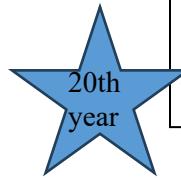


# South Carolina Gourd Society

## 2026 Gourd Festival

### Workshop Instructor Application



#### Instructors - \*\* Please Note

You will be welcome to sell your completed gourds at your class area, but you will need to bring your own table. 10% of your total sales goes to the SC Gourd Society.

The SCGS 2026 Gourd Festival will be held at the Ghost Creek Gourd Farm in Laurens, S.C. on April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for new techniques, ideas, fun and educational classes. All classes will be 3 1/2 to 4 hours in length, to allow all students to complete their projects at the Festival. One session on Friday (1-5) and two sessions on Saturday (8-11:30; 1-5), with multiple classes per session, will enable out of town participants to have more selections.

#### Provided to you as an instructor:

- Registration services
  - Our registration personnel will manage a wait list for your class and manage substitutions as necessary
  - Students will be required to pre-pay for classes to ensure that you are guaranteed class payment, even if a student is a no show
  - Prompt payment at the conclusion of your class (**note that SCGS will retain \$5 from each student fee for services**)
- Facilities
  - The society will provide 30x45 rental tent(s) for the classes to be held under.
    - One tent will be reserved for "noisy" and "smelly" classes to enhance the student experience.
    - If weather reports look inclement by the week of the event, side walls will be ordered to protect against rain and/or cold
    - Other tents will be on the grounds as well, if needed, for overflow.
  - 3 tables per class; if you need more than 3 tables, each additional table will be an \$8 charge.
  - Electricity, if needed
- Ghost Creek Gourds (GCG) will supply all the gourds at no cost for your class in order to offset some of your costs.
  - If you need the gourds early for preparation, you will need to pay for shipping if you are unable to pick them up at the farm.
  - If you already have your class gourds, GCG will give you comparable replacement gourds for you to take home with you, up to the number of students that you are paid for.
  - Note that GCG does not grow all types of gourds and may not have the type you plan to use for your class. In this case, a comparable type will be provided to you for use in a future event.
- Advertising to other gourd societies, GCGs clients, news/radio, businesses

#### Required of you as an instructor:

- Your submission packet will be considered **ONLY IF COMPLETE** (all fields completed fully; Photo for website include – prefer in.jpg format).
- Certification that your class project, handout and photos are of your original design, or that you have written permission from the original artist.
- **The class fee (half day class) maximum has been established as \$65, with \$5 being retained by the SCGS per student.**
- Your class tutorials should be comprehensive, including materials list (and where to procure if specialty items), color photos, step-by-step instructions, how to complete any items at home that are not included in the class time at the festival.
- Photo of your project that shows exactly what will be taught. **Photos must be in JPEG format and emailed for website inclusion.** 5 students at different tables will all have the ability to see the sample from their location.
- Teachers are responsible for electrical cords and power strips for their class.
- If you are accepted as an instructor and have the minimum number of students in your class, then you are expected to teach the class. Cancellations after being accepted may prevent you from being considered for future gourd events.
- You are expected to provide all class supplies, including appropriate table coverings to prevent damage to the tables. Students should only be expected to bring items like unusual tools (carvers, wood burners), aprons, and masks.
- SCGS has an event raffle. Any raffle items would be appreciated, but not required.
- If you are completing the form in Microsoft Word, if you double click on the selection box you will be able to "check" it.
- **Submit your proposal(s) by 1-15-26 via email to [socarolinagourdsociety@gmail.com](mailto:socarolinagourdsociety@gmail.com) and [rmartin@backroads.net](mailto:rmartin@backroads.net) . The committee will meet shortly after January 7<sup>th</sup>. You will receive a return email acknowledging receipt of your submission. If email is not an option for you, you may mail your entry to Linda Martin, 2108 Ghost Creek Road, Laurens, SC 29360. Any mailed entries must be RECEIVED by 1-15-26 to be considered. There are no restrictions to the numbers of class submissions accepted, but each submitted class must be on a separate proposal form.**

#### Selection Process

You will be contacted prior to February 4, 2026 to review the website posting information if your class is accepted.

- Selections will be based on multiple selection criteria, including but not limited to, uniqueness of project/technique, originality, where class has already been taught or will be offered, and diversity of projects to offer to students.
- Requests for a specific day / time of day will be considered, but due to the overall scheduling may not be available.
- A submission of a proposal does not guarantee selection for a teaching spot.

Instructor's Name			
Address	Street		
	City	State	Zip code
Telephone	Home:	Mobile	
Email Address			

Class Name (Print/Type Legibly; For Website)			
Class Description  If in PDF version, attach another sheet if need more space for description  This will be copied to the website – make sure it is complete, and sells your class. Write in 3 <sup>rd</sup> person.			
Description of any pictured items that will not be part of the finished project	<b>**** required to email picture in .JPEG format</b>		
Will the students be able to complete this project during class?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "No" selected, what components do you expect to take additional time outside of class?  If "No" selected, will you be providing the items to complete the project at home? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Number of students you will accept (maximum and minimum required)	Minimum: _____ Maximum: _____ or SCGS Limit/Class: <input type="checkbox"/> 12		
Will you accept walk-ins up to max?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Skill Level of Class	<input type="checkbox"/> All Skill Levels Welcome <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced		
Skills Taught	<input type="checkbox"/> Carving <input type="checkbox"/> Cutting a Gourd <input type="checkbox"/> Chip Carving <input type="checkbox"/> Wood burning <input type="checkbox"/> Sanding Skills <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning Inside/Out of a Gourd <input type="checkbox"/> Basketry		
Check all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Armature <input type="checkbox"/> Clay work (apoxy, clay, quickwood) <input type="checkbox"/> Painting <input type="checkbox"/> Staining <input type="checkbox"/> Sealing <input type="checkbox"/> Drilling <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed Media		
	Others (Please List) _____ _____		
Students Should Bring	<input type="checkbox"/> Dust Mask <input type="checkbox"/> Eye Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Apron <input type="checkbox"/> Protective gloves <input type="checkbox"/> Gloves – Kind: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Paintbrushes – sizes: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Clay Work Tools <input type="checkbox"/> Chip Carving Tools – size _____ Specify Any Other Items not Listed: _____ _____		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood burner <input type="checkbox"/> Wood burner tools: specify kind of tips _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Carver <input type="checkbox"/> Carving bits: specify kinds and sizes of bits _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Drill <input type="checkbox"/> Drill bits: specify size _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Gourd Carver with spare blades <input type="checkbox"/> Heat Gun <input type="checkbox"/> Soldering Iron		

<p>Instructor Will Provide</p> <p>Check all that apply; add other items not listed</p>	<p>Required:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepared Gourd  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Detailed Instruction Sheet(s)</p> <p>Check ALL items you will provide:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chip Carving Tool  <input type="checkbox"/> Drill bits appropriate for class  <input type="checkbox"/> Patterns  <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol Dyes  <input type="checkbox"/> Leather Inks  <input type="checkbox"/> Paint  <input type="checkbox"/> Paintbrushes  <input type="checkbox"/> Basket reed  <input type="checkbox"/> Glue  <input type="checkbox"/> Wire  <input type="checkbox"/> Cord / Waxed Linen Thread</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Quickwood  <input type="checkbox"/> Apoxy Sculpt  <input type="checkbox"/> Needles  <input type="checkbox"/> Clay working tools  <input type="checkbox"/> Wood burner on request  <input type="checkbox"/> Soldering Iron on request  <input type="checkbox"/> Heat Gun  <input type="checkbox"/> Glitter  <input type="checkbox"/> Embossing Ink  <input type="checkbox"/> Embossing powder</p> <p>Other: List anything not identified</p>
<p>Previously Taught At</p>	<p>Year / Location:</p>	<p>Year / Location:</p>
<p>Additional Places Will Be Taught At</p>	<p>Year / Location:</p>	<p>Year / Location:</p>
<p>Individual Student Fee Being Charged  <b>\$5 of fee will go to SCGS per student (per half day class)</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 25 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 <input type="checkbox"/> 35 <input type="checkbox"/> 40 <input type="checkbox"/> 45 <input type="checkbox"/> 50 <input type="checkbox"/> 55 <input type="checkbox"/> 60 <input type="checkbox"/> 65</p> <p>\$65 maximum fee set by SCGS (for a half-day class)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In setting fees, consider the supplies you are providing versus your students are providing and the complexity of what you are teaching (new concept; existing concept).</li> <li>• The goal of this festival is to share knowledge and increase the gourding audiences. Please strive to keep class costs low.</li> </ul>	
<p>How long is your class?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 3 ½ hours <input type="checkbox"/> 4 hours</p>	
<p>What is your preferred day/time to teach?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> CANNOT TEACH ON <input type="checkbox"/> Friday PM <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday AM <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday PM  <input type="checkbox"/> Requesting Friday PM (4 hour class slot)  <input type="checkbox"/> Requesting Saturday AM (3 ½ hour class slot)  <input type="checkbox"/> Requesting Saturday PM (4 hour class slot)</p>	
<p>Do you require electrical outlets?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Teachers are responsible for electrical cords and power strips for their class.</p>		
<p>Will you need more than 3 tables?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "Yes", how many more? _____  \$10 fee added per table above 3 provided by SCGS</p>	
<p>Type of gourd needed from GCGF</p> <p>GCGF does not grow all types of gourds, and may not have the kind that you need for your class.</p>	<p>Describe type and size</p> <p>Do you require this type of gourd to be shipped to you prior to the class?  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Note that shipping costs will be the responsibility of the instructor.</p>	
<p>May we share your email with registered students?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Certification</p>	<p>This proposal is my original work <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  If this is not your original work,  Whose work is this? _____  Do you have written permission to teach this method? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	