

Display FAQs



JACKSONVILLE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

What's a Display?



The seemingly endless row of displays at the Gem & Mineral Show.

For the purposes of the annual Gem & Mineral show, a display is a glass fronted box with inner dimensions of approximately 23”h x 31”w x 23”d. The sides and bottom are lined with neutral colored fabric and there are

lights along the inner top. Risers may be placed in the case to add interest. Jewelry, mineral collections, fossils, cut or tumbled stones, or other materials are placed attractively in the case so that the general public may admire your work/ collection/creativity. If desired, the display may be entered into the show's competition, which can be a great way to receive critical feedback on your work.

Any JGMS member in good standing can enter a display!

- YOUTHS AGES 8-18 MAY ENTER THE JUNIOR DIVISION.
- FAMILY MEMBERS OR FRIENDS MAY WORK TOGETHER ON A SINGLE EXHIBIT.
- DISPLAYS DO NOT HAVE TO BE ENTERED INTO COMPETITION.
- FOR SECURITY AND TO ASSIST IN UNBIASED JUDGING, NAMES ARE NEVER PLACED ON THE DISPLAYS.

Why do we put up displays during the annual show?

The displays serve several functions during the show. They are an entry level competition, allowing new competitors to “get their feet wet” in a slightly more casual atmosphere. They

provide inspiration not just to customers of the gem show, but also to fellow JGMS members. The displays are the “face” of JGMS, prettily showing Jacksonville the purpose and func-

tionality of our society and may serve as educational tools for those unfamiliar with our work. And, perhaps the most important reason to display: It's a way to show off your work!

Setting up a case can be as easy as showing up with your stuff!

- RESERVE A CASE WITH ED PRICE.
- DECIDE IN ADVANCE HOW YOU'D LIKE YOUR DISPLAY TO LOOK. TRY TO KEEP IT BETWEEN FIVE AND FIFTY ITEMS.
- SHOW UP ON THURSDAY BETWEEN 12 AND 6 OR FRIDAY BEFORE NOON.
- CASES ARE ALREADY SET UP, LINED, AND LIT. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ARRANGE YOUR ITEMS. ONCE YOU'RE SATISFIED, THE CASES ARE SECURELY LOCKED
- HELP IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE! EXPERIENCED MEMBERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND OFFER ADVICE.

What goes in the displays?

The cases may contain anything relevant to JGMS. Cabochons or cut stones, finished jewelry or mineral specimens, educational or site specific exhibits are all welcome additions to the displays. There are even categories for petrified wood and gem trees.



An empty display case ready for the show.



The display color choices accent the specimen pieces beautifully.



Notice the symmetry in the layout.

Who are the judges?

JGSM is proud to have three judges certified by SFMS:

Dianne Johnson
Linda Price
Jim Robinson



The mining theme of this display falls into the Education category.



Multiple levels draw the eye.

How does the judging work?

Entries have a total possible score of 100 points unequally divided among criteria that may include quality, showmanship, rarity, labeling, workmanship, specimen preparation, variety, educational value, reference, explana-

tion, originality of design, and dating. Points may be deducted for items that are considered “out of class,” meaning any item in the display that is not relevant to the category of work. All items must be appropriately labeled.

Do you have any pointers?

The cases provided by the society are already lined and may be used as-is. If additional customization is desired, linings may be created simply with enough cloth and duct tape. Use clean, wrinkle-free fabric that accents your specimens, but avoid shiny materials such as satin. Varying levels may be used to add interest.

Place large items in the back to avoid

blocking the view of smaller items. Rows should be staggered for the same reason.

Do not crowd the case with too many items. Allow enough room so that each piece may be fully appreciated. A variety of color can be very striking.

The glass and the specimens should be clean and free of lint and fingerprints. Nothing should be pinned to or rest

Official rules may be found on the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) website:

http://www.amfed.org/rules/AFMS_Rules_2011.pdf

against the walls of the case.

Make sure everything is labeled correctly on cardstock or other thick material that will not curl under the heat of the lights.

Most importantly: don't forget to take a picture of your beautiful (and potentially award-winning) exhibit!

Don't forget to reclaim your display items!

- ARRIVE ON SUNDAY BETWEEN 4 AND 5PM TO DISMANTLE YOUR DISPLAY.
- IF YOU NEED SOMEONE ELSE TO PICK UP YOUR ITEMS, YOU MUST AUTHORIZE THEM ON THE DISPLAY SECURITY LOG OR MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ED PRICE.
- THE SOCIETY CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR UNCLAIMED ITEMS.

What about security?

After placing your items in the display and filling out the Display Security Log, your display will be locked. Police officers are on the grounds

during the entire course of the show. During show hours, JGMS volunteers provide additional unarmed security.