

Argentum Submission Guidelines

The purpose of *Argentum* is to offer enrichment and enjoyment to Great Basin College students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community through visual arts and written work. The art imagery should be appropriate for family viewing in public spaces with respect for all cultural backgrounds.

Artwork can be drawing, painting, digital and film photography, graphics, jewelry, fiber art, sculpture, glasswork, and ceramics. Three-dimensional entries are encouraged as well. However, work created from kits, traced imagery, and/or projects that have been designed by another person (i.e. Pinterest or Etsy ideas) are not allowed. Any part of the artwork NOT created by the artist should be identified on the submission form.

The following information relates directly to the categories of artwork, photography, and writing. Details and judging criteria are provided in a separate document to apprise artists and writers of the measures used to determine work for publication.

ARTWORK

To be eligible for judging, follow all rules and requirements carefully. This category includes cartoons, drawings, paintings, sculptures, ceramics, jewelry, fabric art, glasswork, graphic design, architectural design, or any other medium that can be printed for publication. Large pieces such as ceramics and sculpture should be photographed with a digital camera with a plain gray or white background and white light (daylight) source.

To be considered for *Argentum*, an image of the work must be submitted. The artist may either send an image file of the work, or set an appointment for the work to be photographed on campus to be used in judging. When submitting a .jpg or .tiff file, make sure that it is no smaller than 1.5MB. The ideal size is 4 to 5MB.

Please include accurate contact information in case we need to reach you regarding your submission. If the submission form is not signed, or is incomplete, submissions will be rejected. Artwork will be judged on the following elements of artistic expression:

1. **Craftsmanship, interpretation and the clarity to the viewer**
2. **Creativity and originality**
3. **Quality of artistic composition and overall design**
4. **Overall impression of the art** – Judges will consider what the effect of the artwork is in general and as a whole. Does the work stand on its own as a complete, outstanding work of art?
5. **Does the artwork relate to the theme?**

PHOTOGRAPHY

To be eligible for judging, follow all rules and requirements carefully. Please follow guidelines and submit a .jpg or .tiff file, making sure that it is no smaller than 1.5MB. The ideal size is 4 to 5MB. Sometimes *Argentum* receives what may be an exceptional photo, but the submitted digital images are unusable in the publication due to size.

Please include accurate contact information in case we need to reach you regarding your submission. If the submission form is not signed, or is incomplete, submissions will be rejected.

Photography will be judged on the following elements of artistic expression

1. **Quality of photographic composition**
2. **Creativity of photographer**
3. **Originality of the image**
4. **Overall impression of the photograph.** Judges will consider what the overall effect of the photo is in general and as a whole. Does the photo stand on its own as a complete and outstanding work of art? Is the composition pleasing to the eye? Does it tell a story?
5. **How effectively the photograph depicts the *Argentum* theme.**

WRITING

To be eligible for judging, follow all rules and requirements carefully. Please follow the guidelines and submit rich text files (.rtf) so that it may be opened and read in various word processing programs. (To convert a Word document from .doc or .docx to .rtf, go to “Save As” and change the “Save as Type” to Rich Text Format.)

Please include accurate contact information in case we need to reach you regarding your submission. If the submission form is not signed, or is incomplete, submissions will be rejected.

All submissions must adhere to the following requirements to be considered. Any work that does not meet these guidelines will be automatically disqualified.

- **Submission format** – Submit work in either RTF (Rich Text Format) or Microsoft Word .doc or .docx format so that it may be viewed on different word processing and publishing software.
- **Complete Work** – We do not accept chapters or sections of a larger work.
- **Length** – All works of non-fiction must be 1,500 words or less, and all short stories must be 5,000 words or less.
- **Appropriateness to audience and theme** – As a college magazine, *Argentum* encourages creative expression and unique viewpoints. However, submissions containing gratuitous violence, gore, and graphic sexual content are unlikely to find publication in *Argentum*.
- **Originality** – *Argentum* seeks new and creative voices for this student/community magazine. Works of writing must be original, unpublished, and strive toward the current theme of the magazine. Submissions that adhere too closely to previously published materials or prominently feature licensed materials and characters (i.e. fan fiction) are unlikely to see publication.
- **Composition** – Although theme and creativity are considerations, *Argentum* immediately considers work that displays compelling writing on the sentence, line, and phrase level. Please review the Five C’s of Writing (clarity, correctness, conciseness, control, and coherence) when preparing your writing. Submissions that are incomplete, poorly written, or need extensive editing to achieve presentable content will be not be considered for judging.
- **Appearance** – Judges for *Argentum* expect all work to be proofread carefully for proper grammar, mechanics, spelling, and style prior to submission. Have the work read and edited by teachers, tutors, or other knowledgeable professionals before submitting. If submissions contain ten to twenty noticeable errors, they will not be judged against work that meets the criteria. The editor may attempt to contact writers for some minor clarifications, but extra time cannot be provided to work with writers on numerous problems with the submission.

Writing will be judged on the following elements:

1. **Interpretation and the clarity of theme**
2. **Creativity and originality of writing**
3. **Quality of writing**
4. **Overall impression of the written piece** – What is the effect of the piece in general and as a whole?
Does the piece stand on its own as a complete and outstanding work of writing?

Please note: Great Basin College and Argentum reserves the right to make minor edits without contacting the author. By signing the submission form, authors agree to this right.

MULTIMEDIA

To be eligible for judging, follow all rules and requirements carefully. Please include accurate contact information in case we need to reach you regarding your submission. If the submission form is not signed, or is incomplete, submissions will be rejected.

All submissions must adhere to the following requirements to be considered. Any work that does not meet these guidelines will be automatically disqualified.

- **Submission format and size** – Submit work in MP4 format for videos, MP3 for audio recordings, and website links, as relevant. The maximum file size is 50MB.
- **Originality** – *Argentum* seeks new and creative voices for this student/community magazine. Multimedia submissions must be original, unpublished, and strive toward the current theme of the magazine. Submissions that adhere too closely to previously published materials or prominently feature licensed materials and characters are unlikely to be included.
- **Group submissions** – Submitters may enter as a team, but the prize money will be awarded only to the person listed on the submission form.
- **Content** – No commercial or otherwise copyrighted material such as animation, video, or music is permitted. The content must be original that is composed, authored, and performed by the submitter or team members, unless the material is in the public domain or written permission for third party content is included with the submission.
- **Release forms** – All filmed participants must supply photo release forms. Contact the co-editors at argentum@gbcnv.edu if these forms are needed.
- **Complete Work** – We do not accept segments of a larger work.
- **Appropriateness to audience and theme** – As a college publication, *Argentum* encourages creative expression and unique viewpoints. However, submissions containing gratuitous violence, gore, and graphic sexual content are unlikely to be accepted for *Argentum*.

Blogs, journal entries, and other writing-based digital technologies need to meet the writing requirement submissions above.

Multimedia works will be judged on the following elements:

1. **Interpretation and the clarity of theme**
2. **Creativity and originality**
3. **Quality of submission**
4. **Overall impression of the piece** – What is the effect of the piece in general and as a whole?
Does the piece stand on its own as a complete and outstanding work?

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