



WESTERN ART & PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW RULES & GUIDELINES

Updates made March 2024, please read thoroughly.

"Western art is representing the heritage and lifestyle of the west, historical as well as present day."

The Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo's intention is to encourage the education and appreciation of our western heritage through the Youth Western Art Contest. The above definition will therefore be the general guideline as to what is considered western art for this contest.

ELIGIBILITY

This contest is open to ALL Texas students currently enrolled in an accredited public or private school or a home school environment. Adults must reside in Texas as of entry date.

Entries will be classified by exhibitor grade level or age.

Divisions are as follows:

- a. **Pee Wee:** Grades K-2
- b. **Junior:** Grades 3-5
- c. **Intermediate:** Grades 6-8
- d. **Senior:** Grades 9-12
- e. **Adult:** 18 years of age & older

CONTEST GUIDELINES

- A. Artwork must be completed under the supervision of a school art teacher. If an art teacher is not available in the school district, the parent/guardian may supervise the artwork. Any legal issue arising from the infringement of the copyright law is the sole responsibility of the student and their parent(s)/legal guardian(s). The Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo will not be responsible for or involved in any legal issues arising from infringement.
- B. Contestants, parents, and teachers are not permitted to be present during judging.
- C. Only one student may work on a single entry. No group projects.
- D. Categories for the Youth Western Art Contest include Illustrations (2D, 3D, & Photography)
- E. Each student may enter (1) one piece of artwork in each category.
- F. Each piece of artwork must be titled.
- G. Each entry must have a completed Declaration, Release and Acknowledgement Form which can be found on the entry form.

- H. Each entry must have an artwork tag. The release must be signed by the teacher, student, and parent/legal guardian if the student is under the age of 18 years.
- I. 1st place- 3rd place in each category will be displayed for the duration of the Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo. No artwork will be available for checkout until Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024.
- J. By entering artwork, the student agrees and understands that the Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo reserves the right to reproduce entered artwork for any purpose. Proceeds, if any, will benefit the Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo in support of its mission. By entering their artwork, contestants relinquish their right to reproduce it for profit. contestants may reproduce their artwork for personal use. The Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo reserves the right to hold the Grand Champion artwork until the Grand Champion for the next year is announced.
- K. Artwork that is framed or larger than the size requirements will not be accepted for competition or display. See Artwork Guidelines on pages 2 and 3 for full list of restrictions.
- L. Participants will receive one day free admission (good for the 2024 fair only) to the Brazos Valley Fair and Rodeo October 18th – October 20th, 2024.

JUDGING

- A. The following criteria will be used to judge entries: (These criteria will be weighted equally)
 - a. **Composition** – Demonstrated use of aesthetic balance of visual weight, including object and color placement as it applies to the artwork
 - b. **Craftsmanship with Chosen Medium** – Artist’s use of brushwork, color mixing, blending and skilled control of materials used
 - c. **Demonstrated Artistic Skill** – Artist’s handling of proportion, linear and atmospheric perspective, value, contrast, accurate drawing of details and subject, correct size relationships (i.e. legs bend the right way, cows the right size for the barn, saddles and bridles don’t have missing elements, etc.)
 - d. **Creative, Fresh Approach** – Skillful application of innovative approach to subject matter (i.e. unusual point of view or other original approach)
 - e. **Title of Artwork** – A great title will be thought-provoking and be the artist’s way of enhancing emotion concerning the subject
- B. Judging will take place prior to the opening of the Fair. Judging is closed to the public.
- C. Judges will select winners for each category (2D, 3D) as follows:
 - a. First, second and third place from each grade level (K-12 & Adult). Honorable Mention (judge’s discretion)
 - b. Champion & Reserve Champion for each division (Pee Wee, Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Adult)

- c. Overall Grand Champion & Overall Reserve Grand Champion in the Sculpture(3D) Category and Illustration (2D) Category

ARTWORK GUIDELINES

- A. Entries will be classified by the following divisions according to the contestant's grade level:
 - a. Pee Wee: Grades K-2
 - b. Junior: Grades 3-5
 - c. Intermediate: Grades 6-8
 - d. Senior: Grades 9-12
 - e. Adults 18 years of age & older

- B. Originality of artwork
 - a. Student must indicate the source of inspiration on the Declaration, Release and Acknowledgement Form to avoid disqualification due to copying. Acceptable examples are:
 - 1. In class still life
 - 2. Contestants own photograph
 - 3. Contestants imagination
 - b. All artwork must be the student's original composition. No copies, by hand, electronic or mechanical device, of any previously published piece of art, previously published photograph, or other copyright protected material will be allowed
 - c. The student's teacher or parent/legal guardian must certify the originality of the artwork on the Declaration, Release and Acknowledgement Form

- C. Only the student submitting the artwork can perform work on the entry.

- D. Artwork must be titled.

- E. It is strongly encouraged, but NOT required, that the pieces reflect the education and appreciation of Western or Texas heritage. However in the result of a tie, the piece that represents western art will be the tie breaker. The following examples will be a guideline as to what is considered Western or Texas heritage art:
 - a. Farm or ranch life (past or present)
 - b. Cowboy or rodeo episodes
 - c. Any imaginative country and western scene or landscape
 - d. Any imaginative still life depicting cowboy, Native American, or pioneer paraphernalia
 - e. Historical people or events, for instance the Battle of the Alamo, the California Gold Rush, the Buffalo Soldiers, Chief, Sitting Bull, etc.
 - f. Any famous or recognizable Texas landmark/building/place, etc.
 - g. Any Texas town or city sky lines, downtown squares, etc.
 - h. Fair Events

- F. Certain subjects are categorized as NOT acceptable for the Youth Western Art Contest. The following will not be accepted and subject to disqualification:
 - a. Satanic or violent art

- b. Nudes and inappropriate clothing, or lack thereof
 - c. Items including profanity or that are lewd in nature
 - d. Gang symbols or themes
- G. Certain types, styles and methods of artwork are NOT permitted in the Youth Western Art Contest. The following will not be accepted and is subject to disqualification:
- a. Framed illustrations
 - b. Wet entries
 - c. Charcoal or pastels that are not fixed
- H. Entries made from mechanical or electronic devices including but not limited to:
- a. Assistance of opaque or overhead projectors
 - b. Photocopied or otherwise professionally or mechanically reproduced images
 - c. Computer generated or computer enhanced art to include the use of scanners
 - d. Sewing machine
 - e. No molds
- I. Certain materials may NOT be used in artwork submitted to the Youth Western Art Contest. Artwork using any of these materials will not be accepted and subject for disqualification:
- a. Glitter
 - b. Plastic Figures
 - c. Pre-packaged, pre-cut craft or art kits
 - d. Commercial, newsprint lettering, stencils, or rub-on letters in their original form
 - e. Sand (must be glued, not loose)
 - f. Wax
 - g. Any fragile materials that easily break or may be damaged by routine handling during setting up or display (soft clay, glass, etc.)
 - h. Living things
 - i. Unfired clay
 - j. Noodle art

ILLUSTRATION (2D) GUIDELINES

- A. The following MEDIA are some examples of acceptable mediums:
- Pastels
 - Watercolor
 - Oil Paint
 - Acrylic Paint
 - Ink
 - Charcoal
 - Pencil
 - Mixed Media
 - Chalk
 - Scratchboard

- Digital
- B. Size of illustrations- Dimensions may be vertical or horizontal, but they must not exceed 18" X 24". Incorrect sizes are subject to disqualification.
- C. Mounting and matting of 2D entires:
 - a. Illustrations must be matted. "Professional" mats are acceptable, but they are not required. At a minimum, sturdy material such as poster board or heavy construction paper should be used that prevents sagging of artwork when hung. Mat boards are recommended
 - b. Mat size must not exceed 3" on any side.
 - c. Mat color is limited to white or black
 - d. Paintings on canvas with wooden stretcher frames do not need to be matted. Paintings on hardboard canvas may be matted or mounted with sturdy poster board instead of using hooks or wires. A minimum mat edge of 1" will enable the artwork to be displayed with clips without damage to the canvas board

SCULPTURE (3D) GUIDELINES

- A. The following MEDIA are some examples of acceptable mediums:
 - a. Clay (air dry, kiln fired)
 - b. Wire
 - c. Wood
 - d. Metal
 - e. Plaster
 - f. Papier Mache
 - g. Any other material that falls within the guidelines of our rules and regulations
- B. Sculptures should be well made and be able to stand alone. Any sculpture made of fragile material must have a base to support it. Our exhibit will be open to the public including small children, and although we do our best to protect all artwork, it is impossible for us to control the activity of every person viewing the exhibits. **FRAGILE SCULPTURES SUBJECT TO DAMAGE BY ROUTINE HANDLING SHOULD NOT BE ENTERED.** Soft clay will not be accepted. We will not be responsible for damage.
- C. Maximum size - Sculptures are not to exceed 20" in height or width, including the base.
- D. Weight - Sculptures should not weigh more than 35 pounds.
- E. Sculpture must be submitted in a secure container; padding is optional but strongly encouraged. Tape or tie Art Label to sculpture.

PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDELINES

- A. All photographs must have been taken by the exhibitor between the dates of January 1st, 2024 and the time of entry. Photographs may be submitted only one time to the Brazos

Valley Fair & Rodeo Photography Contest. The same original photograph cannot be entered in multiple categories.

- B. Content of photographs must be appropriate for persons of all ages to view. The Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo reserves the right to eliminate sensitive subject matter. Photographs that are deemed obscene, vulgar, hateful, threatening, or otherwise violate any laws are strictly prohibited.
- C. The Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo respects the rights related to copyright law and intellectual property. All photographs must be the photographer's original work and taken by the photographer entering. Use of a photo from other sources/people without permission is not allowed and will lead to disqualification of the photograph.
- D. The Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo and/or its employees/volunteers involved in the contest will not be held liable for missing, mislabeled or non-displayed photographs. By entering, the photographer accepts this release.
- E. All photographs are judged on an individual basis of quality. Awards will be given to entries based on the score card criteria. Judges will determine the placing. Judge's decisions on all entries are final.
- F. By entering, the exhibitor agrees and understands that the Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo reserves the right to reproduce the winning photograph for any purpose. Proceeds, if any, will benefit the Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo in support of its mission.
- G. By submitting a photograph in this contest, photographers agree to obtain all rights to images used in the photograph. The Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo cannot be held responsible for any model releases or image releases that the photographer did not obtain.

Photograph sizing and submission guidelines.

- a. Dimensions may be vertical or horizontal, but must be **8" X 10"**
- b. Photographs must be matted. "Professional" mats are acceptable, but they are not required. At a minimum, sturdy material such as poster board or heavy construction paper should be used that prevents sagging of artwork when hung. Mat boards are recommended
- c. Mat size must not exceed 3" on any side. Double matting is acceptable, but total width of the double matting must not exceed the 3" maximum
- d. Photographs must be matted or mounted

ENTRY GUIDELINES:

There will be two categories an exhibitor may enter: Western Art or Other photography item. Exhibitors must write on the entry form which category the piece is entering or will be best placed by BVFR Staff. It is encouraged, but **not** required, that one of the pieces reflect the education and appreciation of Western or Texas heritage. However, in result of a tie, the piece that represents Western Art will be the tie breaker. The following examples will be a guideline as to what is considered Western or Texas heritage art:

- Farm or ranch life (past or present)
- Cowboy or rodeo episodes
- Any imaginative country and western scene or landscape
- Any imaginative still life depicting cowboy, Native American, or pioneer paraphernalia
- Historical people or events, for instance the Battle of the Alamo, the California Gold Rush, the Buffalo Soldiers, Chief, Sitting Bull, etc.
- Any famous or recognizable Texas landmark/building/place, etc.
- Any Texas town or city sky lines, downtown squares, etc.
- Fair Events

A. Exhibitors may have a total of two entries per exhibitor, one per category.

B. An entry that does not follow the rules will be automatically disqualified. Reasons for disqualification:

- a. Incorrectly sized photograph
- b. More than **two** photographs entered per exhibitor
- c. Inappropriate or unsuitable photograph

ENTERING/ CHECKING OUT ARTWORK

A. Artwork will be accepted beginning September 21 - October 4, 2024. Artwork submitted in the summer will be held undisturbed in the Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo offices. **Weekend drop off Saturday September 21st 9am-1pm**..No entries will be accepted after the final entry deadline.

Final entry drop off: October 4, 2024. (Artwork must be delivered by 5:00 PM)

- a. Student's artwork submitted by this deadline will be on display throughout the duration of the Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo main weekend, Oct.18 – 20, 2024.
 - b. Entry fees: Each piece of artwork entered into the contest will be charged an entry fee of **\$5.00**. Entry fee is due at the time entries are submitted
- B. For an entry to be complete the following must be submitted with artwork:
- a. Entry form including completed Declaration, Release and Acknowledgement
 - b. TWO completed artwork tags –
 1. One taped to the back of the student artwork and
 2. one copy for the student/teacher/guardian to use in claiming their artwork
 - c. Entry fee

C. Contestants and/or teachers are encouraged to deliver artwork to the Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo at the Brazos County Expo Complex. Entries may also be mailed. The Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo is not responsible for any damage done to artwork in the shipping process. Entries will not be delivered or mailed after the show. Artwork is to be picked up October 22 – 25th, 2024, between 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM. You must have your Artwork Tag Receipt to claim your artwork.



Mailing Address:
Brazos Valley Fair &
Rodeo Youth Western
Art Show
P.O. Box 594
Bryan, TX 77806

Physical Address:
Brazos Valley Fair &
Rodeo Youth Western
Art Show 5827 Leonard
Road
Bryan, TX 77807

AWARDS

Awards will be distributed as follows:

ILLUSTRATION (2D) CATEGORY

First, Second, Third Place (Per Grade)	Ribbon
Champion (Per Age Division)	Rosette
Reserve Champion (Per Age Division)	Rosette

SCULPTURE (3D) CATEGORY

First, Second, Third Place (Per Grade)	Ribbon
Champion (Per Age Division)	Rosette
Reserve Champion (Per Age Division)	Rosette

PHOTOGRAPHY CATEGORY

First, Second, Third Place (Per Grade)	Ribbon
Champion (Per Age Division)	Rosette
Reserve Champion (Per Age Division)	Rosette

OVERALL WINNERS

Grand Champion Illustration	Banner and buckle
Reserve Grand Champion Illustration	Banner
Grand Champion Sculpture	Banner
Reserve Grand Champion Sculpture	Banner

Class Honorable Mention	Ribbon (judge's discretion)
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