



West Kingdom Arts and Science Handbook

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Welcome the Arts and Sciences (A&S) pages of the West Kingdom website. A&S has long been one of the core parts of the SCA. It is hoped that these pages will help with understanding the existing programs within the Kingdom of the West, point you to resources, encourage participation at all levels and in all forms.

Each group in the West Kingdom has a person whose task it is to foster the A&S within that group. Not all groups have a designated A&S Officer, in which case, it is part of the job of the Seneschal for the group.

The current West Kingdom A&S Officer is Karius Hutzelmann and the email is arts@westkingdom.org.

The Deputy for the A&S Office is (open)

Feel free to contact them with questions.

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The Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion

The West Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion is a mix of a job and recognition. The Champion is acknowledged and assumes the position at 12th Night and serves for the following year. The A&S Champion is chosen in a Pentathlon style competition (5 entries – 1 in each category).

The Role and Job of the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion:

Recognition:

- Ceremony at 12th Night
- Option of swearing/receiving Fealty
- Award of Arms if not already a holder of such
- Medallion &/or cloak of office for the year in such office

Job:

- Perform one project to benefit the Kingdom, with the approval of the A&S Minister and the Crown, such as a class, organize guest lectures, organize or perform demonstrations of period techniques, create a prize challenge, or other such. If the project is to be a piece of Regalia, it must be approved by the Regalia Committee.
- Assist the A&S Minister with the planning of any A&S Kingdom level event such as the A&S Tournament and the A&S Championship.

You do not become the next A&S Minister and are not responsible for running the next competition set if you win the annual A&S Competition.

Applicable Laws – Article IV Sections 7.5.3, 7.5.4 & 7.5.5

Section 7.5.3

The Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion may choose to swear fealty, receive the protection of the Crown, and be available to advise the Crown upon the Crown's request. The position of Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion carries an Award of Arms if the Champion is not already armigerous.

Section 7.5.4

The Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion may wear the medallion and/or cloak of office, to be passed on to the new champion at Twelfth Night Coronation.

Section 7.5.5

During their tenure the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion, with the approval of the Minister of Arts and Sciences and the Crown, must begin at least one project for the benefit of the Kingdom, such as teach classes, organize guest lectures, demonstrate period A&S techniques, create an A&S prize challenge, contribute to the kingdom through regalia (in consultation with the Kingdom Regalia Committee) or fundraising prize(s). The Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion shall assist the

Minister of Arts and Sciences with the planning of any Kingdom-level arts and sciences events.

Choosing the A&S Champion – the A&S Pentathlon

The Five (5) Entry Categories:

- **Practical Science:** A science that is not necessarily a trade. Includes making textiles, cooking, weaving, brewing.
- **Technical Science:** A science that is a trade or would require learning from a professional. Includes woodwork, metalwork, leatherwork, and glasswork.
- **Performing Art:** An art you present to an audience. May be original or period.
- **Fine Art:** A visual art used primarily or solely for aesthetic beauty. Includes clothing, calligraphy, oil painting, illumination, and needlework.
- **Research Paper or Masterwork:** A substantial piece of academic writing using independent research into a topic with a description of the findings of that research. Masterwork is an additional item that uses at least **2** of the 4 previous categories.

Guidelines:

- You must enter ALL 5 categories to run for the A&S Champion – 4 with physical entries and one with a performance. The performance may be via DVD if (a) you cannot be present at the competition AND (b) it has been previously arranged with the A&S Minister.
- Please print out 3 copies of your documentation, if possible, for the judges' ease of review. Do not put your name on them, but do put the entry title, category, and date.
- You should have some form of documentation for each entry – remember it is about 20% of the possible scoring points.
- Entries should not have been entered in any prior Kingdom level competition.
- Entries should have been completed within the last 2 years.
- There must be at least 2 entrants with qualifying scores for the competition to be run. It may be postponed to a later date if there are not 2 entrants or put on hiatus until the next year.
- Qualifying scores are entries that have 50% or better of the available points based on the current judging sheets.
- Research papers should be adequate to explain the topic in detail and point out key pieces of information to be considered when understanding the topic. While there is no page limit, be kind to your judges.
- Entries should be dropped off at the designated event and location; then picked up the same day at the designated time.
- The winner is the entrant with the highest overall score from all 5 entries.
- Note that there is provision for entrants that are not running for A&S Champion to enter individually the competitions and have their entry piece judged.

Documentation:

- Documentation should provide historical context for your project – how, why, when, where, and who.
- Documentation should cover how you made your project including materials and tools used. Discuss the process you went through. If you made choices along the way explain the basis for making those choices and the why of any substitutions.
- Include citations where appropriate.
- Include a bibliography of your research.
- Include a primary source if possible.
- There is NO limit on the number of pages, either a minimum or a maximum. Since there are multiple entries, be nice to your judges and consider keeping your documentation to 5 pages or under, except for the Research Papers which may by their nature require greater length.
- Do not put your name on your documentation. Do put the name of the project, competition name, and date.
- Make 3 copies of your documentation, if you can.
- Bind your pages in some form so they don't get lost or out of order (staple, folder, etc.)

Applicable Laws – Article 4 Sections 7.5, 7.5.1, & 7.5.2

Section 7.5 Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion

The Kingdom Arts and Sciences Minister is responsible for furthering the arts and sciences within the Kingdom of the West through organization of lectures, classes, demonstrations of period arts and sciences techniques, creation of prize challenges, and any other activity that will further the arts and sciences to the populace. Therefore, the Arts and Sciences Minister is responsible for administration of the annual Kingdom Arts and Sciences competition to determine the next Arts and Sciences Champion.

Section 7.5.1

In order to encourage a culture of competition for personal betterment, the annual Kingdom Arts and Sciences competition shall be held all on one day. It may be scheduled concurrent with any or all of the other Kingdom Championships (currently Archery, Equestrian and Rapier). The purpose of the competition will be to select the next Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion and encourage constructive criticism of the entrant's personal art such that each entrant may grow from the experience. The title Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion shall be awarded to the individual who achieves the highest overall qualifying score, in all categories, during the competition.

Section 7.5.2

The competition for the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Championship will be a Pentathlon of five broad categories. Competitors may enter any or all of the

competitions, but must compete in each of the five categories to be considered for the Championship. The five broad categories are Performing Arts, Fine Arts, Practical Sciences, Technical Sciences and a) Research Paper or b) Masterwork. A Masterwork is defined as a separate item or project that combines at least two of the other categories into a masterwork piece but does not replace an item from any other category. The Minister of Arts and Sciences may, at their discretion, make suggestions for each category but may not limit them.

A competition will be deemed to have been held if either of the following occurs:
Three or more individual entries are signed in (which may be by one or multiple entrants)

OR

Two or more entries are signed in (which may be one or multiple entrants), AND both have qualifying scores.

At least 50% of available points based on current judging sheets must be earned to be considered qualifying scores.

Displays – Wreath of Athena & Other Opportunities

The Arts and Sciences are an essential element in our organization. The sharing of information about A&S can take place in a structured or unstructured environment.

The Wreath of Athena:

One such structure is mandated in Kingdom Law – a display at every Crown event that is coordinated by the Kingdom A&S Minister. The goal is to provide a welcoming opportunity for artisans to display their work and for the populace to see the wonderful projects and themselves be inspired.

Elements:

- All artisans are welcome to display their A&S projects
- Projects need not be completed
- Projects need not be accompanied by documentation
- Polling by the populace for favorite item
- No judging sheets but entrants may put out comment cards if they wish feedback.

Participation:

- You need not be invited to participate in the Wreath of Athena display as it is open to all artisans.
- You should presume that the display will be happening at every Crown event.
- You should listen to the Heralds announcements for drop off and pick up of items; location and times.
- Everyone should drop by and see the fabulous items created and participate in the polling.

Recognition:

- The artisans responsible for the top 3 highest scoring pieces are called into court with their items so that all may see their work.
- Top scoring artisan receives a wreath to wear for the remainder of the event and keep as a remembrance. The award recognition is also added to the awards database.

Other Opportunities:

Displays may be sponsored or organized by any group or person within the Kingdom. Each display will have its own requirements. Organizers should coordinate with the autocrat of the event where it is being held.

Displays may be done in a physical environment or in a digital environment.

Applicable Laws – Article IV

Section 8.28 - Order of the Wreath of Athena

Section 8.28.1

At every Crown Tournament event, individual artisans will be invited to display their Arts and Sciences projects; these projects need not be completed nor need they be accompanied by documentation. This display, hosted by the Minister of Arts and Sciences, represents the work of populace members who are practicing the Arts and Sciences to the best of their ability.

Section 8.28.2

The Minister of Arts and Sciences will facilitate a popular polling format wherein each member of the populace votes on their favorite item in the display, i.e. each member of the populace selects the item that they like the best without executing a judging sheet or making comments.

Section 8.28.3

The individual who prevails, as well as the artisans responsible for the next two highest placing displayed pieces, shall be called into court to display their work and to receive three cheers.

Section 8.28.4

The individual who prevails is given the "Wreath of Athena" which is a rosemary wreath decorated with purple and yellow ribbons, i.e. the colors of the Arts and Sciences Office. The victor of this popular polling will then be allowed to wear this wreath for the duration of the event and this honor will be recorded in the awards list.

Collegium – classes primarily in an indoor environment

In the annals of time, it was thought that it would be nice to have a venue to do classes that would lend themselves to being taught indoors rather than outdoors at the Arts and Sciences Tournament. Thus was born, Collegium Occidentalis in 1987.

In order for more people to be exposed to the learning opportunity and for more people to have an opportunity to teach/share their learning, it has been the custom to alternate the Collegium location between the Principality of the Mists and the Principality of Cynagua when possible.

The Collegium Chancellor is a deputy to the Seneschal Events Deputy. Contact them directly if you wish to teach or know of a good venue.

Everyone is welcome to teach what they know.
Everyone is welcome to come learn.

Collegium Occidentalis Website

<http://www.collegium.westkingdom.org/>

Arts and Science Tournament – classes primarily in an outdoor environment

As Arts and Sciences are central to the organization of the SCA, it was suggested that an event be held where the focus was on encouraging learning and teaching of all relevant fields. Thus was born in 1989 the first “Arts and Sciences Tourney”.

The event is organized by the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Minister with the assistance of the current Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion.

Everyone is welcome to teach what they know.
Everyone is welcome to come learn.

Traditionally, this event has been over a weekend and held in the central part of the Kingdom to enable the most number of people to attend.

Applicable Laws – Article III Section 7

Section 7 - Arts and Sciences

The Minister of Arts and Sciences is the chief artistic and scientific officer of the Crown and is responsible for the encouragement and development of the arts and sciences within the realm. The Minister of Arts and Sciences conducts the annual Kingdom Arts and Sciences competition (see Article IV Section 7.5), oversees the Order of the Wreath of Athena display (see Article IV, Section 8.28), organizes displays and classes at Kingdom events, and serves on the Royal Commission for Regalia. The Minister of Arts and Sciences shall assist the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion with the planning of any Kingdom-level arts and sciences events. The Minister of Arts and Sciences shall maintain communication with the Ministers of the Wooden Spoon and the Pied d’Argent, and offer assistance should they need it.

The Arts & Sciences (A&S) Office and Minister of Arts and Sciences

The Minister of Arts and Sciences is tasked with promoting the Arts and Sciences within the West Kingdom. Arts and Sciences are part of the core of our organization and the Minister of Arts and Sciences is a key resource in organizing and locating resources.

The Minister of Arts and Sciences is one of the Great Officers of State. The term of office is 2 years and much happens during those years.

- Conducts the annual Kingdom Arts and Sciences Competition with the assistance of the current A&S Champion.
- Enables the Order of the Wreath of Athena display to happen at each Crown Tournament.
- Organizes the annual Arts and Sciences Tournament with the assistance of the current A&S Champion.
- Organizes displays and classes at Kingdom events, as appropriate, and with the assistance of the current A&S Champion.
- Serves on the Royal Commission for Regalia.
- Coordinates with and assists, as needed, the Ministers of the Wooden Spoon and the Pied d'Argent.
- Reports in writing to the Society A&S Minister as required.
- Reports in orally or in writing to the Current and Incoming Royals and the Seneschal at the Kingdom Officers meetings.
- Coordinates and collects the reports of all branches of the Kingdom on their A&S activities; and provides advice and assistance as needed.
- Maintains a roster of all branches and their A&S reporting officer of record.
- Coordinates with other Kingdom Officers as needed.

Applicable Laws – Article III

Section 1, 2, 3 &

Section 7 - Arts and Sciences

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The Role and Reporting for Local A&S Officers

Each group in the West Kingdom has a person whose task it is to foster the A&S within that group. Not all groups have a designated A&S Officer, in which case, it is part of the job of the Seneschal for the group.

Local A&S Officers are no longer warranted; instead they are rostered. This Roster is the table kept in the Google Group files. The current A&S officer for each group, or the seneschal is responsible for keeping the information up to date and to facilitate the change over of officers.

To this end the Kingdom A&S Minister coordinates a “group”. The group is comprised of the A&S Officers of each geographical group in the Kingdom or the Seneschal if there is no one so designated. Through this medium the members report on the activities of their group’s both special events and recurring events. The reports need to be made 4 times a year and must meet the deadlines set out by the Kingdom A&S Minister (March 1, June 1, September 1, & December 1). The information collected will be used to form the Kingdom and Society level reports of the Kingdom A&S Minister that are due no later than the 15th of March, June, September and December.

Through the medium of this group, local officers can exchange ideas and highlight service and growth of members of their local area. Since all groups report, the Principality Officers need only report on Principality level events.

This group can also serve to help recognize people who are doing an outstanding job; either as a volunteer or as an artist or scientist. Contact your Principality or Kingdom MOAS, or use the award recommendation form if you would like to suggest someone be recognized by the Royalty for their work.

If you are the local A&S officer or the Seneschal of a group without a specific designated A&S officer, please join this group.

<https://groups.google.com/a/westkingdom.org/forum/#!forum/arts-sciences>

A&S activities in various areas of the Kingdom of the West

Each of the Principalities have A&S programs. You can read about them here:

Principality of the Mists:

Competitions <http://mists.westkingdom.org/arts-sciences/>

Silver Muse – Principality Level award who meets the qualifications outlined <http://mists.westkingdom.org/arts-sciences/>

Resources – including the judging sheets, and links to some helpful websites <http://mists.westkingdom.org/as-resources/>

Principality of Cynagua:

The recipient of the Lumen Cynagua is the victor of the Arts and Sciences Championship of the Principality, and for the following year is the Principality Artisan, whose job it is to give instructions to all who would learn from the victor. There are at least 8 Arts and Sciences Competitions held throughout this year long period. A competitor must enter at least ½ (one!half) of them to be eligible. Only Cynaguan residents are eligible! For the Lumen Cynagua.

<http://cynagua.westkingdom.org/>

Principality of Oertha:

The Oerthan Arts and Sciences Championship is outlined here <http://oertha.westkingdom.org/aands.html>

Resources – a set of links to resources in multiple areas. <http://oertha.westkingdom.org/arts&sciences/aandsresources.html>

The West Kingdom also has a number of Guilds. Here is a list and contact information.

http://www.westkingdom.org/wk_guilds.htm

Principality may also have Guilds. Check out their websites for further information.

Local groups of all levels have A&S “nights” and other activities at their event. Feel free to check out the West Kingdom Calendar for a list of all events with links to information about various activities at each event.

<http://www.westkingdom.org/calendar/sca>