

# BROOKLYN GENERAL STORE

## HANDMADE INSECT CONTEST!

To celebrate summer, we thought it would be fun to sponsor a contest honoring one of our necessary and often devalued co-habitants of this earth. Some are sweet, some are stinging, but all serve their unique purpose, just like all of us. Send us an original, handmade insect to pin on our window display and maybe you will be one of the lucky winners.

### OFFICIAL RULES

#### What Counts as an Insect?

Here is Webster's definition: Any member of the class Insecta, the largest arthropod class, including nearly 1 million known species (about three-fourths of all animals) and an estimated 5–10 million undescribed species. Insect bodies have three segments: head, thorax (which bears three pairs of legs and usually two pairs of wings), and many-segmented abdomen. Many species undergo complete metamorphosis (love this! crazy!) There are two subclasses: Apterygota (primitive, wingless forms, including silverfish and bristletails) and Pterygota (more advanced, winged or secondarily wingless forms). The approximately 27 orders of Pterygota are generally classified by wing form: e.g., Coleoptera (Beetles), Diptera (Dipterans-mosquitos, flies), Heteroptera (Bugs). Insects are found in almost all terrestrial and freshwater and some marine habitats. Spiders are not insects but we will accept them since they are so cool.

Submissions must be 3-D and no bigger than 5 inches in any dimension. They may be knit, sewn, crocheted, felted, knotted, and molded out of any fiber. No real insects please! We are looking for the most interesting, mysterious, stunning but neglected insects. Let's show them off and boost their morale!

**Call for Entries:** First 5 entries get a free Brooklyn General t-shirt. Entries can be hand delivered or mailed to Brooklyn General Store, 128 Union St., Brooklyn, NY, 11231. They may come from any part of the world. Insects will be judged on originality, craftsmanship, and all around exotic beauty.

**Dates and Deadlines:** Call for entries begin on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Contest ends July 15<sup>th</sup> and insects must be received by that date. Insects will be kept on display in the shop until the end of the summer. Winning insects will be posted on our blog the week following the end of the contest with links to winner's blogs if desired.

**Rules & Restrictions:** All insects must be hand made by the participant. Youth entries must be made with minimal parent involvement. They can be made from patterns or self-designed. You can submit up to three insects. They can be as small as you like, but no bigger than 5 inches. Wings may be slightly larger if necessary. If you want your insect to be returned you must include a self-addressed, appropriately sized, padded envelope with the correct postage already on the envelope. Postage for the return of squirrels will be the sole responsibility of the participant. There is no insurance on return shipping and safe delivery of wayward insects is not guaranteed.

**Prizes!** Judging will be held on July 15<sup>th</sup> and winners will be announced on our blog the following week.

1st Prize: \$100 Brooklyn General Store gift certificate (valid for one year).

2nd Prize: \$75 Brooklyn General Store gift certificate (valid for one year).

3rd Prize: \$50 Brooklyn General Store gift certificate (valid for one year).

Youth Prizes (0-15 yrs): Three entries will be awarded one \$25 Brooklyn General Store gift certificate (valid for one year).

