

2023 Definitions of Special Awards

Conrad House Innovation Award (\$2,500): The mission of the Heard Museum is to advance American Indian art. The Conrad House Innovation Award is given to a work of art that in both concept and quality-of-execution serves **to advance an American Indian art form.**

Winning art of Classifications I through IX Innovation Awards compete for this award. The Conrad House Innovation Award winner competes for Best of Show.

Idyllwild Arts Imagination Award (\$2,500): The winning work expresses the unique vision and imagination of the artist **in addressing issues of importance to indigenous communities.** The spectrum of the “**imagination**” **includes concept and/or use of materials and may defy traditional classification.**

We are proud that Idyllwild Arts Foundation - Native American Arts Program & Festival is sponsoring the award. The winning art will be **selected from among all the art** that is entered into Juried Competition.

Indian Arts and Crafts Association Commemorative Award (\$2,500): This award continues the work of 40+ years of the Indian Arts and Crafts Association and honors those artists who seek to carry on its mission. The recipient(s) (artist or collaborators) who have created an artwork which best exemplifies any or all these facets:

- 1) An artistic reference that acknowledges and educates viewers about cultural tradition, authenticity, or the history of American Indians, either through subject matter or execution,
- 2) What Native Identity means, currently and in the future, and
- 3) Cultural Appropriation, including the inappropriate use of Native imagery and symbols as well as the fraudulent imitation, production, and marketing of American Indian arts and crafts by non-Native people.

The winning art will be **selected from among all the art** that is entered into Juried Competition.

Definition of Classification XI – Open Standards

(Best of Classification \$2,500, 1st Place \$750, 2nd Place \$250 and 2 Honorable Mention Ribbons-non-cash): The winning work challenges and ultimately broadens the public’s understanding of American Indian art. The work **defies traditional classifications**, and may even be difficult to understand, but leaves little doubt that an artist has successfully made American Indian art **about the future.**

To qualify for this classification, you must complete a form detailing the specific standard that was not met and explain how your art meets the definition above. Entries into this classification will count toward the three entries allowed per artist into Juried Competition.