

Consignment Overview and Application

Thank you for your interest in becoming part of Treasures at GulfQuest, the National Maritime Museum of the Gulf of Mexico.

Our goal in promoting consignment sales at Treasures is to provide a unique shopping experience by featuring area artists' work, thereby providing an additional source of revenue for the museum, as well as for the artists whose consigned work is offered for sale here. GulfQuest may also choose to resell items that are not locally made for a diverse and unique product offering, but priority will be given to the local handcrafted items.

Eligible Work

We are looking for unique items that are made by local artists and artisans. These items must be made with a high standard of craftsmanship, design, and composition and should also seek to reflect the GulfQuest Museum's mission statement, promote current programs and/or exhibits, and highlight regional maritime history.

Items that we are looking for include: jewelry, note cards and stationary, children's items, vases, pottery, ceramics and glass work, kitchen and garden items, magnets, original small format paintings and prints, sculpture, and other unique gift items that may represent Mobile and the Gulf of Mexico.

Treasures patrons include GulfQuest members, tourists, children, and visitors to the museum, as well as the general public who shop here for unique, artist-made items and art.

We are, of course, looking for competitively priced work to ensure that the items sell and are marketable to a budget-conscious audience, but we will always consider higher ticket items as well.

Selection Process

Those wishing to consign items must fill out an application and submit three JPG images of item(s) to be considered for sale in Treasures. After review of submissions, we will contact you via email with a decision. On acceptance, the artist will be provided with a consignment agreement, checklist of materials submitted, consignee contract, and inventory sheet. Once accepted, an appointment must be made with Treasures to turn in the

completed paperwork, discuss inventory procedures, and to select items for consignment.

Evaluation Criteria for Consideration

Design: Each object submitted must be well designed and constructed. Items must be tasteful, unique, and professionally crafted. The distinction of high quality for an affordable price is one of the main criteria for selecting items for sale in Treasures.

Craftsmanship: Consigned items must be handmade by the applicant. Issues of durability, assembly, execution, and appropriate finish will be considered.

Marketability: While issues of design and craftsmanship are prime considerations, GulfQuest and Treasures staff will also consider marketability. The jury is aware of what our target audience is inclined to buy and will make decisions based on this. The main objective of Treasures is to consistently generate sales and not to simply showcase beautiful, expensive items. It is critical that the inventory moves. Items that do not sell will be returned to the artist. Artists must pick up work within 30 days after notification. Due to storage space limitations, items will be discarded after 30 days.

Suggestions for Items Submitted

Items submitted for consideration in Treasures at GulfQuest should represent the very best of the applicant's work and reflect expertise in skill and technique. Limited numbers of original designs and items will inspire the buyer and encourage repeat visits. Remember, quality over quantity.

Procedures

Payment for items sold in Treasures is sent to consignors on a quarterly basis if the amount exceeds twenty dollars at each payment interval.

Consignor will establish a price to include a 32% commission retained by GulfQuest. During the quarter end payment calculation, this will also be used to evaluate item sales and turnover. Decisions will be made at this time to re-order items if needed or discontinue sale of item. Regardless of when item(s) are received by GulfQuest, the same schedule will apply.

The payment and evaluation schedule is as follows:

- 1st Quarter (Jan-Mar Sales) – April 20th
- 2nd Quarter (Apr-Jun Sales) – July 20th
- 3rd Quarter (Jul-Sep Sales) – Oct 20th
- 4th Quarter (Oct-Dec Sales) – Jan 20th

To Apply

Submit the following information via email to alewis@cityofmobile.org with the email subject line "Treasures Consignment: Completed Consignor Application Form; Brief artist bio or statement; and Three JPG images of item(s) to be considered for sale in Treasures.

Thank you for your interest in Treasures at the GulfQuest Museum.