



2024 NOVA Open Capital Palette Miniature Art Show

INTRODUCTION

The NOVA Open Convention invites hobbyists and artists to proudly display their work in Capital Palette, a juried, open-forum award, miniature art show. Capital Palette uses a panel of experienced judges that award gold, silver, and bronze awards for six (6) Categories across three (3) Divisions. In this open forum art show, there can be multiple gold, silver, or bronze winners (or no winners) in a category. Each submitting artists' work is individually evaluated and receives the level of award the judges feel their work merits, without regard to the awards given to other pieces in the same Division and Category.

1.0 DIVISIONS & CATEGORIES

The Capital Palette uses multiple Divisions to separate artists by their skill level prior to evaluating entries. Each entry is judged on its individual merits in the open-forum fashion. However, standards for judging Gold, Silver, and Bronze are scaled based on Division, allowing artists in different Divisions to compare themselves to their peers.

Entries are not limited to miniatures which would be used in tabletop wargames or other Sci- Fi/Fantasy themed models. The modeling world is full of historical models and figures, alternative vehicles, landscapes and imaginary scenes. The painting itself is more important than the model figure.

1.1 Divisions:

There are three (3) Divisions within the Capital Palette:

a) Apprentice

The Apprentice Division is for beginners and is designed for new miniature painters and beginner young painters. Apprentice entries can be upgraded to Journeyman at the discretion of NOVA Open staff and/or Capital Palette judges.

b) Journeyman

The Journeyman Division is the largest Division focused on artists that are into gaming as much as they are into painting. This Division is for hobbyists that are active in their gaming communities and established artists getting back into painting after an absence. Journeyman entries can be upgraded to Masterclass at the discretion of NOVA Open staff and/or Capital Palette judges.

c) Masterclass

The Masterclass Division is for exceptional artists who have been competing and establishing themselves as masters in the hobby and painting communities. Masterclass focuses on top tier painters, those that have won major awards in the past (e.g., Golden Daemon, Crystal Brush, and of course Capital Palette), and/or paint and teach this art form professionally.

1.2 Categories:

There are six Categories within each Division of the Capital Palette Painting competition as follows:

a) Single Model, up to 54mm Scale

Any single figure model, up to and including 54mm scale figures, in any theme. Single figures on a display base may include ancillary models (e.g., familiars, small animals, etc.) necessary to add to the scene.

Examples include: all Warhammer 40k and Age of Sigmar playable figures, Star Wars: Legion or Shatterpoint figures, or Marvel: Crisis Protocol Characters.

b) Single Model, over 54mm Scale

Any single figure model, over 54mm scale, in any theme. Single figures on a display base may include ancillary models (e.g., familiars, small animals, etc.) necessary to add to the scene.

Examples include: Viking Warrior 10th century from Revolution Miniatures, or Murksashi from Big Child Creatives.

c) Diorama, All Scales

Any diorama, in all scales, in any theme. Diorama entries are designed to communicate a story to the viewer. Dioramas can involve multiple models, as with a duel, or no models, as with a burning shed in a field. Please keep in mind the size requirements for all entries.

d) Vehicle, All Scales

Any vehicle, in all scales, in any theme. For this category, the focus should be on the vehicle, with ancillary figures in support for the story.

Examples include: walkers (e.g., Dreadnoughts, Warjacks, mechanical constructs), cars, planes, tanks, ships, trains, etc.

e) Unit / Squad

Any number of models with a minimum of three (3) figures, in any scale, in any theme, displayed as a cohesive unit. Entries in this category must be submitted on a single coherent base to better indicate that they are part of a single submission and reduce model handling.

f) Busts, All Scales

Any bust, in all scales, in any theme. This includes scale busts, and “partial figure” busts that include a torso. Please keep in mind the size requirements for all entries.

1.2.1 “Scale” is how we describe the size of the model as a ratio compared to the full-size subject. *This is not the size of the base used.* Where "all scales" is permitted, be aware that if a piece is too large, it may impact Capital Palette’s ability to display.

Any artist who has questions about category placement is encouraged to contact NOVA Open Customer Service (customerservice@novaopen.com) before NOVA Open or discuss with Capital Palette Staff during registration.

2.0 ADDITIONAL AWARDS

The following awards are not affected by Division or Category, except as expressly stated in the description:

2.1 Best in Show:

Capital Palette Judges Panel will select one model from each Category from their Division to be of the Best in Category winners. One of the Best in Category winners will be chosen as the overall Best in Show winner.

2.2 Fan Favorite:

Fan Favorite is decided by all NOVA Open attendees. All attendees with a Convention Badge are encouraged to cast a ballot for their favorite model. Each attendee gets one voting ballot with their entry. Votes can be cast at any time until voting closes at 6:00 pm EST on Saturday evening.

The NOVA Open staff recommends that convention attendees make multiple passes by the Capital Palette display cases throughout the convention prior to casting their vote, which will allow them to see the widest selection of submissions.

2.3 Sponsored Awards:

Sponsored Awards awarded by Businesses, Vendors, or Artists that follow requirements of the miniature hobby that is most interest to them. These awards will be advertised and may include any number of requirements as noted by the sponsor. If you or your Company would like to sponsor an Award please contact NOVA Open Customer Service.

3.0 ENTRY, ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS & AGREEMENT

The following rules, requirements and limitations apply to all Capital Palette artists and entries:

3.1 Anyone submitting in the Capital Palette must purchase a Convention Badge. Additional Capital Palette fees registration apply for each entry.

3.2 Capital Palette entries must be purchased through Tabletop Events- Merch Sales. Select the total number of entries you expect to enter. You will designate your Divisions and Categories on the Capital Palette Registration Form upon check-in.

3.2.1 Refunds will be granted though Table-Top Events for withdrawing from the Capital Palette before registration.

3.3 There is a limit of three (3) entries per category/per artist; there is no limit to the number of categories you may enter.

3.4 At the time of submission, each artist must designate which Division they believe is best suited for their entries. The Capital Palette staff and judges presume all entries are made in good faith; however, judges reserve the right to shift a model to a different division. For example, if a entry displays a level of skill that is more appropriate for a Journeyman than an Apprentice, the judges may elect to judge it in the more appropriate division.

Artist submissions may be disqualified if it is discovered an artist chose a lesser division in bad faith, deliberately trying to game the system.

3.5 All composition and painting must be the artist's own work. No team entries are allowed, although uncredited conversion work, sculpting, etc. from another party will be accepted. This includes the submission of scratch-built models built by another party and 3D printed figures legally obtained but painted by the submitting artist.

3.6 Models from any manufacturer are allowed for entry. This includes scratch-built models and 3D printed figures which are allowed and encouraged.

3.7 Artists agree to have their entries photographed, videoed, or otherwise recorded by NOVA Open. Prize-winning artists, likewise, agree to have their person photographed, videoed, or otherwise recorded. All such recordings shall be the property of NOVA Open and shall be for purposes of identification and promotion. All likenesses will be unedited and credited to the artist.

3.8 Artists agree to provide all entries, at their own risk to NOVA Open/ Capital Palette for the duration of the competition for the purpose of display, photography, and judging. Capital Palette staff will make every effort to safely handle and secure entries, but NOVA Open accepts no responsibility for damage to or loss of entries during the convention.

3.9 Capital Palette displays artwork for viewing by all those who attend the NOVA Open Convention, which includes people from all ages and walks of life. Therefore, at its sole discretion, NOVA Open reserves the right to NOT DISPLAY any submission considered inappropriate or offensive. This provision is intended only to preserve flexibility in the rules to respect that element of the competition, if necessary. This rule ONLY applies to displaying the models in the public display. This decision is not made by the Capital Palette judges; as such, it will neither interfere with nor affect the judging of any item submitted in this art competition. All submissions are eligible to win prizes in the competition.

Any artist who wishes an entry displayed, but has concerns that their entry may be questionable, is encouraged to contact the NOVA Open Customer Service (customerservice@novaopen.com).

3.10 All NOVA Open Staff may submit entries for the open-forum competition and can receive medals if their work warrants it. NOVA Open Staff are ineligible to win the Best in Show Award. NOVA Open Staff are eligible to win Fan Favorite award.

4.0 CHECK-IN, HANDLING & PICK UP

The following information applies to all Capital Palette artists and entries:

4.1 Check-ins and pickups follow the posted Capital Palette Schedule and work in conjunction with the NOVA Open Registration Desk onsite at the Convention. Entries will only be received during posted hours.

4.2 Artists must register their entries in person; this must be the same person who painted the model(s).

4.3 Submitting artists must sign the Capital Palette registration form permitting display and judgment of each entry according to the rules and agreements specified in this document. Artists must provide any special handling instructions for their entry, in writing, at the time of registration. Artists may authorize a designee to pick up model(s) if said artist is unavailable. To officially appoint a designee, an artist must name the person on their entry form or speak with the Capital Palette support staff.

4.4 Artists must sign a Hold Harmless agreement with the NOVA Open at the time of Capital Palette check-in. This agreement is part of the Capital Palette Entry form.

4.5 NOVA Open is not responsible for transportation of entries to/from the event site. This is the sole responsibility of the artist. The Washington Hilton may receive/ship packages for anyone staying onsite; please contact the Washington Hilton for their process; such arrangements are the responsibility of the artist.

4.6 No storage space for transportation materials (e.g., figure cases) will be provided. There will be no off-hours storage for entries. Off-hours are those hours when the competition area is not guaranteed to be staffed. Submitted models will be secured either in the locked display cases or in locked storage during off-hours.

4.7 If the number of submissions exceeds the capacity of the display cases, Capital Palette staff will continuously rotate submissions between the display cases and the locked storage area. It is at the Staff's discretion as to which models are placed in the display cases and which models are stored in the storage area.

4.8. Capital Palette support staff reserve the right to limit the display of oversized dioramas and/or display models that are not contained within a liberal 12”L x 12”W x 18”H space. This restriction is not meant to curtail creativity, so much as to ensure the contest functions cleanly within the facilities and infrastructure NOVA Open has available. The dimension limitations are based upon a survey-level evaluation of the many submissions received over the years, nearly all of which were well within this size range. If you have a particular piece you are considering or motivated to create that would be beyond these dimensions, please email NOVA Open (customerservice@novaopen.com).

4.9 Submission check-in closes on Saturday night at 5:00pm. Check event schedule to confirm this time. Official judging takes place Saturday evening often into early Sunday morning.

4.10 Fan Favorite voting must be cast by 6:00 pm EST Saturday Evening.

4.11 Artists can pick up their models any time on Sunday morning once Capital Palette opens. All entries must be retrieved in person.

4.12 Artist may authorize a designee to pick up model(s) or prizes if they are unavailable to pick up in person. To officially appoint a designee, an artist must name the person on their entry form or speak with the Capital Palette support staff.

4.13 Artist, or a designee, must be present to claim prize awards during or after the Awards Ceremony on Sunday. Designees must be brought to the attention of NOVA Open Capital Palette staff beforehand.

4.14 For models and/or Awards not retrieved in person will become property of NOVA Open. Shipping can be arranged with cost incurred by the artist. Expect delays in retrieving these since they will be secured in storage.

5.0 JUDGING

The following information applies to all Capital Palette artists and entries:

5.1 Capital Palette utilizes three Divisions for this competition: Apprentice, Journeyman, and Masterclass. The Capital Palette uses a panel judging approach to this competition with one panel for each Division. These Judging Panels, chosen by the Capital Palette Head Judge, will consist of renowned miniature artists from across the United States and around the world. These Judges will be the sole arbiters of the results in each Division and Category of the Capital Palette. Their decisions are final.

5.2 The judging panels will select one model in each category from their Division as the Best in Category winner. The Masterclass Panel Judges will choose the overall Best in Show winner from the Category winners.

5.3 Decisions on Additional Awards (sections 2.2, 2.3) are judged by either attendees (Fan Favorite) or the primary sponsors of “Sponsored Awards” (unless, in their absence, the Capital Palette Judges). In all instances, these decisions are final. The Fan Favorite Award will be decided by votes cast by NOVA Open attendees.

5.4 Judges Participation. The Head Judge draws from various groups to build quality teams of accomplished miniature artists. The Head Judge and Masterclass Judges will not be permitted to enter the Capital Palette competition.

5.4.1 Judges may enter based on the following: The Head Judge will assign Judges to Panels in a Division one or two steps "lower" than the Division they enter. For example, if a Judge would enter Journeyman Division, then they are only eligible to judge the Apprentice Division; likewise, if a Judge would enter Masterclass, then they could judge in either the Journeyman or Apprentice Divisions.

6.0 CAPITAL PALETTE HOURS OF OPERATION

The following information applies to all Capital Palette artists and entries:

6.1 The Capital Palette schedule includes drop off/ voting/ pickup times, as well as judging and awards presentation times. Artists may begin dropping off submission Thursday Morning and throughout the rest of NOVA Open during open hours of Operation. Entry drop off deadline for

all submissions is 5:00 pm Saturday Evening. Late submissions will not be made available to Judges for awards evaluation or for Fan Favorite voting.

6.2 Artists may pick up their Entries any time on Sunday morning during posted Capital Palette Open hours. ALL submissions must be picked up before 5:00 pm Sunday afternoon. All models and awards not picked up by the deadline will be secured in NOVA Open secure storage. Please see 4.14 for more details.

6.3 Hours of Operation:

Wednesday:	Afternoon after set-up (instructors and Judges Only) others as time permits
Thursday:	9am – 5pm
Friday:	9am – 5pm
Saturday:	9am – 5pm
Sunday:	8am – 5pm (may be limited during Awards Ceremony)

7.0 AWARDS CEREMONY

Capital Palette Awards Ceremony will be conducted at 12:30 pm Sunday afternoon until complete; expect completion by 2:30 pm.

The location of the Awards Ceremony will be updated as we get closer to NOVA Open.