

Exhibitors' guide to the
2017 PHILADELPHIA SHELL SHOW

PRESENTED BY

THE PHILADELPHIA SHELL CLUB

www.phillyshellclub.org

October 28-29, 2017 • 10 am to 5 pm

**THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
OF DREXEL UNIVERSITY**

1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia PA 19103-1195



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The guidelines used for judging exhibits in all categories are laid out in a separate publication "The Philadelphia Shell Show: Guide to Judging", obtainable free at www.phillyshellclub.org

SETUP TIMES AND ENTRY DEADLINE

The deadline for all entries is **SEPTEMBER 21, 2017**. Setup for exhibitors begins at **10: 00 am on Friday, October 27** and must be completed by the start of judging at **5:00 pm**. Exhibitors will be able to unload work and enter the exhibition hall via the Academy's parking lot on Cherry Street or through the **19th Street entrance**.

For 2017, the club is proud to offer the COA Award, the DuPont Trophy, the R. Tucker Abbott Award, the Pilsbry Award, the Leonard Hill Award, the Conrad Award, Sailor's Valentine Awards and the Masters Award. The rules and criteria for each are set out in this brochure.

The Philadelphia Shell Club and the Academy of Natural Sciences welcome exhibitors and visitors from other clubs and regions to participate in the show. It is open to the public during regular museum hours, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday October 28 and Sunday, October 29.

2017 PHILADELPHIA SHELL CLUB SPECIAL AWARD

Beauty is in the eye of the collector

SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS

For general inquiries, contact phillyshellclub@gmail.com

For advice on exhibit classes and other exhibit-related matters, contact

Exhibits Chairman **J. B. Sessoms** • PO Box 306, Somers Point NJ 08244 • Tel. 609-653-8017

RULES AND GUIDE FOR EXHIBITORS AND JUDGES

See also "Changes to classes" below and separate publication "Guide to Judging".

GENERAL RULES

1. All entry forms must be **received** by **September 21, 2017** to allow time to design the show. Please indicate if acknowledgement of receipt is required.
2. Set-up will be on Friday October 27 from **10:00 am to 5:00 pm**. Exhibit space will be assigned by the exhibits chairman. "Early birds" will not be allowed access.
3. Exhibits not in place and set up when judging begins at 5:00 pm on Friday evening are not eligible for competition. Exhibitors will not be permitted to remain in the exhibit area during the judging.
4. Exhibitors and club members attending the show must sign in at the 19th Street guard's desk upon entering. The guard will have a list of registered attendees.
5. No exhibit or part of an exhibit may be offered for sale during the show, except by prior arrangement. Exhibitors may leave cards by their work from Saturday morning onwards.
6. Exhibitors are requested not to enter the dealers' area at any time on Friday. Bourse sales are restricted to Saturday and Sunday show hours.
7. Exhibits may not be removed from display before 5:00 pm Sunday, October 29, and must be removed by 8:00 pm on that date unless specific alternate arrangements have been made in advance.

SPECIFIC RULES FOR COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

See also the "Guide to Judging", available free at www.phillyshellclub.org

1. Only the exhibits chairman can change an exhibit's class assignment after the entry deadline. Questions concerning the appropriate class for an exhibit should be referred to the exhibits chairman prior to submitting the entry form.
2. All exhibits will be placed on tables 30 inches wide, unless they are free standing floor displays (easels, etc.). Vertical elements, such as backboards, may not extend more than 36" above the table top and must be self-supporting. Their backs must have a plain finish so as not to detract from adjoining exhibits.
3. Artistic exhibits that require support must have their own stands.
4. No exhibitor may submit more than one competitive entry per class. An exhibit may be entered in only one class.
5. Borrowed shells may be used in exhibits, provided the source of the specimens is acknowledged in the exhibit.
6. Exhibitors in the Artistic classes of pieces that are not solely their own work must list any outsourced elements on their entry form (with the exceptions of class 52, Collectibles).
7. All specimens in scientific exhibit classes should be labeled with scientific name of the species, author, date and locality, either individually or collectively.
8. The "self-collected" designation means that specimens were collected personally by the exhibitor. This includes direct personal negotiations with local fishermen. For the purpose of judging, any self-collected specimen(s) should be marked with a symbol whose meaning is noted in the exhibit.
9. A shell dealer may compete only in the self-collected or artistic classes. A professional malacologist may compete only in the artistic classes. Anyone may enter Division C (Non-competitive), in any class.
10. The name of the exhibitor must not be visible anywhere in a competitive exhibit until judging has been completed.
11. No exhibit that has won a first place ribbon in a previous Philadelphia Shell Show may compete again in the same class unless at least 50% of both the specimens and graphics are new.
12. Awards of any kind will be presented only if the judges deem entries to be of sufficient merit by the standards of previous shows. Ties are possible. All decisions of the judges are final.
13. A "professional" exhibitor is one who has sold **any** self-made products in the same or similar categories to those in which he or she is exhibiting, regardless of method or number of sales. Professionals in one artistic medium may exhibit as non-professionals in a substantially different medium in which they have never sold any products.
14. Only someone who has never entered **any** shell show may enter as a "novice". Novice scientific exhibits will compete in class 3, but may be based on the themes of classes S4 to S33, which will be considered sub-groups of class S3 (example: 3-14, Land or Freshwater). Exhibits in the same sub-group will compete against each other. Artistic novice exhibits will be entered in class A3, and may use the themes of classes A4 to A52 as sub-groups.
15. Student scientific exhibits will compete in either Class S1 or S2. They may use the themes of classes S4 to S33, which will be considered sub-groups of class S1 or S2 (example: 1-12, Land or Freshwater). Exhibits in the same sub-group will compete against each other. Similarly, artistic student exhibits can be entered in classes A1 or 2, using the themes of classes A4 to A52 as sub-groups.
16. The Masters Award is a separate category, number M1. See the Masters Award Guidelines below.
17. Where art work that is incorporated in an artistic exhibit (such as a painting in a valentine center) is a faithful copy or reproduction of an existing work, this must be made clear on a note with the exhibit.

THE R. TUCKER ABBOTT AWARD

This special award goes to the best exhibit by a member of the Philadelphia Shell Club. It is dedicated to R. Tucker Abbott, co-founder of our club. Tucker made many contributions to the scientific literature and was the founder of *Indo-Pacific Mollusca*, co-founder of *Johnsonia* and editor of the *Nautilus*, but is best known as the author of many popular books. His mission to draw amateurs into the scientific sphere spawned a whole generation of amateur conchologists and professional malacologists.

THE LEONARD HILL AWARD

Presented by the Philadelphia Shell Club

The Leonard Hill Award was presented for the first time in November 1998. It honors the marine biologist Leonard Hill, his love and knowledge of natural history, and his eye for beauty. It recognizes the most aesthetically pleasing scientific exhibit of the show. While there are a number of awards given for scientific and educational excellence, this one focuses on the creative and artistic aspects of exhibiting. The trophy is a unique, shell-themed art object, created each year by a recognized artist and kindly donated by Sue Hobbs.

The Conrad Award for the best paleontological exhibit.

Sponsored by the Department of Invertebrate Paleontology of the Academy of Natural Sciences
Exhibits should comprise at least 50% fossil material, predominantly mollusks. All ages are welcome (specimens and exhibitors!), as well as extinct molluscan groups such as the Ammonites. The award is in the form of a plaque and honors **Timothy Abbott Conrad**, a pioneering American paleontologist who also worked with Recent species. He published over a span of 43 years, work on marine, freshwater and terrestrial mollusks. In addition, Conrad was a prolific and published poet.

FULL LISTING OF MAJOR AWARDS

SCIENTIFIC DIVISION

- ☼ Best Shell of Show
- ☼ Self Collected Shell of Show
- ☼ R. Tucker Abbott Award for best scientific exhibit by a Philadelphia Shell Club member
- ☼ Leonard Hill Award for Most Aesthetic Scientific Exhibit
- ☼ John Dyas Parker Award for Most Creative Scientific Exhibit
- ☼ Robert B. Fish Award for Best Small Scientific Exhibit
- ☼ Conchologists of America Award
- ☼ DuPont Trophy
- ☼ Pilsbry Award
- ☼ Masters Award
- ☼ Conrad Award for best paleontological exhibit
- ☼ **2017 Special Award (see page 4)**

Judges' Special Rosette

Each judge may award a special rosette to an exhibit that he or she considers especially noteworthy

ARTISTIC DIVISION

- ☼ Most outstanding Single Sailors Valentine – non professional
- ☼ Most outstanding Single Sailors Valentine - Professional
- ☼ Most outstanding Double Sailors Valentine – non professional
- ☼ Most outstanding Double Sailors Valentine – professional
- ☼ Most Outstanding Artistic (excluding valentines) – non professional
- ☼ Most Outstanding Artistic (excluding valentines) - professional
- ☼ Best in show Traditional Sailors Valentine, any size, single or double
- ☼ Best in Show Contemporary Single Sailors Valentine
- ☼ Best in Show *Objets trouvée* Sailors Valentine
- ☼ Best in show Artistic Exhibit (excluding valentines)

THE JOHN DYAS PARKER AWARD

This special award goes to the most creative or educational exhibit in the scientific division, and is not restricted to any class. It is dedicated to Jack Parker, co-founder and past president of our club. He was a wonderful storyteller and displayed his talents in the roles of club historian and auctioneer. Jack was an amateur malacologist with several published articles and designed a number of permanent museum exhibits.

THE ROBERT B. FISH AWARD

This special award goes to the best small exhibit, not to exceed 12 feet in length. It is dedicated to Bob Fish, past president of our club and enthusiastic field collector. He was well known for his travelogues about the exotic lands he visited in search of shells

2017 SPECIAL AWARD

PRESENTED BY THE PHILADELPHIA SHELL CLUB AND OPEN TO SCIENTIFIC AND ARTISTIC CLASSES

*Beauty
is in the eye of the
collector*

This theme has been chosen to encourage the largest number of competitors! This is a wide open topic.

What makes a shell beautiful? Some are widely considered more aesthetically pleasing, but a collector may find beauty through rarity, size, uniqueness, personal attachment, the behavior of the animal itself, cultural significance, or other factors.

☒ Be sure to check the box on your entry form if you would like to be considered in the running for this unique, one-year-only award.

DIVISIONS AND EXHIBIT CLASSES

DIVISIONS:

S. Scientific Division

A. Artistic Division

N. Non-Competitive: open to any non-competing exhibitor and to exhibits or individuals excluded by Specific Rules 9 & 11.

SCIENTIFIC DIVISION:

M1. **Masters Award** for previous winners of major awards. See guidelines.

Paleontological classes

† Denotes a class appropriate for fossil shells.

‡ Denotes a class appropriate for any paleontological exhibit.

†S1. **Student Scientific Class, Grades 1-6**

May use any theme from classes S4 – S33

†S2. **Student Scientific Class, Grades 7-12**

May use any theme from classes S4 – S33

†S3. **Novice Scientific Class.** A novice is someone who has never entered any Shell Show. Themes of any of the classes S4 – S33 may be used.

†S4. **General Worldwide.** General Collection of Worldwide shells.

†S5. **Beach Shells.** Single locality or regional. Lots of nice beach shells out there!

†S6. **Single locality, any source.** All specimens from one locality (a single bay, estuary, creek, beach, town, etc.).

†S7. **Regional, any source.** All specimens from the same region. (State, Island group, faunal zone, major lake, river, gulf, etc.)

†S8. **Miniatures.** Adult shells only, maximum size 1 inch. May be general, regional or specialized collection.

†S9. **One large family.** All exhibited shells should belong to one of the following families: Cypraeidae, Volutidae, Pectenidae, Conidae, Strombidae, or Muricidae.

Exhibitors should attempt to represent all subfamilies and most genera.

†S10. **One large clade.** All exhibited specimens from a single clade (Family, subfamily, superfamily, or other group of related mollusks) with 100 or more members. This category may include a subfamily of a family listed in Class 9.

†S11. **One small clade.** All exhibited specimens from a single clade (Family, subfamily, superfamily or other group of related mollusks) with 99 or less members.

†S12. **One Genus or subgenus.** All exhibited specimens must be from the same genus or subgenus.

†S13. **One species.** All exhibited specimens must be of the same species, but may show variety in color, form, growth, etc.

†S14. **Land or Freshwater.** May be a general, specialized, or localized collection. Land or freshwater shells may also be entered in classes 1-8 and 10-13.

†S15. **Fossil Shells.** May be general, specialized or localized. Fossil shells may also be entered in Classes 1 -14.

†S16. **Freak Shells.** Includes abnormal structures, albinism/ melanism, dwarf or giant. Freak shells may also be used in other classes where appropriate.

‡S17. **Educational.** An opportunity to pass on some of your esoteric knowledge to the rest of the world. Make them understand why we enjoy shells.

S18. Shells on Stamps or Coins.

Specimens of the subject shells should be included with the stamps/coins.

‡S19. **Themed Collection.** Non-related shells displayed to convey a common theme, such as color, shape, texture, pattern, spines, etc. Theme should be explained by title, text and/or graphics.

‡S20. **Miscellaneous.** A multiple shell exhibit whose theme does not fit into categories S1 – S20.

S21. Live mollusks. Terrarium or aquarium.

Single scientific specimen categories

Exhibits must comprise one shell only. Freaks should be entered only in classes S28 and S29. Miniatures should be entered only in Classes S32 and S33.

- †S22. Single specimen, marine, any source.
- †S23. Single specimen, marine, self-collected.
- †S24. Single specimen, land, any source.
- †S25. Single specimen, land, self-collected.
- †S26. Single specimen, fresh water, any source.
- †S27. Single specimen, fresh water, self-collected.
- †S28. Single specimen, freak, any source. (See class 16 for eligible material).
- †S29. Single specimen, freak, self-collected. (See Class 16 for eligible material).
- ‡S30. Single specimen, fossil, any source.
- ‡S31. Single specimen, fossil, self-collected.
- ‡S32. Single specimen, miniature, any source. Adult maximum size 1 inch or less.
- ‡S33. Single specimen, miniature, self-collected. Adult maximum size 1 inch or less.

ARTISTIC DIVISION:

- A1. Student Artistic Class, Grades 1 – 6.** May use any of the classes A4 – A52 as theme.
- A2. Student Artistic Class, Grades 7 – 12.** May use any of the classes A4 – A52 as theme.
- A3. Novice Artistic Class.** A Novice is someone who has never entered any shell show. Themes may be from any of the classes A4 – A52.
- A4. Traditional Single Sailor’s Valentine, non-professional.** Design utilizing a compass rose and/or heart motif, using shells available to original valentine artisans, who lived in the Barbados
- A5. Traditional Single Sailor’s Valentine, Professional.** Same rules as A4.

- A6. Contemporary Single Sailor’s Valentine, up to 12 “, non-professional.** Design incorporating modern themes and/or techniques that were not seen prior to 1900. May be made of shells and other sea life from any source.
- A7. Contemporary Single Sailor’s Valentine, up to 12 “, professional.** Same rules as A6.
- A8. Contemporary Single Sailor’s Valentine, 12 “and over, non-professional.** Design incorporating modern themes and/or techniques that were not seen prior to 1900. May be made of shells and other sea life from any source.
- A9. Contemporary Single Sailor’s Valentine, up to 12 “and over, professional.** Same rules as A8.
- A10. Objets trouvée Single Sailor’s Valentine, non-professional.** Design incorporating crafted elements such as cameos, scrimshaw, miniature paintings, etc. that are not of the artist. The majority of the work nevertheless must be the work of the artist.
- A11. Objets trouvée Single Sailor’s Valentine, professional.** Same rules as A10.
- A12. Objets trouvée Double Sailor’s Valentine, non-professional.** Same rules as A10.
- A13. Objets trouvée Double Sailor’s Valentine, professional.** Same rules as A10.
- A14. Traditional Sailor’s Valentine, non-Professional.** Design using a compass rose and/or heart motif, using shells available to original valentine artisans, who lived in the Barbados
- A15. Traditional Sailor’s Valentine, professional.** Same rules as A14.
- A16. Contemporary Double Sailor’s Valentine, up to 12“, non-professional.** Design incorporating modern themes and/or techniques that were not seen prior to 1900. May be made of shells and other sea life from any source.
- A17. Contemporary Double Sailor’s Valentine, up to 12“, professional.** Same rules as A16.

A18. Contemporary Double Sailor's Valentine, 12" and over, non-professional.
Same rules as A16.

A19. Contemporary Double Sailor's Valentine, 12" and over, professional.
Same rules as A.16.

A20. Shell picture or mosaic, non-professional. Realistic, abstract or geometrical picture made of shells, not in the traditional octagonal valentine format.

A21. Shell picture or mosaic, professional.
Same rules as A20.

A22. Shell craft flower arrangement, non-professional. Three dimensional.

A23. Shell craft flower arrangement, professional. Same rules as A22.

A24. Shell craft single flower, non-professional. Three dimensional.

A25. Shell craft single flower, professional. Three dimensional.

A26. Miniature flower arrangement, non-professional. Shell craft flower arrangement, three dimensional, 6" maximum dimension.

A27. Miniature flower arrangement, professional. Same rules as A26.

A28. Shell room décor, non-professional. Lamps, picture frames, mirrors, and similar items decorated with shells.

A29. Shell room décor, professional. Same rules as A28.

A30. Holiday décor, non-professional. Holiday decor and ornaments made of shells; up to 10 individual ornaments

A31. Holiday décor, professional. Same rules as A30.

A32. Seashell jewelry, non-professional. Single piece or matched set. Jewelry may be presented in a closed container for security.

A33. Seashell jewelry, professional. Same rules as A32.

A34. Shell Novelties, non-professional. May include animals, figures, etc.

A35. Shell Novelties, professional. May include animals, figures, etc.

A36. Shell-themed Needlework, non-professional. One item, any size, no kits allowed.

A37. Shell-themed Needlework, professional. Same rules as A36.

A38. Shell Photography, non-professional. Exhibits of up to 2' x 4' in size, overall; single or multiple photos. Photographs may be commercially processed and printed, but must have been taken by the competitor.

A39. Shell Photography, professional.
Same rules as A38.

A40. Depiction of shells, non-professional. In any 2D graphic medium (paint, pencil, ink, etc.) other than photography

A41. Depiction of shells, professional.
Same rules as A40.

A42. Models of living mollusks, non-professional. Real shells may be used, but the animal must be sculptured by the exhibitor.

A43. Models of living mollusks, professional. Same rules as A42.

A44. Shell Sculpture, non-professional. Shell-themed sculpture. No real shells may be used.

A45. Shell Sculpture, professional. Same rules as A44.

A46. Doll House/ Shell Shop, non-professional. A Doll House, Miniature Shell Shop, or similar structure decorated with real shells and miniatures made of shells.

A47. Doll House/ Shell Shop, professional.
Same rules as A46.

A48. Bird House, non-professional. A bird house either made of shells or covered over more than half with shells.

A49. Bird house, professional. Same rules as A48.

A50. Miscellaneous, non-professional. An artistic exhibit that does not fit any of the classes A1 through A49

A51. Miscellaneous, professional. Same rules as A50.

A52. Collectibles. Collectible pieces, ephemera, fine art or other artifacts incorporating shells or shell motifs.

NOTES:

- Valentines in classes **A4** to **A9** and **A14** to **A19** must be entirely the work of the artist. Valentines that employ found, commissioned, or other outsourced elements may be entered in **A10** to **A13**. The majority of the content nevertheless must be the artist's work.
- Valentines are measured across parallel sides, not corner to corner.
- Professional vs. non-profession. Professionals create pieces for sale, non-professionals do not sell created pieces in given medium..
- Professionals in one medium may exhibit as non-professionals in any substantially different medium in which they have never sold work.
- Valentines made in formal classes must be marked as such



THE PILSBRY AWARD: RULES AND GUIDELINES

The Pilsbry Award recognizes exhibits at the Philadelphia Shell Show that present original discoveries and ideas about mollusks. It is sponsored by the Malacology Department at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. The award is named for Henry A. Pilsbry, curator of mollusks at the Academy from 1888 to 1957, who named more than 6,000 species and genera of marine, land, freshwater and fossil mollusks. Winners of the Pilsbry Award receive a crystal vase engraved with images of *Latiaxis pilsbryi*, provided through the generosity of Sue Hobbs of Cape May, New Jersey.

To qualify for the Pilsbry Award, an exhibitor must present significant new ideas, not merely summarize what is already known. Many shell exhibits are quite scholarly in synthesizing and presenting a lot of information, but the exhibitor was not the person who first discovered the information. The Pilsbry Award is intended to recognize collectors who make their own observations of and hypotheses, who provide new evidence supporting or contradicting accepted wisdom, thereby advancing knowledge about mollusks.

Rules and Guidelines

- 1) The show must be open to the public.
- 2) No restrictions may be placed on the club or regional affiliation of exhibitors.
- 3) The show should follow the recommendations for sound judging process issued by the Conchologists of America.
- 4) One or more of the judges for the show must have published at least three papers on mollusks in refereed scientific journals.
- 5) Judging is to an absolute standard. No award shall be given if the judges deem that no exhibit fulfills the standards of the award; multiple awards may be given if more than one exhibit meets the standards.
- 6) The Pilsbry Award emphasizes scientific merit, rather than beauty, scope, or educational value *per se*, so an exhibit need not win a blue ribbon in its class to be eligible.
- 7) An exhibit can win the Pilsbry Award only once.
- 8) An exhibit can win both the Pilsbry Award and another major award at the same show, subject to the other award's rules.
- 9) Borrowed shells may be used if the source of the specimens is acknowledged in the exhibit. (Note: this may prohibit entry in other classes in some shows.)
- 10) Professional malacologists are not eligible for the Pilsbry Award. Shell dealers are eligible.

Judging Standards

In addition to being well-organized, neat and visually appealing, exhibits should

- 1) Contain significant new, unpublished knowledge about mollusks,
- 2) Go beyond mere observation,
- 3) Present well-reasoned arguments distinguishing facts from assumptions and assertions,
- 4) Credit information derived from existing literature,
- 5) Present enough descriptive, comparative, or graphic material to let viewers decide whether they agree with the conclusions,
- 6) Follow the standard format described below.

Format

Exhibits competing for the Pilsbry Award should follow the same format normally used in science fair exhibits and in scientific publications:

- 1) *Abstract* (optional): Summary of the entire study, including the conclusions.
- 2) *Introduction*: Objectives of the study, with enough background information to put them in context.
- 3) *Materials and Methods*: How the study was performed, stated in sufficient detail that someone could replicate the study.
- 4) *Results*: Presentation of the factual results of the study, e.g., observations, measurements, graphs.
- 5) *Discussion*: Interpretation of the results and their significance, particularly in relation to previous studies by other workers.
- 6) *Conclusions*: Summary of important findings of the study. Note that negative conclusions can be just as important as positive ones.
- 7) *Acknowledgments* (optional): Names of those who helped, including photographic credits.
- 8) *Bibliography*: Published works cited in the exhibit's text.

Guidance

Since more than one Pilsbry Award can be given at a show, exhibitors are not competing against each other, but against an absolute standard. Therefore, it is reasonable for people to get comments on their ideas before putting a lot of effort into developing exhibits. Those aiming for the Pilsbry Award may contact me (or another professional malacologist) for advice. I can't guarantee that an exhibitor will win first time around, but I can help point people in the right direction.

Gary Rosenberg, Ph.D.

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Philadelphia, PA 19103-1195
215-299-1033
rosenberg@ansp.org

THE MASTERS AWARD: RULES AND GUIDELINES

Objective: The Masters Award is established to promote interest in shells and shell collecting by encouraging displays of high quality exhibits that have previously won any of the 'broad category' major awards at shell shows, specifically:

- The American Museum of Natural History Award
- The Conchologists of America Award
- The DuPont Trophy
- The Smithsonian Award
- The R. T. Abbott Award

The winning exhibit is judged to be generally superior in the major aspects of a conchological display.

Award administration: This award is administered by the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum of Sanibel, Florida. The Shell Museum shall set up a committee responsible for the operation of this award, to be headed by a chairperson. The committee's responsibility should include managing the finance of the award, the design of the award, the proper promotion of the award, selection of shell shows to give out this award, the dispatch of the award trophy to recipient shell shows and making sure the award process and guidelines are being adhered to. The committee chairperson shall be answerable to the Museum Director.

Award frequency: The Award Committee Chairperson should determine the number of trophies to be given every year. Under current circumstances, it is expected that no more than three trophies will be given per year. No shell show may give out this award more than once a year.

Shell show eligibility: The following criteria should be used in the selection of shell shows to give out this award:

- A. Shell shows that promote open participation by all exhibitors without restrictions.
- B. Shell shows that have an established history of attracting a large audience. An average of 1,500 spectators per event should be considered a minimum requirement.
- C. Shell shows that subscribe to a sound judging process as per the guidelines adopted for the Conchologists of America Award.
- D. Shell shows that provide ample and suitable space for accepting numerous large exhibits. Minimum space should be 500 linear feet made available for scientific displays.
- E. The selected shell shows should set up a separate category for the Masters Award. Exhibits in this category should not be eligible for any other awards (except 'People's Choice'- type awards).

Exhibit eligibility: All exhibits that have received a major 'Broad Category' award are eligible. An eligible exhibit should retain its original format, and its contents cannot be changed by more than 10%. Exhibits that have won other top level awards similar to the Masters Award such as the 'Best of the Best' trophy given out by the Broward Shell Show, are not eligible. An exhibit can receive the Masters trophy only once. The Masters Award may be withdrawn from any event or any exhibit that has not complied with the above guidelines.

Donald Dan, Masters Award Committee Chairman

Revised January 24, 2009

THE DU PONT TROPHY

awarded by the

DELAWARE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

for the most outstanding exhibit of the Shell Show

This annual award is made to the amateur collector or group responsible for the exhibit that, in the opinion of the judges, will be most inspiring and instructive for its educational value, accurate scientific data and attractiveness, and that will contribute most to the success of the Shell Show.

This trophy may only be awarded to a blue ribbon or first prize winner. It may not be awarded to any exhibit that has previously won it in this or any other shell show, any commercial dealer or any professional malacologist.

The purpose of this award is to advance the cause of amateur Malacology by encouraging the entry of exhibits that will stimulate public interest and increase appreciation of the hobby and the scientific study of mollusks. The official judges of the shell show shall determine the winner.

The Delaware Museum of Natural History

PO Box 3937
4840 Kennett Pike
Wilmington, DE 19807
(302) 658-9111

www.delmnh.org

Guidelines for the

CONCHOLOGISTS OF AMERICA AWARD

(COA Executive Board amended July 9, 1990)

The Conchologists of America Award, consisting of a trophy and a pin, has been established to encourage open participation by shell collectors at shell shows and to stimulate improvements in shell exhibits. This award, based on sound and impartial judging processes, is given at a shell show to a single scientific (as opposed to artistic) exhibit that best advances the interest in shells and shell collecting.

The COA Award may only be given to a blue ribbon or first prize winner, and may not be given to:

- an exhibit receiving another major award (i. e. Du Pont, Smithsonian, American Museum of Natural History etc.) at the same show (meaning on the same occasion)
- an exhibit that has previously won a COA award, at any show, unless fifty per cent or more of the contents and format have been changed or added
- a shell dealer, unless the exhibit is made entirely of self-collected shells
- a professional malacologist.

There is no limit to the number of times a person may win the COA Award.

The COA Award may be given only at shell shows open to the public and where no restrictions are placed on club or regional affiliation of the exhibitors.

This Award may be given to a shell club for its shell show no more than once a year. It is sent free of charge upon approval of a trophy request.

Sponsoring clubs are advised to incorporate the above guidelines in their respective shell show rules and have them communicated to all prospective exhibitors.

All clubs are encouraged to obtain membership in COA.

The COA Award Committee Chairman shall be responsible for receiving and processing trophy requests in a timely manner and for overseeing that the aforementioned guidelines are adhered to.

2017 PHILADELPHIA SHELL SHOW

EXHIBITOR ENTRY FORM

Every exhibitor must submit a copy of the entry form. Mailed, faxed and e-mailed entries must be **received** (not postmarked) by **September 21 2017**. Entries may be handed in at the September 21 Philadelphia Shell Club meeting. Please print neatly or type. Use a separate line for each exhibit. There is no entry fee. Be sure to read the 2017 Philadelphia Shell Show rules before submitting the form. All information is confidential until the date of the show. If you would like to attend the Saturday evening dinner, please purchase a ticket in advance. Details will be available on the club web site in early summer.

Exhibits that are ineligible for competition because of previous awards may be entered in a new class, if appropriate, or in Division C, "Non-competitive". Please note whether the exhibit has previously won the COA or DuPont Award. If, after reading the specifications for the Pilsbry Award, you think that your exhibit or any part of it is eligible, check the "Pilsbry Candidate?" column. Enter the Masters Award only if you have previously won a major award as described under the heading Masters Award and wish to enter that exhibit in the Masters category (#M1).

WHEN THE FORM IS COMPLETE, MAKE A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS.

BRING A COPY TO THE SHOW WHEN YOU SET UP.

SETUP IS ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2017

FROM 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM. NO "EARLY BIRDS" PLEASE.

Phone at the Guard's Desk at the 19th St Entrance: 215-299-1019

Exhibitor's Name _____

Phone _____ **E-mail** _____

Address _____

Age and Grade if Student _____

Additional Attendees (for security registration) _____

Exhibitor's name

For revisions to classes, see Show Rules (p.3)

| Division (S, A, M or N) | Class (1-52) | No. of items/ cases | Exhibit length (ft.) | Needs electrical power? | Prior COA/ DuPont winner? | Pilsbry candidate? | Professional/ non-prof. | Title of exhibit and/or brief description |
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I have read the rules of the 2017 Philadelphia Shell Show and agree to abide by them. I understand that the Philadelphia Shell Club and the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia accept no responsibility for loss of or damage to any shell, collection of shells or other display.

Signature _____ Date _____

Check here if you would like your exhibit to be considered for the 2017 special award.

Completed forms should be **Mailed** to:
Exhibits Chairman **J. B. Sessoms** • PO Box 306, Somers Point NJ 08244
Keep a copy for yourself and bring it to the show with your setup