   2. French seam
   3. Set-in gathered sleeve with entredeux
   4. Set-in eased sleeve
   5. Self-made corded bias piping
   6. Attached collar
   7. Bias binding
   8. Continuous bound placket
   9. Buttons with machine buttonholes
   10. Dress hem either hand stitched or finished utilizing one of the FMS I or FMS II required techniques

E. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
EMBROIDERY – APPRENTICE (EMB I)

Basic embroidery

Submission Pieces: One embroidery sampler using design provided

Embroidery Sampler Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Fabric: Solid color fine handkerchief linen
   2. Thread: One strand six-stranded cotton embroidery thread

B. Size: Not to exceed 8”x 10”

C. Stitching:
   1. Follow provided design.
   2. Center design on fabric.
   3. Colors will be chosen by candidate; thread brand and color numbers to be noted on stitch guide.
   4. Leave all edges unfinished.

D. Stitch Guide:
   1. Bow Shadow work embroidery
   2. Basket handle Chain stitch
   3. Basket base Chain Stitch
   4. Basket Backstitch
   5. Sunflower Lazy Daisy outside – 12 petals French knot cluster center
   6. Pinwheel Blanket stitch French knot center
   7. Forget-Me-Not Granito petals – Five French knot centers
   8. Rose buds Three Bullion combination Fly stitch above Fly stitch forming base and leaves
   9. Fern Feather stitch
   10. Branches and stems Stem/outline stitch stems Satin Stitch leaves
   11. Sprays(Three groups) French Knots

E. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
EMBROIDERY – ARTISAN (EMB II)

Advanced embroidery, design, and construction

Prerequisite: Completion of Apprentice Level in the same area of study

Submission Pieces:
1. One original embroidery sampler, diagram, and stitch guide
2. Two garments: Girl’s yoke dress with gathered skirt and Boy’s garment

Embroidery Sampler Requirements

A. Materials:
1. Fabric: 100% natural fabric appropriate to the design
2. Thread: Any appropriate fiber
3. Size: Not to exceed 8” x 10”

B. Stitching:
1. Sampler must be an original design and accompanied by diagram and stitch guide.
2. At least five of the stitches must be incorporated into the sampler.
3. A minimum of 12 of the stitches listed below must be shown among the required pieces.
4. Apprentice (EMB I) stitches may also be used and will be subject to evaluation.
5. The design should incorporate enough of the required stitches to demonstrate proficiency.
6. Leave all edges unfinished.

C. Required stitches:
1. Appliqué applied with the pin stitch (also known as Madeira appliqué)
2. Appliqué cord
3. Bullion rose
4. Bullion pinwheel
5. Closed blanket (also known as buttonhole)
6. Corded satin stitch (also known as trailing)
7. Eyelet
8. Faggoting
9. Feather stitch variation
10. Fil tire’ • in a shape no smaller than ½” in diameter
11. Hemstitch
12. Padded satin stitch
13. Seed stitch
14. Shaded eyelet
15. Shadow embroidery – with adjacent sections of different colors

D. Diagram and stitch guide:
1. Diagram of the sampler and stitch guide must be an accurate representation of the work.
2. Fabric, fiber(s), colors, number of strands, and all stitches (EMB I and II) are to be noted on the stitch guide.
E. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.

Garment Requirements

A. Materials:
   1. Fabric: Any 100% solid color natural fiber fabric suitable to the design of the garments may be used
   2. Embroidery thread: Any appropriate fiber
   3. Garment thread – Any fine sewing thread to be inconspicuous on the materials

B. Size: One 18” or larger doll garment is acceptable only if there is ample room to demonstrate the technique.

C. Design: Embroidery designs need not be original, but credit must be given as to the source of the design.

D. Construction:
   1. All construction techniques must be demonstrated between the two garments.
   2. Garments must include some EMB II required stitches as design elements.
   3. Apprentice (EMB I) stitches may also be used and will be subject to evaluation.
   4. Construction, except for hand-stitched dress hem, may be by hand or machine.
   5. The garment pattern and techniques used on each garment must be noted.

E. Required techniques:
   1. Yoke joined to gathered skirt: self-made corded bias piping or entredeux optional
   2. French seam
   3. Set-in gathered sleeve
   4. Set-in eased sleeve
   5. Self-made corded bias piping
   6. Attached collar
   7. Bias binding
   8. Continuous bound placket
   9. Buttons with either hand or machine buttonholes or loops
   10. Hand-stitched dress hem

F. Packaging Instructions:
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.
MASTER LEVEL: ALL AREAS OF STUDY  
(SMK III, FMS III, FHS III, and EMB III)

Mastery of advanced stitching techniques in the chosen area of study, construction, and design

Prerequisite: Completion of Artisan Level in the same area of study

Submission Pieces:
1. Projects: Five original projects
2. Research Article

Master Project Requirements
A. The participant must submit five original projects, which include two garments – one child’s garment, one adult garment, one accessory, and two additional projects of the candidate’s choice, showing in-depth knowledge of design, color, texture, construction, and stitching techniques.
B. All projects must be executed solely by the candidate without instruction. A signed authenticity form is required for submission.
C. All projects must have been executed within the last five years.
D. These projects should incorporate, but are not limited to, the techniques and stitches covered in the previous levels.
E. In the area of smocking, the smocking should be used not only to decorate the surface, but also as a means of adding texture and dimension to the projects. Smocking should also be used as a means to control the fullness of the fabric in a manner that enhances, rather than compromises, the styling of the garment.
F. Commercial patterns may be used for sizing. Information about any commercial pattern used must be provided.
G. In all areas of study, exceptional stitching and flawless construction are mandatory.
H. Packaging Instructions
   1. Label all pieces with Artisan number.
   2. Package submission according to instructions provided by the Artisan Chair with verification.

Research Article
A. Topic should be related to the chosen area of study.
B. Topic and outline of paper must be submitted to the Artisan Chair with either three hard copies, a CD, or via e-mail attachment.
C. Following approval of topic by Master Level Evaluators, candidate must write and submit a Research Article with a minimum of 1500 words and a maximum of 2500 words.
D. Research paper format should be followed using citations and references to document all sources of information.
E. Article must be submitted to the Artisan Chair with either three hard copies, a CD, or via email attachment.
F. No names should appear on the paper, only the candidate’s Artisan Number.
G. The final five points will be awarded following the evaluation and approval of the article.
H. The approved research article will be published in an issue of SAGANews.
STANDARDS FOR EVALUATION

Smocking – Apprentice (SMK I)
Smocking – Artisan (SMK II)

A. Pleating Sample(s)
   1. Fabric is cut on grain.
   2. Samples/sampler is the required size.
   3. Pleating threads are parallel to the crosswise grain.
   4. Pleats are parallel to the lengthwise grain.
   5. Fabric is not damaged by needles or machine.
   6. There are no folds, bubbles, or split (Y) pleats.
   7. A 1/16” variation is allowed for machine and human error.
   8. Any temporary markings used for pleating are removed.

B. General
   1. Smocking is centered on the fabric top to bottom and left to right.
   2. There is no visible break in the smocking pattern on the front side where threads have been stopped and restarted.
   3. Pleating threads are not caught in the stitches.
   4. Stitches catch only the appropriate pleats.
   5. Starting and ending knots are small, neat, secure and not visible on front of work.
   6. Stitch tension appears consistent for all stitches; tension is neither so tight that the pleats are crimped nor so loose that the threads sag.
   7. Stitch depth is consistent.
   8. Threads carried on the back do not distort the stitching, inhibit the stretch of the smocking, or show on the front of the work.
   9. Threads within stitches are laid smoothly, neither worn nor frayed.
10. Back smocking threads are not visible on front of work.
11. All Level I stitches used must meet evaluation standards for SMK I. (SMK II)
SMK I Stitch Chart

Dot indicates that the standard will be evaluated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMK - Apprentice</th>
<th>Cable</th>
<th>Stem</th>
<th>Outline</th>
<th>Stacked Cables</th>
<th>Chevron Wave</th>
<th>Trellis</th>
<th>Flowerette</th>
<th>Lazy Daisy</th>
<th>French Knot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Stitch stops and starts as required</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
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<td>Stitch pattern is accurate</td>
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<td>Like vertical stitch spacing is consistent</td>
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<td>Horizontal stitch position is consistent</td>
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<td>Adjacent points meet precisely</td>
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<tr>
<td>Like shapes are uniform size</td>
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<td>Like fill-in stitches are uniformly placed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stitch has an open appearance</td>
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<td>Knots are stable</td>
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</table>

SMK II Stitch Chart

Dot indicates that the standard will be evaluated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMK - Artisan</th>
<th>Bullion</th>
<th>Spool</th>
<th>Bar</th>
<th>Stacked Cables</th>
<th>Van Dyke</th>
<th>Surface Honeycomb</th>
<th>Honeycomb</th>
<th>Herringbone</th>
<th>Feather</th>
<th>Chain</th>
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<td>Stitch stops and starts as required</td>
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<td>●</td>
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<td>Stitch pattern is accurate</td>
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<td>Like shapes are consistent in size</td>
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<td>Wraps of stitch are uniform in size and appearance</td>
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<td>Wrap tension is consistent</td>
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<td>Like vertical stitch spacing is consistent</td>
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<td>Horizontal stitch position is consistent</td>
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<td>Adjacent points meet precisely</td>
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<td>Stitch spacing is consistent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stitch has an open appearance</td>
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</table>
Fine Hand Sewing – Apprentice (FHS I)
Fine Machine Sewing – Apprentice (FMS I)

A. Individual Techniques
1. General
   a) Fabric is cut on grain
   b) Thread is inconspicuous
   c) Materials are undamaged
   d) Any construction markings have been removed
   e) Beginnings and endings of threads are inconspicuous; there are no obvious knots, threads or hanging tails

2. Stitching
   a) Stitching is on grain
   b) Stitch tension is consistent
      1) Tension is not so loose that threads sag or seams separate
      2) Tension is not so tight that the materials pucker
      3) Upper and lower tension is balanced. (FMS I)
   c) Stitch pattern is consistent
      1) Stitch bite into fabric is consistent
      2) Stitch length is consistent
      3) Stitch spacing is consistent
      4) Stitch direction is consistent
      5) Stitch width is consistent (FMS I)
   d) Roll and whip
      1) Roll is round (FHS I)
      2) Roll completely encloses the raw edge
      3) Roll is a consistent width and does not exceed ⅛” (FMS I) or 1/16” (FHS I)
      4) Stitch length: minimum eight per inch. (FHS I)
   e) Roll, whip and gather
      1) Roll and whip meet standards stated above
      2) Gathers are evenly distributed
      3) Roll is a consistent width and does not exceed ⅛” (FMS I) or 1/16” (FHS I)
   f) Entredeux-to-lace, gathering, or flat fabric
      1) Entredeux shows evenly between the side applications
      2) Entredeux lies flat and does not cup or ripple
      3) Sides are appropriately trimmed
      4) No fraying threads show
      5) Stitches attach through every hole of entredeux. (FHS I)
      6) No excess entredeux fabric shows between entredeux and attached fabric (FMS I)
   g) French seam *See Construction Standards All Areas of Study

B. Construction Sampler
1. Required materials are used
2. Design is symmetrical from left to right
3. Individual techniques meet standards
C. Embroidery Sampler

1. General
   a) Fabric is undamaged
   b) Design is accurately followed
   c) Transfer marks are not visible on the right side of work
   d) The design is symmetrical and is centered on the sampler
   e) Sampler fabric maintains the required size, 8”x 10”

FHS I Embroidery Stitch Chart

Dot indicates that the standard will be evaluated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FHS - Apprentice</th>
<th>Bullion</th>
<th>Feather</th>
<th>Lazy Daisy</th>
<th>French Knot</th>
<th>Satin Stitch</th>
<th>Stem / Outline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stitch stops and starts as required</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch tension is consistent</td>
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Fine Hand Sewing – Artisan (FHS II)
Fine Machine Sewing – Artisan (FMS II)

A. Individual Technique
   1. All Level I stitches must meet previously noted evaluation standards.
   2. Puffing
      a) Gathers are evenly distributed; perpendicular to entredeux.
      b) As in Level I, roll, whip, and gather fabric to entredeux
   3. Faggoting
      a) Folded edges are equidistant and a minimum of 1/16” apart.
      b) Fabric is flat; no ripples.
      c) Stitch pattern is consistent.
      d) Thread is compatible with fabric.
   4. Curved lace edge
      a) Lace and entredeux lay flat, no ripples or cupping.
      b) Curve is not distorted.
   5. Seamed and mitered corners with entredeux and lace
      a) Corners of fabric, entredeux, and lace edging are squared.
      b) Holes of entredeux at corner align on top of each other.
      c) Miter of lace edging does not extend into the outer edge of lace.
   6. Hemstitching
      a) Widths of lines are consistent.
      b) Lines are equidistant.
      c) Fabric does not pucker.
      d) Holes are defined.
      e) Corner is defined and hole is at the 90° turn.
   7. Curved lace appliqué with pin stitch
      a) Lace appliqué
         1) Curve is not distorted.
         2) Lace is eased to the curve; fabric and lace lie flat, no pleats in the lace.
         3) Raw edge of fabric in back of lace is inconspicuous; no visible frays.
      b) Pin stitch
         1) Fabric is inconspicuous between adjacent stitches.
         2) Holes are defined.
         3) Fabric does not pucker.
         4) Width of stitch does not exceed width of lace header (FMS II).
         5) Color of thread must be inconspicuous
   8. Curved lace-to-lace (collar)
      a) Collar is sized to meet at center back.
      b) Collar is no wider than shoulder seam.
      c) Lace is eased and collar lies flat.
      d) Entredeux lies flat, does not ripple or cup

B. Sampler FHS II
   1. General
      a) Beginnings and endings of stitching are inconspicuous; there are no obvious knots or tails.
      b) Stitch tension is consistent.
      c) Stitch pattern is either consistent or varies regularly.
      d) The diagram is an accurate representation of the work.
FHS II Embroidery Stitch Chart

Dot indicates that the standard will be evaluated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FHS – Artisan</th>
<th>Fill</th>
<th>Shadow Embroidery</th>
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Embroidery – Apprentice (EMB I)

A. Embroidery Sampler
   1. General
      a) Fabric is undamaged.
      b) Design is accurately followed.
      c) Transfer marks are not visible on the right side of work.
      d) The design is symmetrical and is centered on the sampler.
      e) Sampler fabric is no larger than 8”x 10”.
EMB I Stitch Chart

Dot indicates that the standard will be evaluated

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<tr>
<th>EMB - Apprentice Part 1</th>
<th>Shadow Embroidery</th>
<th>Blanket Stitch</th>
<th>Backstitch</th>
<th>Lacy Daisy</th>
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EMB - Apprentice Part 2

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<tr>
<th>EMB - Apprentice Part 2</th>
<th>Fly Stitch</th>
<th>Stem / Outline</th>
<th>French Knot</th>
<th>Bullion</th>
<th>Satin Stitch</th>
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Embroidery – Artisan (EMB II)

A. General
1. All Level I stitches used must meet evaluation standards for Level I.
2. Submission is clean and neat.
3. Submission follows all specified requirements.
4. Beginnings and endings of stitching are inconspicuous.
5. There are no obvious knots or tails.
6. Stitch tension is consistent.
7. Stitch appearance is consistent.
8. Any markings used for guidance are removed.
9. The diagram and stitch guide are an accurate representation of the work.

EMB II Stitch Chart
Dot indicates that the standard will be evaluated

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<tr>
<th>EMB - Artisan Part 1</th>
<th>Applique with Pin Stitch</th>
<th>Fil Tine</th>
<th>Fanstitch</th>
<th>Bullion</th>
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<th>Closed Blanket</th>
<th>Applique Cord</th>
<th>Satin Stitch - Corded</th>
<th>Shadow Embroidery</th>
<th>Satin Stitch - Padded</th>
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CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS
ALL AREAS of STUDY

A. Yoke to Skirt
   1. General
      a) Lengths of yoke and skirt are appropriate in relation to each other.
      b) Width of skirt is appropriate to width of yoke.
      c) Fullness is evenly distributed.
      d) Seam lies flat with no puckers.
      e) Seam allowance is evenly trimmed.
      f) Gathering/pleating threads are removed or are not conspicuous.

2. Piping to skirt/insert – gathered or smocked (SMK II and EMB II)
   a) Seam is equidistant from smocking (SMK II).
   b) Design is centered (SMK II).
   c) Pleats are not distorted at seam line (SMK II).
   d) Pleating threads are removed (SMK II).
   e) Piping meets corded bias piping self-made standards.
   f) Pleats/gathers are equally distributed.

3. Yoke joined to skirt with entredeux (FMS II and FHS II)
   See FHS I/FMS I Stitch Technique standards

B. Seams
   1. General
      a) Seams are consistent in width.
      b) Seams are not wider than 3/16” for fine fabrics or ¼” for mid-weight.
      c) Stitch length is consistent.
      d) Stitch tension is consistent.
      e) Seams have no fraying threads.
      f) Seams are not twisted or bulky.

2. Flat-felled with pin stitch
   a) All previously-noted evaluation standards apply.
   b) See FHS II Technique standards for pin stitch standards.

C. Sleeve
   1. Set-in gathered sleeve
      a) Gathers are evenly distributed above the midpoint of front and back armhole opening.
      b) Underarm area of sleeve is smooth.
      c) Underarm seams are stitched separately so that sleeve is set in.
      d) Gathers are not distorted.
      e) Sleeve edge finish is neat.
      f) Sleeve finish is executed correctly.
      g) See FHS I/FMS I Technique standards for entredeux application.

2. Eased-in sleeve
   a) Ease is evenly distributed.
   b) Fabric of sleeve is smooth at seam.
   c) Underarm seams are stitched separately so that sleeve is set in.
   d) Fabric of garment is smooth at seam.
   e) Hem is even.
   f) Hem stitching is inconspicuous.
   g) Seam is appropriately finished inside.
D. Corded Bias Piping (self-made)
   1. Piping is not bulky.
   2. Piping is not rippled.
   3. Width of piping is even.
   4. Width of piping is appropriate for design or size of garment.
   5. Piping is made with fabric cut on the bias.
   6. Stitches are inconspicuous.

E. Collar
   1. Collar shape is symmetrical.
   2. Collar is centered at front.
   3. Collar is centered at back.
   4. Edge of collar lies against garment.
   5. Collar is smooth at neckline seam.
   6. Seams are not bulky and have been appropriately trimmed.
   7. If applicable, collar edge finish is neat and correctly executed.

F. Bias Binding
   1. General
      a) Binding is not bulky.
      b) Binding is smooth.
      c) Binding is even in width.
      d) Binding is appropriate size for design and size of garment.
      e) Binding is attached evenly.
      f) Attachment of binding is inconspicuous.
      g) If seamed, it is done on the bias.
   2. Neck binding for Bishop dress
      a) All general standards above apply.
      b) Binding maintains a consistent distance from the first row of smocking.
      c) Binding meets evenly at the dress opening.
      d) Binding ends are neatly finished.

G. Continuous Bound Placket
   1. Placket is smooth.
   2. Placket maintains a consistent width.
   3. Centers of bodice yoke and skirt are properly aligned.
   4. Placket is properly aligned with the grain of the opening.
   5. Bottom V of the placket lies flat with no puckering.

H. Closures
   1. Buttons
      a) Knots are not visible below button.
      b) Flat button is sewn with appropriate thread shank for fabric used.
      c) Buttons are properly spaced from outside edge of bodice.
      d) Buttons are evenly spaced.
      e) Button size is appropriate for size of garment.
   2. Buttonholes – Machine or hand
      a) Opening is appropriate size for buttons.
      b) Stitching is even.
      c) Stitching is not cut.
      d) Opening is free of fraying threads.
      e) Buttonholes are properly spaced from outside edge of bodice.
      f) When buttoned – fabric is not distorted.
3. Loops
   a) Loops are securely anchored to the fabric.
   b) Loops are evenly spaced if more than one is used.
   c) Loop size is appropriate for button used.
   d) Stitch tension is consistent.
   e) Loops are not twisted.
   f) Loops maintain an open appearance.
I. Hems – hand/machine stitched
   1. Hem allowance depth is consistent.
   2. Hem allowance depth is appropriate for size of garment.
   3. Hem is secure.
   4. Stitch length is consistent.
   5. Stitching is inconspicuous on either side.
   6. Stitch tension is consistent.
   7. Hem is eased to garment.
   8. Side seams match at the top of the hem allowance.
J. Bishop – Manipulating smocking into a shape
   1. Fullness is evenly distributed around neckline.
   2. Seam allowance of dress does not distort the smocking.
   3. Smocking does not distort the shape of the garment.
   4. Smocking has continuity of design at the opening.
   5. Smocking does not distort the opening.
Master (SMK III, FMS III, FHS III, and EMB III)
All Areas of Study

Masters projects
A. Candidate demonstrates the ability to stretch beyond the predictable.
B. Candidate demonstrates an in-depth knowledge of design.
C. Candidate demonstrates an in-depth knowledge of color and texture.
D. Candidate demonstrates superior stitching techniques.
E. Candidate demonstrates superior construction techniques.
F. Projects demonstrate most of the techniques evaluated in previous levels and candidate has found creative ways to employ these techniques in her designs.

Master Research Article
A. Topic must relate to candidate’s area of study.
B. Article is based on researched published information.
C. Sufficient published information must be available to support the topic.
D. Topic is of interest to the general SAGA membership.
E. Photographs to support the research are desirable.
Smocking Apprentice Sampler

Embroidery Apprentice Sampler