

Minimal Documentation

You don't always need extensive write-ups, piles of pictures, and a three-page bibliography to enter an A&S competition. Some competitions explicitly request minimal documentation. So what does that look like?

- About one page
- Title including the name of the item and your name
- Include a photo showing a period image of a similar item in a painting or a photo of an extant period piece.
- Description: describe your piece and mention what materials and techniques are period and where you needed to alter period techniques and materials and why (e.g. some of the period materials are toxic or prohibitively expensive, etc.)
- Tell what, when, where, who, and why
 - What: what is the item?
 - When: what time period was it most commonly used in?
 - Where: what locale was it most commonly used in?
 - Who: what type of people commonly used or created this item (farmers, clerics, etc.)?
 - Why: what was the function of the item?
- Sources: list the sources you used to find the above information. I recommend using a citation generator. I like MLA style, and my favorite generator is Scribbr:
<https://www.scribbr.com/citation/generator/mla/>