

# ACHIEVEMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, & EXPRESSIVE ARTS

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Superintendent: TBD

## RULES

- a) This section is **intended** to be a showcase for projects that fall under the national curriculum category, Communications and Expressive Arts.
- b) All work is to be completed by the individual youth exhibitor in the current 4-H program year.
- c) Creative work should not contain content that would be inappropriate for the general 4-H audience. Any use of unsuitable language or story themes will not be accepted.

## AWARDS:

Blue \$2.50 Red \$1.50 White \$1.00

Class #1

### 1. WRITING/ PRINT

- A) **Achievement/Record Book:** The Book is a collection of items assembled to demonstrate involvement in projects and activities during the current 4-H year. Evaluators will be looking for an attractive cover and title page, a table of contents and/or use of section dividers, and content that reflects involvement in 4-H experiences such as leadership experiences, marketing/public relations, exhibits, projects, community service, presentations, and other activities completed in the current 4-H year. All Items such as ribbons, certificates, and pictures displayed in the book should be labeled to reflect what experiences they relate to. The book must contain a story that summarizes the accomplishment and skills learned throughout the current year in 4-H. The inclusion of activities that are not 4-H related is acceptable but should be kept to a minimum, keeping the focus on 4-H work.
- B) **Scrap Book:** The Scrap Book reflects the use of creative scrapbooking techniques to tell about events and/or activities. The theme may be 4-H or non-4-H in nature. The Scrap Book must have been completed in the current 4-H year. Exhibits will be evaluated on overall appearance and creativity and the appropriate use of scrapbooking techniques to tell a story. If the scrapbook reflects the activities of the 4-H Club, the work must be completed solely by one 4-H youth member and not be a group/club effort. Club scrapbooks may be entered in the open class category.
- C) **Press Releases or Editorials:** Entries submitted need to demonstrate the 4-H youth member's ability to share information with the various media outlets for the purpose of informing the public about their achievements and accomplishments during the current 4-H year. If the press release was printed in the local newspaper, please include a copy of the published release, indicating date of release and title of publication.
- D) **4-H Portfolio:** Portfolio should include the completed NYS Portfolio Summary Document found in the Club Management Notebook, appropriate project record sheets, and a 4-H Story documenting member participation and evidence of growth through involvement in the 4-H program for the current year. The 4-H Story is a significant and important part of the Portfolio. Exhibitors are expected to pay attention to formatting spelling and grammar usage. Individual project records from previous years, pages of pictures and actual ribbons should not be included in the Portfolio. Exhibit will be judged on ability of exhibitor to clearly record information, the ease at which evaluator is able to understand scope of experiences and involvement and the overall 4-H story.
- E) **Resume and Cover Letter:** This entry may be fictional or nonfictional. Both documents are required for a complete entry.
  - The purpose of a resume is to provide a summary of your skills, abilities and accomplishments. It is a quick advertisement of who you are. It must at least include your objective, education, skill set, past/current employment and honors/activities.
  - The purpose of the cover letter is to introduce yourself to an organization, demonstrate your interest in the company or a specific vacancy, draw attention to your resume and motivate the reader to interview you. Often this letter is the first contact you have with a prospective employer.
- F) **Creative Writing:** Creative Writing will be evaluated on content, standard punctuation and grammar, rhyme (if applicable), use of expressions, actions, dialogue and overall "tone" of the written piece. How the piece is presented, and neatness and creativity of the presentation will also be considered in the evaluation. **There is a limit of six one sided pages, however if a piece is longer, the exhibitor can enter a synopsis along with the total piece. The synopsis can be no more than the six-page limit. Recorded oral presentations of the work can also be submitted with the written work. Please submit 2 copies.**
  - **Fiction:** Writing can be presented in any form of genre such as a story, letter, poem, or script for stage or screen.
  - **Non-Fiction:** In this form creative writing the author uses self-exploratory writing that draws on personal experiences. The format could be an autobiography, personal story, letter, poem or script for stage or screen that is based on true-life experiences for the author.

- **Reflective Essay:** A written essay represents a young person's ability to reflect on what they've learned through participation in 4-H youth development programs, projects, and activities. Reflective essays will be evaluated using the following criteria: evidence of life skill development through experiential learning (do, share, process, generalize, and apply); meaningful documentation of the impact that 4-H has had in exhibitor's life; and adequate information for evaluator to comprehend the skills and abilities learned. Exhibitors are expected to pay attention to formatting, spelling and grammar use. Exhibits will be evaluated according to individual age and level of development. (Please submit 2 copies of your essay)

**AWARDS:**

**Class #2 Blue \$2.50 Red \$1.50 White \$1.00**

2. **POSTERS AND 3-DIMENSIONAL DISPLAYS:** Educational posters/ 3 dimensional displays- Exhibit should be self-explanatory through the use of appropriate captions, signs or labels and should be limited to approximately card table size. Exhibit will be evaluated on content, illustration, organization, clarity, visual appeal and readability. All exhibits must include a written summary to help evaluator understand purpose and/or outcome. Recommendation: If you used glue stick for posters please reinforce glued items before submitting
  - A) **Public Presentation Posters:** Posters **must be accompanied by a descriptive short summary** so that evaluator clearly understands why/how poster was used.
  - B) **Poster/Exhibit:** Individual or Group- a series of posters (at least 14" x 22")/ photos (8" x 10") or three-dimensional exhibit representing any aspect of 4-H Youth Development projects and/or activities.
  - C) **Displays demonstrating "The 4-H Experience":** Exhibitor may use any suitable materials or photographs to demonstrate to the public what it is like to be a 4-H member. Display should incorporate some text to help fairgoers understand what 4-H youth development is all about.

**AWARDS:**

**Class #3-4 Blue \$8.00 Red \$6.00 White \$4.00**

3. **4-H BANNERS**

- Size 2' x 4' minimum
- Designed to hang vertically or horizontally or to be carried horizontally
- Must be equipped with a dowel on top suitable for hanging or carrying
- Any assembly technique can be used
- Must incorporate the 4-H Clover

4. **4-H CLUB DISPLAY:** One premium will be awarded for the entry. Size of may be up to 5 feet wide and must be pre-approved by 4-H Educator.

**AWARDS:**

**Class #5 Blue \$2.50 Red \$1.50 White \$1.00**

5. **PERFORMING ARTS-** Exhibits should illustrate the exhibitor's involvement in performing arts. Involvement may be a performer, technical support staff, review or observer. No entries of the program allowed as its own exhibit, can be entered as part of a collection for entry in A-D
  - A) **Prop-** any object or material constructed by the exhibitor for use in a production. Examples: backdrop, scenery, puppet, mask, etc.  
Note: Costumes are evaluated in Textiles and Clothing section.
  - B) **Script-** an original sketch, scene or play written by the exhibitor.
  - C) **Documentation-** notebook, posters or 3-dimensional exhibits about involvement in live performances.
  - D) **Other-** any performing arts exhibit or project falling outside the categories described above.

**AWARDS:**

**Class #6-9 Blue \$2.50 Red \$1.50 White \$1.00**

6. **YOUTH BUSINESS:** **Youth Business** – Must include all of the following: (1) Business Card, (2) Business Plan, (3) Photo or actual product and (4) money management record(s). Use of 4-H publications and projects such as "KidBiz" and "Learn and Earn" are suggested.
7. **4-H EXCHANGE PROGRAM:** Exhibit should illustrate the experience of hosting a delegate. Exhibit may reflect the program experience of year prior due to dates of program.
8. **4-H EXCHANGE PROGRAM DELEGATE ENTRY:** Class designed for a 4-H Exchange Delegate to have ability to enter project created in the time they are being hosted by Erie County 4-H Family. Up to 3 entries are allowed.

9. **OUTGOING MEMBER SHOWCASE:** The purpose of this exhibit is to show an overview of the member's 4-H experience. Entry can be up to 3 feet wide. Member may choose to express their 4-H history in any format they feel is appropriate (story, photo album, project display, poster, etc.) Entry must include name, years in 4-H and descriptions for any photos or projects.

**NOTE:** Special Requirement for 4-H exhibitor who will not be talking with the Fair Evaluator

For any 4-H member who is unable to bring his/her exhibits/entries to the 4-H Youth Development Building on Saturday, August 2, 2025, to speak personally with the evaluator, the following Exhibitor Information Statement is required to be completed for each exhibit/entry. The evaluator will be requiring this in order to accept the exhibit/entry. (Cloverbuds should complete this information to the best of their abilities; regular 4-H'ers (ages 8-18 as of January 1<sup>st</sup>) should complete these statements fully in their own handwriting if possible. Age and experience will be taken into consideration.)

1. What is the Kind \_\_\_\_\_ and Variety \_\_\_\_\_ of your exhibit (relates to vegetables, flowers, etc.)
2. Describe what you did to complete this project. Provide a list of materials, products and/or equipment used and why they were selected. Briefly explain your methods of construction process and your source of ideas. (3-5 sentences is sufficient)
3. In approximately 3 – 5 sentences, describe your feelings about this project: what you learned, what challenged you, and /or how you would improve your exhibit in the future.
4. Additional information requested in the Section for this class (Be sure to read complete guidelines in the section)
5. Additional information or special needs to be noted by the evaluator.