



# 49th Annual Midwestern Model Ships & Boats Contest & Display

*A Nautical Research Guild Associated Contest*  
May 15-17, 2026



## Categories

### **Category I: Scratch-Built Models**

Models that did not originate from a kit. Kit and commercial parts may be used on the model, but more than half of the model, including the hull, must be fabricated by the modeler. All media.

- Class A: Vessels at 3/32" = 1 foot scale or smaller
- Class B: Vessels larger than 3/32" = 1 foot

### **Category II: Kit Models**

Models based on commercial kits or hulls with or without the addition of scratch-built parts. This includes kit models that have been modified from the original instructions and models with half the materials composed of commercial fittings.

- Class A: Wood, ivory, bone, and metal.
- Class B: Plastic, resins, and fiberglass.

### **Category III: Paper Models**

- Class A: Scratch-Built Models - Models that did not originate from a kit. Kit parts may be used in the model, but more than half of the model, including the hull, must be fabricated by the modeler.

- Class B: Kit Models - Models based on published kits, either printed or downloadable, with or without the addition of scratch-built parts. This includes kit models that have been modified from the original publications including recoloring or rescaling and models with half of the materials composed of commercial fittings.

### **Category IV: Operational Models**

Entries are judged on workmanship and modeling standards. The quality of operational installations will be considered.

### **Category V: Dioramas/Vignettes**

Diorama entries shall have a discernible storyline and may contain any of the following characteristics: Interaction between maritime vessels. Identifiable human activity. A shoreline or dockside scenario. Depict a historic or imagined event.

Vignettes are models displaying a "photographic" moment in time with no obvious drama or storyline. Ship-in-the-bottle models should enter this category.

This category does not differentiate between dioramas and vignettes.

### **Category VI: Nautical Crafts**

Models of maritime items such as cannon, anchors, figureheads, ship decorations, maritime carvings (fish, mythological sea serpents, marine animals, waterfowl) or crafts made from nautical materials. Models that do not fit Categories I through IV may be included in this group.