

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA  
DIRECTORATE OF ARTS & CULTURE**

**GUIDELINES FOR CONFERRING THE MEGHALAYA ART AWARD**

**Definition:**

The Award is an initiative to acknowledge the exemplary initiative and to recognise any individual or group who excel in Craftsmanship, Performing Arts, Visual and Fine Arts and Traditional herbal Medicine.

**Objective:**

1. To find the hidden talents and masters in respective fields who excel in their respective trades.
2. To preserve and promote the traditional skills using traditional natural resources linked to the State's Heritage.
3. To acknowledge the contribution of the citizens of the State in the field of Performing Arts, Craftsmanship, Fine Arts, Visual Arts, Traditional Herbal Practitioners and Proponents of dying or disappearing Arts and other related activities, for preserving and promoting the rich cultural heritage of the State.
4. To ensure that all such skills and knowledge which reflect the rich cultural heritage of the State are preserved and further promoted.
5. To reinvigorate and revitalise the State's century old skills which connect them with the past especially the skills of the artisan and other traditional skills linked to various craftsmanship.
6. To motivate and encourage the Artists/Artisans/Living Exponents who have been responsible and instrumental in preserving and promoting traditional skills to regain their status and revive their potential for employment generation by imparting training to the Youths so that the rich art forms will retain their importance for the future generations.

**Description:**

The Scheme is formulated by the State Government aiming for the upliftment and development as well as preservation of Performing Art, Fine Arts, Visual Arts, Traditional Herbal Practitioners and proponents of dying or disappearing Art, Craftsmanship and Traditional Natural Resources (Traditional Herbal Practitioners).

1. **Performing Arts:** Creative activities like songs and dances that are performed in front of an audience, such as Drama, Music and Dance.
2. **Craftsmanship:** The quality of design and work shown in something made by hand/the quality of something made with great skill/the degree of quality exhibited by a handicraft.
3. **Fine Art:** Art intended to appeal to the sense of beauty, such as painting or sculpture.
4. **Visual Art:** Relating to seeing or sight such as picture, piece of film or display used to illustrate or accompany something.
5. **Traditional Herbal Practitioner:** Traditional Herbal practitioner is the local way of healing diseases with the use of natural herbs, roots, plants and other natural things in a given eco system.

6. **Expert:** Expert in the mentioned fields (Performing Art, Fine Art, Visual Arts, Craftsmanship, Traditional Herbal Practitioners and proponents of dying or disappearing Art).

**Eligibility Criteria:**

1. Artists/Artisans (as individual or group such as Registered Organisation/Association) who are talented exponents in Performing Arts, Fine Arts, Visual Arts, Traditional Herbal Practitioners and proponents of dying or disappearing Art Craftsmanship and Traditional Natural Resources and are identified as bonafide residents of the State of Meghalaya will be eligible.
2. Registered groups/Organisation/Association should have properly constituted Managing/Governing body having facilities and resources, past experience, etc.
3. While identifying the Living Exponents, due weightage will be given to the Living Exponents which may promote Performing Arts, Craftsmanship, Fine Arts, Visual Arts, Traditional Herbal Practitioners and Proponents of dying or disappearing Arts, etc.
4. The Scheme will offer an opportunity to the Talented individual or group to promote both the Traditional and Contemporary Art forms.
5. The Department of Arts and Culture through the Directorate and its District Offices and also from the website of the Department will provide the Application Forms to the Artists/Artisans/Living Exponents (Individual and Group) of various Traditional art forms.
6. The Directorate of Arts and Culture will forward the application and the lists submitted by the respective Deputy Commissioners to the Government for consideration/Approval.
7. The Cash Award for State Level will be Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand) only for Individual and Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One lakh) only for Group.
8. All applications as per proforma in Annexure I and II must be accompanied by documentary proofs such as photographs or videos of the Traditional art work.
9. The State Level Art Award Selection Committee will scrutinize the applications and the list received and select the best who is specialised and experienced in the mentioned categories i.e. Performing Art, Craftsmanship, Fine Arts, Visual Arts, Traditional Herbal Practitioners and Proponents of dying Art or disappearing Arts, etc.,

**Constitution of Selection Committee:**

- There shall be a **State Level Art Award Selection Committee** under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya and the members selected by the Department of Arts and Culture to scrutinize/examine the recommendations received from the Directorate of Arts and Culture, and recommend the best art work for the Award.
- The **State Level Art Award Selection Committee** Members will be as follows:

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|---|---|---|---------------|
| 1. Chief Secretary of the Govt. of Meghalaya                                    | - | - | Chairman      |
| 2. Addl. Chief Secretary of the Govt. of Meghalaya, Arts and Culture Department | - | - | Vice Chairman |
| 3. Joint Secretary of the Govt. of Meghalaya, Arts and Culture Department       | - | - | Member        |

4. Director, Arts & Culture, Meghalaya, Shillong	-	- Member Secretary & Convener
5. Expert	- Performing Art	- Member
6. Expert	- Craftsmanship	- Member
7. Expert	- Visual and Fine Art	- Member
8. Expert	- Traditional herbal Practitioner	- Member
9. Representatives	- Law Department	- Member
10. Representatives	- Planning Department	- Member
11. Representatives	- Finance Department	- Member

**Terms and Reference of the Selection Committee (State Level Art Award Selection Committee).**

1. To scrutinize/ evaluate and recommend the best Art work in the four categories, i.e., Performing Arts, Craftsmanship, Fine Arts, Visual Arts, Traditional Herbal Practitioners and Proponents of dying or disappearing Arts, etc. for the award.
2. While making the recommendation, it is considered necessary that very high standards shall be maintained in selecting the individual and group on whom the awards are to be conferred, it is also necessary that persons pre-eminently worthy of an award be not left out of consideration.
3. The recommendations for the Award shall be made after a detailed survey as indicated above and to be sent to Government not later by the end of June of the selection year.
4. The **State Level Art Award Selection Committee** will scrutinize the applications and identify the deserving candidates in each field/category.
5. The tenure of the Selection Committee will be for a period of 3 (three) years.

**Application Procedure:**

- a) Completed Application Forms (at Annexure) along with a sample of the work, either as a printed document or in CD/DVD.
- b) Images of upto 10 works, each image labelled with the artist's name, title of work, date, dimensions and medium. If works are part of a series please provide multiple images (each series will be considered a separate work). If there are video file(s) it should be compatible for playback on Windows Media/VLC/Real Player.
- c) Current resume.
- d) Applications will be accepted both in HARD and SOFT copy and also ONLINE. Late applications will not be accepted.

**Documents to be furnished along with the application:**

**1) For Groups**

- Copy of Registration Certificate/Act etc.,

- Constitution of the Organisation/Association/Group, Memorandum of Association, Rules and Regulations where applicable.
- Present composition of the Board of Management and/or Governing body.
- Copy of the latest available Annual Report.
- Attested copies of Documents/Photographs/Videos of the work done and achievements.

**2) For Individuals**

- Copy of EPIC.
- Brief description of the activities/work done by him/her in the last five years either in English or local language.
- Copy of Educational Certificates etc., if any.
- One recent Passport size Photograph.
- Attested copies of Documents/Photographs/Videos of the work done and achievements.

**Publicity/Advertisement of the Scheme:**

An advertisement will be placed both on the Notice Board of the Directorate and all the District Offices of the Directorate Arts and Culture and in the website of the Government as well as the print media for inviting applications and also seek the list of exponents from the respective Deputy Commissioners.

**Disqualification Clause:**

The applicant shall be liable for disqualification if any of the clauses/conditions of the undertaking given by him/her is subsequently found to be false/ incorrect.

**Declaration of the Award:**

- The Citation and Cash Award of Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand) only for Individual and Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees one lakh) only for group will be awarded.
- The Award shall be announced and presented every year on the occasion of Independence Day the 15<sup>th</sup> August.

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