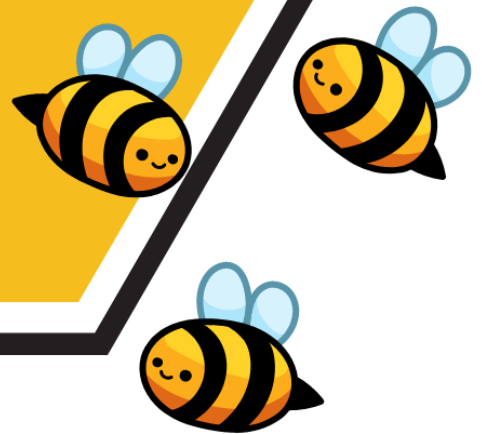




2024



**Academic Rodeo
Catalog**

September 30 & October 6

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Letter from the Chairman

To all of the exhibitors, families, teachers, agents and supporters

On behalf of the entire staff, board of directors and over 600 volunteers it is my honor to welcome you to the 2024 Heart O' Texas Livestock Show.

It's no secret how much time, effort and energy go into exhibiting quality livestock. We've also heard a rumor that the cost of acquiring a project, feeding it, keeping it healthy and getting it (and yourselves) to and from shows can be a little pricey. That's why we don't take putting on a great livestock show lightly.

For over 70 years we've put on a high quality and highly competitive show and we are justifiably proud of that history. However, our motto is Raise The Standard and every year we focus on ways we can make this show and your experience here with us better.

The ways this happens may be big things you notice right away or little things that just ensure that things run smoothly. Over the last couple of years, we've significantly upgraded the quality of our facilities. You should notice a cleaner brighter facility along with a state-of-the-art sound system and improved WiFi. Our already impressive concessions have added new tasty food offerings you're sure to enjoy.

Our staff are committed to making sure arrival and check in goes as smoothly as is humanly possible and we believe you'll notice. Our goal is to be sure that your trip to Waco and the Heart O' Texas Livestock Show is one you'll always remember. Our Grand Drives are truly an experience that exhibitors will never forget and we hope you get to be a part of it!!

While we can't guarantee that you'll leave with a coveted grand champion banner, we can guarantee that our team is doing everything we can to make this the best show you attend this year. We'd love to hear from you on how we can continue to Raise The Standard.

Welcome to Waco and enjoy the show!

Mike Tawater

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	Mike Tawater
Chairman-Elect	Dan Ingham
Secretary	Trey Warren
Treasurer	Chris Kincaid
Immediate Past Chairman	Tanner Moore

Board of Directors

Chair, Fair & Rodeo Council	Liz Barton
Chair, Sports & Entertainment Council	James Bates
Chair, Agricultural Events & Competitions Council	Brent Neuhaus
Chair, Campus Management Council	Rob Wolaver
At- Large Director	Dusty Lynch
At- Large Director	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
Mission Coordinator	Kathryn Hill
Coordinator, Ag & Competitive Events	Reagan Thurman
Director, Communications	Erin James
Director, BASE Sales & Service	Mattie Hawthorne
Director, Sports & Entertainment	Maddie Hartberg
Assistant, Ag & Competitive Events	Taylor Clark

Committee Leadership

Chairman	Donna Morgan
Vice Chairman	Julie Richardson

Committee Members:

Antonio Majors, Autumn Akins, Sabrina Albrecht, Nikki Banana, Trista Barnett, Lindsay Benning, Chris, Beheler, Casi Bowers, Stephanie Brown, Diane Buxkemper, Mischa Campbell, Made Dennis, Lisa Monthie, Mandy Moss, Kim Neuhaus, Logan Poteet, Taylor Pursley, Beth Ramsdell, Sarah Rippen, Yesica Rodriguez, Jennifer Sargent, Justin Stanford, Paige Stanford, Cheryl Sullivan

Schedule of Events

September 30 & October 6

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 on September 30th.

The Awards Ceremony and Oral Spelling Bee will be held in the BASE Room A4 on October 6th.

Monday, September 30		
5:30 – 6:00 PM	All Grades Check-In (All Events)	EEC Coliseum
6:10 – 6:40 PM	1 st – 3 rd Grade Spelling Bee	EEC Coliseum
	4 th – 6 th Grade Social Studies Bee	EEC Coliseum
6:50 – 7:20 PM	1 st – 3 rd Grade Math Bee	EEC Coliseum
	4 th – 6 th Grade Spelling Bee	EEC Coliseum
7:30 – 8:15 PM	4 th – 6 th Grade Math Bee	EEC Coliseum
Sunday, October 6		
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 29, 2024
Deadline: September 29, 2024

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 29, 2024

Deadline: September 29, 2024

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

11. **Accommodations:** The Academic Rodeo is a contest sponsored by the Heart O' Texas Fair and Rodeo and is not associated with any public or private educational facility. Due to the nature of the contests, educational accommodations which alter the testing materials and/or the testing format will not be provided.

Math Bee

All entries must be submitted online.

Entry Fee: \$10

Late Entry Fee: \$20

Monday, September 30		
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 6		
1:30 PM	Award Recipient Check-In	BASE A4
1:45 PM	Award Ceremony	BASE A4

Special Rules

- All exhibitors are responsible for reading the General Rules section of this catalog.
- Age Divisions:**
 - 1st Grade
 - 2nd Grade
 - 3rd Grade
 - 4th Grade
 - 5th Grade
 - 6th Grade
- Entry Limits:** The contest is limited to the first 40 entries per age division.
- 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.
- Scratch Work:** All scratch work must be completed in the test booklet.
- All grade levels will take the test on the first day of the contest.
- No electronic devices are allowed to be used. Judges are in control of the competition; their decision is final.
- 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.
- 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, September 30		
5:30 – 6:00 PM	All Grades Check-In (All Events)	EEC Coliseum
6:10 – 6:40 PM	1 st – 3 rd Grade Spelling Bee	EEC Coliseum
6:50 – 7:20 PM	4 th - 6 th Grade Spelling Bee	EEC Coliseum
Sunday, October 6		
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, September 30		
5:30 – 6:00 PM	All Grades Check-In (All Events)	EEC Coliseum
6:10 – 6:40 PM	4 th – 6 th Grade Social Studies Bee	EEC Coliseum
Sunday, October 6		
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