



2023

Academic Rodeo Catalog

October 2 & October 8

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Letter from the Chairman

Dear Contestants, Families, and Friends,

On behalf of the Extraco Events Center, I would like to personally welcome you to the 2023 Heart O' Texas Academic Rodeo! We are looking forward to continuing our efforts at "Raising The Standard" at this year's Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo. We appreciate having you here in Waco.

Your attendance and participation helps us deliver on our mission. We take great pride in delivering on that mission and can only do so because of participants like you. Each of you helped us award approximately \$500,000 in scholarships in 2022 and drive an economic impact of nearly \$50 million! So, "Thank You" for all that you do for our show.

We celebrated our 70th anniversary last year and hope to replicate the success of that anniversary year with this year's fair and rodeo. We are extremely proud of our event and hope to continue to deliver a great product known throughout the community.

We are builders here at The Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo. We build upon the successes of our previous years' and the leadership that forged the path each and every year. Thus, we have no plans for changing that and will deliver that same kind of success this year! But, we can't do that without you. Thus, if you see any areas in which we can improve, please let us know. We need your feedback to ensure we continue to do what we do best. We have a lot on the schedule for you, so I hope you are as ready and as excited as we are!

We are a special organization here at the Heart O' Texas Fair and Rodeo. We have a history rich in tradition, an outstanding rodeo, an incredible fair, a "best of class" livestock show, an unbelievable staff, and an army of dedicated and loyal volunteers that make us "who we are." While all of those attributes do make us special, what makes us truly great, however, is you. As a participant in the Heart O' Texas Academic Rodeo, you are part of our "legacy of success."

In closing, I truly believe that our 2023 Heart O' Texas Academic Rodeo will be a year to remember. As a promise to you, we will strive to produce the best fair and rodeo in the great State of Texas. We look forward to you being a part of that success.

We look forward to seeing you this Fall and helping us continue to "Raise The Standard" at the 2023 Heart O' Texas Academic Rodeo.

Sincerely,



J. Tanner Moore
Chairman of the Board

General Information

Welcome:

The Heart O' Texas Academic Rodeo encourages your participation in this year's show(s).

The Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo staff looks forward to hosting you and your exhibits at the Extraco Show Pavilion, and we welcome you to Waco.

Mission Statement:

“Our mission is to produce events for education, entertainment and agricultural experiences at the premier multi-use facility while giving back through youth scholarships and a positive economic impact to Central Texas.”

Contact Information:

Extraco Events Center
Attn: Livestock Office
4601 Bosque Blvd.
Waco, TX 76710

Phone: 254-776-1660

Website: hotfair.com

Email: livestock@hotfair.com

Goals and Objectives

Academic Rodeo exists to educate and involve the community through demonstrations, displays, and competitive events.

- Meet the needs/interests of our contemporary community
- Provide opportunities to attract non-traditional Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo audiences
- Entertain fair-goers through an energetic, stimulating environment within Academic Rodeo
- Support the youth of Central Texas

Directions to Extraco Events Center

I-35 from the North - Take Valley Mills Dr. Exit. Turn right on Valley Mills Dr. Turn right on Lake Air Drive. Take a right onto Bosque Blvd, enter through Gate 1 and park on the south side of the Coliseum

Hwy. 84 East - Take Loop 340 North and follow directions as coming in from the North on I-35.

Hwy. 6 from the South - Stay on Hwy 6 towards Meridian. Cross over I-35 and Hwy 84, exit Bosque Blvd. and turn right. Enter through Gate 1 and park on the south side of the Coliseum

Hwy. 77 from the South - About 1/2 mile past the intersection of Hwy. 77 and Loop 340, turn left onto Garden Dr. will turn into New Road. Take New Road to Bosque Blvd. enter through Gate 1 and park on the south side of the Coliseum

Board of Directors & Staff

Executive Committee

Chairman	Tanner Moore
Chairman-Elect	Mike Tawater
Secretary	Rob Wolaver
Treasurer	Dan Ingham
Immediate Past Chairman	Mike Lewis
Member	Mackie Bounds
Member	John Embry
Member	Trey Warren

Board of Directors

Liz Barton, James Bates, Micah Boles, Libby Cain, Beau Chastain, Wes Dowd, Chris Elliot, Matt D. Fatheree, David Groschke, Carl Hillin, Jessica Juarez, Chris Kincaid, Travis Louge, Dusty Lynch, Emily McElreath, Rosemary Mayes-Rafuse, Bob Mock, Tom Morgan, Jonathan Olvera, Debbie Parker, Justin Philpott, David Post, Ted Teague, Diane Walters, Whit Weems, Charles Wiley, T.J. Zawacki

Staff

President, CEO	Wes Allison
General Manager	Dustin Coufal
Chief Business Officer	Melinda Moss
Vice President, Sports and Entertainment	Jason Elliott
Sr. Division Manager, Marketing & Sponsorships	Melinda Adams
Sr. Division Manager, Ag & Competitive Events	Emily June Williams
Sr. Division Manager, Event & Facility Operations	Robert Ellis
Sr. Division Manager, Volunteer Program	Katy Fehler
Director, Ag & Competitive Events	Hannah Eichman
Director, BASE Sales & Service	Mattie Hawthorne
Director, Communications	Erin James
Sports & Entertainment Coordinator	Maddie Pitts

Committee Leadership

Chairman	Donna Morgan
Vice Chairman	Kim Neuhaus
Committee Members:	
Ruben Andrade, Nikki Banana, Trista Barnett, Casi Bowers, Mischa Campbell, Made Dennis, Stacie Lathern, Lisa Monthie, Mandy Moss, Chrsitine Nix, Julie Richardson, Sarah Rippen, Yesica Rodriguez, Jennifer Sargent, Shauntee Stewart	

Schedule of Events

October 2 & October 8

Enter the grounds through Gate 1 on Bosque Blvd and park in front of the Extraco Coliseum.
Enter the Extraco Coliseum through the south doors.

Monday, October 2		
5:30 – 6:00 PM	All Grades Check-In (All Events)	EEC Coliseum
6:10 – 6:40 PM	1 st – 6 th Grade Spelling Bee	EEC Coliseum
6:50 – 7:20 PM	1 st – 3 rd Grade Math Bee	EEC Coliseum
	4 th – 6 th Grade Social Studies Bee	EEC Coliseum
7:30 – 8:15 PM	4 th – 6 th Grade Math Bee	EEC Coliseum
Sunday, October 8		
1:30 PM	Award Recipient Check-In	BASE A4
	4 th -6 th Grade Oral Spelling Bee Check-In	BASE A4
1:45 PM	Award Ceremony	BASE A4
Appx. 2:00 PM	4 th -6 th Grade Oral Spelling Bee	BASE A4
	4 th -6 th Grade Spelling Bee Awards <i>*Immediately following the Oral Spelling Bee</i>	BASE A4

Entry Fees and Deadlines

Entries Open: July 31, 2023

Deadline: October 1, 2023

Late Fee: \$20 per event

Entry Fees

Spelling Bee (All Grades)	\$10
Math Bee (All Grades)	\$10
Social Studies Bee (4 th -6 th Grade)	\$10

General Rules and Regulations

Entries Open: July 31, 2023

Deadline: October 1, 2023

Late Fee: \$20 per event

1. **Entries:** Entries must be pre-registered online by the day before the first day of the contest. Link for the online entry can be found at www.hotfair.com/academicrodeo
2. **Refunds:** No refunds will be issued for any reason. No exceptions.
3. **Passes:** Each contestant will receive two (2) single-day passes to the fair and one (1) single-day parking pass at check-in.
 - **No passes are required for the first day of the contest**
4. **Interpretation and Violation of Rules:** The HOTFR reserves the right to its Executive Committee. The final and absolute right to interpret these rules, regulations and arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard hereto or otherwise arising out of the right to amend or add to these rules as its judgment may determine. The HOTFR also reserves the right to change the schedule, delete classes or add classes at the discretion of the show officials. A contestant who violates any of the rules will forfeit all privileges and premiums and be subject to such penalty as the Executive Committee may order.
5. **Liability:** The HOTFR will not be responsible for the loss, damage, theft, breakage or any other form of loss of your entry. It is distinctly understood that the HOTFR, its directors, officers, volunteers and/or employees will not be held responsible for any loss, damage or injury of any character, to any person, animal, vehicle or article while participating in the Academic Rodeo division of the HOTFR.
6. **Special Rules:** Special rules or conditions are published in each department when necessary and if there is a conflict between the special rules of any department and the General Rules and Regulations, the special rules will govern.
7. **Eligibility of Exhibitors:** Participation is limited to Texas resident students.
8. **Protests:** Protests against an award and/or eligibility must be made in writing to the Academic Rodeo Committee Chairman of the Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo. No protests will be accepted after the conclusion of the Fair. Such protests must state plainly the cause of complaint or appeal and must be delivered immediately after the occasion. All protests will be heard and determined by the Academic Rodeo Executive Committee. This committee's decision is final and may not be appealed.
9. **Premiums:** Awards will be paid by the HOTFR according to the amounts set in this catalog.
10. **Judges Rules:**
 - **Selection of Judges:** Judges will be selected by the HOTFR. In every case, the judges are selected with the utmost care and the highest concern.
 - **Decision of Judges:** The decisions of the judges will be final in all cases and may not be appealed.
 - **Interference with Judges:** If any contestant, in any way, whether in person, by agent or servants, interferes with the judges during their adjudication, or shows any disrespect to

them or the Contest, the management may demand a proper apology from such contestant. It may exclude him/her from the competition, or withhold from such contestant premiums that may have been awarded. This may cause contestant to be barred from future participation in the HOTFR

Math Bee

All entries must be submitted online.

Entry Fee: \$10

Late Entry Fee: \$20

Monday, October 2		
5:30 – 6:00 PM	All Grades Check-In (All Events)	EEC Coliseum
6:50 – 7:20 PM	1 st – 3 rd Grade Math Bee	EEC Coliseum
7:30 – 8:15 PM	4 th – 6 th Grade Math Bee	EEC Coliseum
Sunday, October 8		
1:30 PM	Award Recipient Check-In	BASE A4
1:45 PM	Award Ceremony	BASE A4

Special Rules

1. All exhibitors are responsible for reading the General Rules section of this catalog.
2. **Age Divisions:**
 - 1st Grade
 - 2nd Grade
 - 3rd Grade
 - 4th Grade
 - 5th Grade
 - 6th Grade
3. **Entry Limits:** The contest is limited to the first 40 entries per age division.
4. **Time Limits:** 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade will be given a maximum of 30 minutes to complete their test. 4th, 5th, and 6th grade will be given a maximum of 45 minutes to complete their test.
 - 1st grade math test will be read to all contestants.
5. **Scratch Work:** All scratch work must be completed in the test booklet.
6. All grade levels will take the test on the first day of the contest.
7. No electronic devices are allowed to be used. Judges are in control of the competition; their decision is final.
8. **Awards:** All grade level results will be posted on www.hotfair.com by the Friday after the contest. Only the top five (5) will be posted.
 - In the event of a tie, the first turned in will be the winner.
9. The tests were prepared using grade-level materials by education professionals.

Awards and Premiums

1st Place: \$50 and a rosette in each grade
2nd Place: \$25 and a rosette in each grade
3rd - 5th Place: Ribbons in each grade

Spelling Bee

All entries must be submitted online.

Entry Fee: \$10

Late Entry Fee: \$20

Monday, October 2		
5:30 – 6:00 PM	All Grades Check-In (All Events)	EEC Coliseum
6:10 – 6:40 PM	1 st – 6 th Grade Spelling Bee	EEC Coliseum
Sunday, October 8		
1:30 PM	Award Recipient Check-In	BASE A4
	4 th -6 th Grade Oral Spelling Bee Check-In	BASE A4
1:45 PM	Award Ceremony	BASE A4
Appx. 2:00 PM	4 th -6 th Grade Oral Spelling Bee	BASE A4
	4 th -6 th Grade Spelling Bee Awards <i>*Immediately following the Oral Spelling Bee</i>	BASE A4

Special Rules

1. All exhibitors are responsible for reading the General Rules section of this catalog.
2. **Age Divisions:**
 - 1st Grade
 - 2nd Grade
 - 3rd Grade
 - 4th Grade
 - 5th Grade
 - 6th Grade
3. **Entry Limits:** The contest is limited to the first 40 entries per age division.
4. All grade levels will take the written test on the first day of the contest.
5. No electronic devices are allowed to be used. Judges are in control of the competition; their decision is final.
6. **Awards:** All grade level results will be posted on www.hotfair.com by the Friday after the contest. Only the top five (5) will be posted.
 - For 4th, 5th, and 6th grade, results will be listed in alphabetical order. These winners are considered finalists and are invited to participate in the oral bee on the second day of the contest.
7. **Word Lists:** Words used in the Spelling Bee shall be selected from a list of words approved by educators. Word lists will be posted on www.hotfair.com and must be spelled exactly as written (capitalization, hyphen, etc).
 - Words used for tiebreakers will be selected by the committee and may not be included on the provided word lists. Participants may be asked to use spelling words in a sentence for tie breaker purposes.

Oral Spelling Bee:

- In the oral competition, after the Pronouncer gives the contestant a word, the contestant will have 15 seconds to begin to spell the word. The judges may disqualify any contestant who ignores a request to start spelling.
- The contestant may have the word repeated once.
- The contestant is encouraged to pronounce the word before spelling it and after spelling it. However, no contestant will be eliminated for failing to pronounce a word.
- Words must be spelled exactly as written on the word list (capitalization, hyphen, etc.).
- Before they begin to spell the word, the contestant may request the pronouncer to re-pronounce the word, define it, or use it in a sentence. No other information about the etymology or history of a word will be given.
- Having started to spell a word, a contestant may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning, but in retracing there can be no change of letters and/or their sequence from those first pronounced. If letters and/or their sequence are changed in the respelling, the speller will be eliminated.
- Upon missing the spelling of a word, the contestant is immediately eliminated from the contest.
- Because of time constraints, the announcer and the judges have the right to move to higher grade level of words whenever they deem necessary. To prepare, study words up to two grade levels above your current grade level including bonus lists. If necessary, unlisted words may be used to determine a winner.
- If more than one spelling is listed for a word, any of these spellings will be accepted as correct if the word matches the pronunciation provided by the pronouncer, or if it is clearly identified as being a standard variant of the word that the contestant has been asked to spell.
- If a word has one or more homonyms, the pronouncer will indicate which of them is to be spelled by using the word in a sentence.
- Any question relating to the spelling of a word should be referred to the Academic Rodeo Chairman immediately before the next contestant is given the next word to spell.

Oral Spelling Bee Playoff Round:

- When the contestants are reduced to two, they will draw numbers to determine order.
- During the play-off round, when one contestant misspells a word, the other contestant shall be given the opportunity to spell the same word. When one of the last two spellers' misses, and the other spells correctly in the same round, the one who spells their word correctly will be declared the winner of the play-off round.
- If both spellers misspell the same word, both shall continue in the contest and the one who first misspelled the word shall be given a new word to spell.
- Because of time constraints, the announcer and the judges have the right to move to higher grade level of words whenever they deem necessary. To prepare, study words up to two grade levels above your current grade level including bonus lists. If necessary, unlisted words may be used to determine a winner.

- If more than one spelling is listed for a word, any of these spellings will be accepted as correct if the word matches the pronunciation provided by the pronouncer, or if it is clearly identified as being a standard variant of the word that the contestant has been asked to spell.
- If a word has one or more homonyms, the pronouncer will indicate which of them is to be spelled by using the word in a sentence.
- Any question relating to the spelling of a word should be referred to the Academic Rodeo Chairman immediately; before the word has been given to the other speller.
- The Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo Academic Rodeo Chairman and the judges are in complete control of the Spelling Bee. Their decisions shall be final.

Awards and Premiums

1st Place: \$50 and a rosette in each grade
2nd Place: \$25 and a rosette in each grade
3rd - 5th Place: Ribbons in each grade

Social Studies Bee

All entries must be submitted online.

Entry Fee: \$10

Late Entry Fee: \$20

Monday, October 2		
5:30 – 6:00 PM	All Grades Check-In (All Events)	EEC Coliseum
6:50 – 7:20 PM	4 th – 6 th Grade Social Studies Bee	EEC Coliseum
Sunday, October 8		
1:30 PM	Award Recipient Check-In	BASE A4
1:45 PM	Award Ceremony	BASE A4

Special Rules

1. All exhibitors are responsible for reading the General Rules section of this catalog.
2. **Age Divisions:**
 - 4th Grade: Texas State Symbols
 - 5th Grade: US States and Capitals
 - 6th Grade: World Geography – Continents, Oceans, and Countries
3. **Entry Limits:** The contest is limited to the first 40 entries per age division.
4. **Time Limits:** All grades will be given a maximum of 30 minutes to complete their test.
5. All grade levels will take the test on the first day of the contest.
6. All terms must be spelled correctly.
7. No electronic devices are allowed to be used. Judges are in control of the competition; their decision is final.
8. **Awards:** All grade level results will be posted on www.hotfair.com by the Friday after the contest. Only the top five (5) will be posted.
 - In the event of a tie, the first turned in will be the winner.
9. The tests were prepared using grade-level materials by education professionals.

Awards and Premiums

- 1st Place: \$50 and a rosette in each grade
- 2nd Place: \$25 and a rosette in each grade
- 3rd - 5th Place: Ribbons in each grade