



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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August 27, 2007

Dear Interested Egg Artists and Crafters,

The Delaware Department of Agriculture (DDA) invites you to enter Delaware Decorated Egg Contest for the White House Decorated Egg Display. DDA is joining with the American Egg Board (AEB) to sponsor the 2008 Delaware White House Decorated Egg Contest. The winning Delaware egg will be displayed with eggs from all of the states at the White House in the spring of 2008. The artist of the winning egg will be invited to the White House to accompany Delaware's egg.

- If you are interested in participating, please let us know on or before **September 28, 2007**. A registration form is included and other information is attached.
 - You may phone, mail, fax or e-mail your registration to:
 - Sheree Nichols
Delaware Department of Agriculture
2320 S. Dupont Highway
Dover, DE 19901
- Phone: (302) 698-4521 or (800) 282-8685 (DE only)
Fax: (302) 697-6287
E-Mail: Sheree.Nichols@state.de.us
- Decorated eggs must be delivered to the Delaware Department of Agriculture on or before **October 31, 2007**.
 - A public judging will be scheduled during the month of November.

We are very pleased to have Cindy Davis present a workshop on egg decorating on September 25, from 7 PM – 9 PM at the Delaware Department of Agriculture. If you would like to attend, please let us know by September 21.

Please review the attached rules and note that there are some changes requested by the American Egg Board and the White House (memo attached).

Sincerely,

Anne Fitzgerald
Chief of Community Relations
(302) 698-4520
Anne.fitzgerald@state.de.us

2007 Delaware Egg Decorating Contest for the 2008 White House Egg Display

Contest Criteria:

- Only Delaware artists and crafters who have not won in previous years may be selected as this year's winner. See AEB memo attached.
- Each egg should be decorated to represent some special feature (or features) of the state.
- A local artist, amateur or professional, should decorate the egg.
- An artist may submit **only one** decorated egg.
- Only **Large chicken** eggs are to be used (contents removed).
- Eggs should be **freestanding**, without a base or stand.
- **Small end** of the egg should be facing up.
- Please make sure that your state egg has **no decoration on the bottom, reinforced** for easy removal from the display, and will **balance** easily. See AEB memo attached.
- Anything top heavy or built out on one side will be a problem. See AEB memo attached.
- The **overall size** must not be such as to infringe on a neighboring egg at the White House. See AEB memo attached.

Artists and crafters who wish to participate in the Delaware White House Egg Decorating Contest, must notify the Delaware Department of Agriculture by September 28, 2007:



Delaware White House Egg Decorating Contest
Delaware Department of Agriculture
2320 South DuPont Highway
Dover, Delaware 19901

Attention: Sheree Nichols
Phone: (302) 698-4521
(800) 282-8685 (DE Only)
Fax: (302) 697-6287
E-Mail: sheree.nichols@state.de.us



The deadline for the decorated eggs to be received at the Delaware Department of Agriculture is October 31, 2007.

The winning artist will create an exact duplicate of the winning egg and present it to the Governor of Delaware after the White House display has been set up in Washington, D. C.

Additional information will be furnished to contest participants following their registration.

Delaware Egg Decorating Contest for the White House Decorated Egg Display

Registration

I will submit a decorated egg the White House Egg Display Contest. I am a Delaware resident.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** Delaware **Zip:** _____

Return form by September 28 to:
2008 Delaware Egg Decorating Contest
Attention: Sheree Nichols
Delaware Department of Agriculture
2320 S. Dupont Highway
Dover, Delaware 19901



A White House Easter Tradition

Local artists create decorated eggs which represent each state and the District of Columbia. The 2008 Easter Egg Collection continues the tradition that began in 1994. The collection is coordinated by the American Egg Board.

In previous years, artists have decorated eggs depicting landscapes, state symbols, beads, feathers, grain, and various other designs representative of Delaware.

July 5, 2007

TO: State Promotion Directors
FROM: Christine Bushway, AEB
RE: 2008 White House Easter Egg Display

We are continuing the tradition of the White House Easter Egg Display for the 2008 Easter season. As always, we appreciate your help in obtaining a decorated egg to represent your state. If you would like information on “egggers” in your state, we’ll be happy to send information from the International Egg Art Guild Directory. If for some reason the White House decides not to display this collection, AEB will make every effort to find another suitable location.

There are two changes that the White House has requested that you need to keep in mind when obtaining an artist from your state.

- 1. Your artist must be new to the event and not a repeat artist from another year.**
- 2. Your artist must be a resident of the state that their egg represents.**

Over the years, we have encountered some problems in placing the eggs properly and subsequently in removing them. The White House Curator has provided specific information that will be helpful in insuring that each egg will look its best within the display. These guidelines are really for the benefit of each artist. Hopefully, the following will help them understand which designs will be the most successful.

- 1 Each egg sits on an acrylic, square-shaped rod. The top surface (1 inch square) has a slight indentation drilled into it. The egg is attached to the top surface with museum wax. For deinstallation, we use a blow dryer to soften the wax in order to detach the egg from the rod. The remaining wax on the egg is then removed with a Q-tip.
- 2 The acrylic rods are positioned less than an inch apart. Decorative attachments on the egg should not be so large that they obscure a neighboring egg.
- 3 Any decorative attachments on the bottom of the egg make installation difficult. It is easier to attach the egg to the rod if there is a relatively smooth surface on the bottom of the egg.
- 4 Decorative attachments are sometimes adhered in an asymmetrical manner causing the egg to be unbalanced. The museum wax is more effective if the egg is balanced.
- 5 A small hole appears at the bottom of many of the eggs, presumably created by the artist’s removal of the insides of the egg. Sometimes during deinstallation, the wax can cause pieces of eggshell to become detached from this area. It would be helpful if this hole was reinforced in some manner, perhaps with clear nail polish or paint, so that it is not so vulnerable. (Watercolor would not be effective.)
- 6 The eggs that are heavily filigreed are especially fragile during deinstallation. While they are beautiful, perhaps they should be discouraged.

With this in mind, please make sure that your state egg has **no decoration on the bottom, reinforced** for easy removal from the display, and will **balance** easily. Anything top heavy or built out on one side will be a problem. Also, the **overall size** should not infringe on a neighboring egg.

The following traditional criteria is also still in effect:

- 1 Each egg should be decorated to represent some special feature (or features) of the state.
- 2 A local artist, amateur or professional, should decorate the egg.
- 3 Only **Large chicken** eggs are to be used (contents removed).
- 4 Eggs should be **freestanding**, without a base or stand.
- 5 **Small end** of the egg should be facing up.

