



Emerald Rose 2027

**The Barony of Montengarde
Arts and Sciences
Championship**



Who may Compete? All members of the Populace from the Barony of Montengarde, the Shires of Ayresgarde, Windwurm and Sandeshend, and those in the King's Lands surrounding those branches herein listed are welcome to vie for this championship and the honour of being Montengarde's Emerald Rose.

Please note that entrants for the Emerald Rose competition will need to be members in good standing of the SCA at the time of the competition *and* for the duration of their tenure as Emerald Rose. Membership/renewal available at: <https://www.sca.org/join-us/>

When? January 16th, 2027, at the Barony of Montengarde Twelfth Night event.

Where? At the time of writing, an event venue has not been publicized. Please see the event schedule on the [Barony of Montengarde Website](#) or [Kingdom of Avacal Calendar](#) for details on locale as they become available.

Theme? The Barony, and indeed, The Kingdom, thrive due to the good graces of the Populace: those who welcome the newcomer, those who quietly do what needs to be done, those who share a kind word, and those who inspire greatness in others.

As such, the theme of the Championship is '*Comradery – Geniality – Affinity*'. Think of someone who has done you a kindness, someone who you respect and aspire to emulate, or, simply, someone whose company you enjoy. Use that person to fuel your creativity: make something that reflects why you respect them, something that reflects their persona and/or their persona's activities, something that you might wish to gift to them, or even something as simple as pieces in the colours you associate with them.

Entrants are welcome to be as obvious or discreet as they wish in their reflection of whom they have taken their 'inspiration' from.

Inspiration? The individual who has ‘inspired’ your entries may or may not be the same individual who you might wish to nominate as your *Inspiration* on the day of the competition. Please speak with your Inspiration prior to the event so as not to surprise them on the day!

Your intention to vie will be announced in Court during the Invocation of the Lists and you may wish to be accompanied by your Inspiration as you enter Court.

Invocation of the Lists? Entrants for the Emerald Rose will be introduced to Their Excellencies, the Baroness and Baron of Montengarde, at Court. This introduction may be undertaken by the Court Herald or by a Herald nominated by the entrant. As a courtesy to either/both Herald(s) please make your choice of Herald clear, as early as possible, so that an appropriate Invocation may be made. Feel free to contact the current Emerald Rose, [Dáire Ó Lochlainn](#), for an example of a recent invocation.

Entry Deadlines? Please have your intention to vie sent in by midnight January 1st, 2027; forward to both the current Emerald Rose, Dáire Ó Lochlainn (champion-as@montengarde.org), and to their Excellencies, the Baroness and Baron of Montengarde, Freiherrinna Freydis and Freiherre Sigfuss (excellencies@montengarde.org). For Research Papers, please forward completed documents to [Dáire](#) by January 8th, 2027, so that they might forward said paper(s) to their respective judges, for reading prior to the competition day.

Scoring? The Championship will be judged against whichever of the three [Kingdom of Avacal Arts & Sciences](#) rubrics – Physical Object, nonPhysical Entry or Research Paper – you, as the entrant, feel is most appropriate to your entry. Pieces will be scored on the rubric(s) designated by the entrant.

NOTE! *Please use your chosen Rubric as a guide to help develop your entry pieces.* The rubrics present a sort of ‘how-to list’ for the creation of a successful entry. Don’t know what to expect to be judged on? See the Rubric. Don’t know what constitutes good documentation? See the Rubric. Still have questions? Please ask [Dáire](#); he’s there to help!

Judging? Judging will be undertaken by way of Cooperative Judging: entrants will be asked to judge one another rather than present to a panel of judges from the wider populace. The ideal is to facilitate knowledge sharing and collaboration, and to strengthen the ties between artisans within the broader Arts & Sciences community. This is a great opportunity to offer *constructive* criticism and *supportive* feedback to your fellow competitors!

Entrants will be sent their judging schedule closer to the event so that they might begin to ponder their roles as adjudicators, and to familiarize themselves with the Scoring Rubrics that each entrant to be judged has chosen.

Dáire will forward some ‘tricks-of-the-trade’ for handling the Rubrics as judging documents prior to the event and will confirm timings of displays and judging on the day.

Entry ‘Pieces’? *Two pieces*, from any of the three Arts & Sciences areas of Physical Object, nonPhysical Entry and/or Research Paper, are requested from those who intend to vie. You may submit your entries as two from the same area, or one from each of two different areas. Entry pieces should have been conceived of in the past three years and completed in the year leading up to the event.

While the inspirational theme of the Championship is ‘*Comradery – Geniality – Affinity*’, do not feel constrained; feel free to tackle whatever your heart and/or mind desires.

Works in Progress? Yes please! We would much sooner have you share your ‘journey in motion’ than have you feel that ‘incomplete is insufficient’.

Each of your two entry ‘pieces’ might be better thought of as entry ‘packages’:

- the piece itself;
- the accompanying documentation;
- the display of the piece at the event;
- the oral presentation, and;
- the knowledge in your head that you might wish to share above and beyond what is ‘displayed’ on the day.

Documentation? Keep calm and carry on! Documentation should be 5-10 pages including cover/title page, table of contents, images, and references cited. Appendices with additional information may be useful to describe/present methods of construction etc.

Not a big fan of writing? Bullet points, diagrams with notes, MindMaps with brief explanations for each ‘bubble’, dictate answers to the ‘Who, What, When, Where, Why’ questions and transcribe to text. Ask a friend to look at it and see if they can follow what you wish to convey; edit as necessary. This is your documentation; you do you!

No AI to produce documentation; limited AI to ‘spell/grammar check’. We can’t really ‘police’ this – but there is an honour system in play.

The rubrics are your friend! Read though the documentation section of the rubric carefully to see what will bring you the highest chance of success. And, as ever, [Dáire](#), is there to help! [Dáire is a bit of a research and writing geek . . .] Reach out early and often, and Dáire will do what he can to assist in the development of your research ↔ documentation.

Note! At least tentative documentation [perhaps just ‘note gathering’ at the early stages] should proceed the production cycle of your entry – anything that might best inform your entry piece is useful in the subsequent production of that entry piece!

Please bring four (4) copies of your documentation for the judging process. One color copy is sufficient. Additional copies for the populace to peruse may also be helpful on your display.

Research paper entries have no page limit, but should include an executive summary. Please bring four (4) copies of your research paper for the judging process. One color copy will be sufficient. Additional copies for the populace to peruse may also be helpful on your display.

Display? Entrants will be asked to present their two pieces in a manner that best allows their submissions to be appreciated by all. The populace may not have the time to read your documentation and may only be able to spare a few minutes to cast an eye over your pieces. Make those few minutes a feast for the eyes.

Try to think about how items on the display complement each other. Is there sufficient contrast between background and displayed items? Is there a tactile component that can be shared? Sound? Taste? Please *avoid* scent as it may be a trigger for sensory/physical reactions in some of the populace.

As yet the venue has not been publicized so I cannot, yet, give you specifics as to what space will be available for your display. If you think of a five-by-four-foot surface area [table-top?] with some space for you to stand behind/work around the display, you will not be far off what we hope to have for you. This is for *both* pieces, not *each* piece! Updates on display space will be provided once the venue is publicized.

Please avoid *complete* reliance on electronic presentations as we cannot guarantee access to electrical outlets. Electronics might best be thought of as supplemental to, and not critical to, your display.

Display Only? Those who wish to display *one* piece for the populace, but not vie for the Championship, are very, very, very welcome. Please follow all deadlines and other guidelines presented here that do not apply directly to the judging/scoring of the pieces.

Oral Presentation? “A picture paints a thousand words . . .” your display might be thought of as that ‘picture’. However, a few *spoken* words might just bring your ‘audience’ to the meaning of the display’s “thousand words” much more quickly. During the ‘display to the populous’ period of the competition be prepared to answer questions; this is not a request for full rhetorical flourish or displays of public speaking grandeur, this is simply a few questions asked and answered, as they arise, between interested friends.

Only half-a-step more formal is the presentation of your projects to your fellow competitors, in their judging capacity. Here one might think of ten (10) to fifteen (15) minutes of telling the judges what you did, how you did it, why you did it the way you did, when it’s from etc. This might be:

- presented off-the-cuff, guided by your display and/or documentation;
- a TED-talk guided by notes (we encourage having notes!), or;
- something pre-recorded and played back via your phone or other device.

It's your presentation; do what works for you!!!

Accessibility? Please contact [Dáire](#) should you have any accessibility concerns. This is all about you doing you and we will do what we can to assist in your participation at the event.

Format? Entrants will be asked to present their two pieces in a manner that best allows their submissions to be appreciated by all. A period of display for the general populace will be arranged, followed by your presentation to the judges (ten (10) to fifteen (15) minutes). Following the presentation to the judges, those same judges may then ask a few questions (again, ten (10) to fifteen (15) minutes).

What will your Championships Day look like? Please keep checking for updates on the Twelfth Night event website and be prepared to become very familiar with the event schedule as a whole, and not just the competition aspects of the day.

Arrive with more than sufficient time to set up your display area. Place out both pieces at the same time! Make plans for valuable or fragile items to be out of harm's way if you are away from your display area.

Dáire will make himself as available as possible during the duration of the event to troubleshoot, answer questions, calm nerves etc. He will also ask if you wish to know prior to Court if you have won the Emerald Rose or if you wish to be surprised!

Invocation of the Lists. Check the event schedule!!! Orient your Inspiration, should you have one. Make sure Dáire knows your preference of Herald and that any suggestions/text/script for your invocation is made available to the appropriate Herald.

Be prepared to stay with your display for the duration of the populace perusal and please try to have a friend cover your display while you are actively judging or need a break. The populace perusal may extend until after the judging period. Dáire will confirm times on the day.

The Emerald Rose will be called into court to accept the honour of being Champion, and should be accompanied to the thrones by their inspiration if they have one. They will be asked to swear fealty to the thrones of Montengarde (if able to do so) and accept the (many) symbols of their championship (regalia). They will then be asked to take their place behind the Minotaur Thrones as champions of Montengarde. They will also process out of the court with the other champions behind Their Excellencies.

Responsibilities of the Champions? Montengarde's Emerald Rose is required to be to promote the Arts & Sciences within Montengarde, give council to Their Excellencies where requested regarding A&S in the Barony, **and** to host the competition to find their successor. When attending events

where Their Excellencies are also in attendance, the Emerald Rose is welcome to stand behind the thrones with other Baronial Champions during court.

The Emerald Rose can make use of their role to further promote/assist the arts and sciences within the Barony and Shires:

- host a monthly or twice-monthly A&S night on the Montengarde Discord server;

- promote A&S in the surrounding Shires and King's Lands as requested

 - this may include assisting Defenders for their own Shire competitions;

- teach classes;

- host A&S get-togethers

- in agreement with event stewards, organize competitions, tournaments, displays, classes, or other A&S activities at Baronial events;

- assist members of the populous with questions around research, A&S, or other areas of knowledge, or help make introductions or referrals where possible;

- coordinate with Montengarde's A&S Minister as needed for baronial A&S activities.