

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

- Q. 1. If I win a state chapter Jim Story Award competition with a specific gourd, can I replace it with a different gourd to enter the national Jim Story Award competition?**
- A. NO. The gourd that wins a Jim Story Award competition at the chapter level must be the same gourd entered in the national competition. NO REPLACEMENTS will be accepted.
- Q. 2. Assuming a grower entered different manipulated gourds in different competitions and won two or more state competitions, could all of his winners be entered in the national competition?**
- A. NO. The grower may enter only one winner per year in the national competition. If a grower wins more than one state completion, that grower must select only one winner to enter in the national competition.
- Q. 3. Can I use a gourd grown in the past (not the previous year) to enter the national Jim Story award competition?**
- A. YES. Any single manipulated gourd grown by the applicant since January 1, 2009 that has not previously won 1<sup>st</sup> place in a state manipulated gourd competition is eligible. It must first win a local manipulated gourd competition for the CURRENT year.
- Q. 4. Can entries be in any state competition category or must it be in a specific category for gourds whose shape was manipulated by the grower?**
- A. The gourd may be in any category for dried, hand trained or manipulated gourds. Any manipulation method is acceptable. No decorations or embellishments are permitted.
- Q. 5. Is there a deadline for sending in an application for the national competition?**
- A. YES. The deadline for submitting your qualifying entry is November 30th.
- Q. 6. How are winners selected?**
- A. A panel of qualified judges, preferably with gourd manipulation experience, will determine the winner. The decision of the judges is final.
- Q. 7. Who is responsible for entering the State Chapter Jim Story Award winner into the AGS Competition?**
- A. The entrant must complete and submit the application for the national competition. Chapter President and/or Show chairperson will strongly encourage their show winner to do it.
- Q. 8. What is the responsibility of the State Show/Chapters with regard to the Jim Story Award winner at their show?**
- A. The chapter president and/or the competition chairperson should notify the AGS Jim Story Award committee of: (a) the number of entrants in the Manipulated Gourd/Jim Story Award category and (b) the winner's name, phone number, and email address.
- Q. 9. What does the winner have to do after winning 1st place at the State Chapter Show?**
- A. Complete and submit the application with a minimum of two photos:
- One of the winning gourd and ribbon
  - One with you and your winning gourd (this one will also be published in *The Gourd Magazine*.)
  - Additional photos of the manipulation process are encouraged and may be used for educational purposes.