

FINE ARTS & CRAFTS

Superintendent: TBD

FINE ARTS & CRAFTS RULES

- a) This section is limited to items designed by the exhibitor. Projects made from commercially available kits should be exhibited in Home Environment and Furnishings.
- b) Projects entered in competition previously are not allowed; refer to Erie County 4-H Rules and Regulations, A. 3.
- c) For any sewn, fabric, or textile item: exhibitors must securely attach a small tag (use cloth tag on cloth articles) with name, address, age and the number of years with the project on the inside or bottom of the item.
- d) Creativity, skill, and years of experience are the criteria used when evaluating the exhibits. Please note that creativity and art appreciation come with a variety of opinions. Take special consideration to how the exhibit is displayed and be prepared to describe to the evaluator what was learned.
- e) Flat artwork (painting, drawing, prints) must be signed. Objects whose ultimate use is to hang on the wall must have mountings on them and be ready for hanging. The frame and matting chosen should enhance the artwork.
- f) Artwork is accepted in EITHER a glass frame or framed using mat board and have a durable backing (cardboard, etc.) to hold the shape. Mat board may be hand cut or purchased pre-cut. **Canvas art must be framed or edges must be completely painted.**
- g) Fine arts and craft entries made using recycled materials will be evaluated on entry's artistic value. Note: items made from recycled materials may also be evaluated in Natural Resources if youth would benefit more from its evaluation being based on its re-use of material.
- h) **If the exhibitor is not present when the entry is evaluated, the craft entry must be accompanied by a 3 x 5 card stating its intended use, what life-skill is gained from the project, how it was made and why the project was interesting to you. This card is optional if the exhibitor is present during the evaluation and can answer these questions if asked by the evaluator.**
- i) Art objects must be in good condition, ready for display.
- j) Each entry must be of distinctly different variety or technique/materials.
- k) Small, delicate, fragile items should be displayed securely in a display box.
- l) **Limit of 5 entries per class**

AWARDS:

Blue \$2.00 Red \$1.50 White \$1.00

Classes 1-16

FINE ARTS

Class #

1. **DRAWING** -expressive work in pencil, charcoal pencil or stick, felt tip pen, stick charcoal, crayon, colored chalk or pastel, brush and ink.
2. **PAINTING** - expressive work in oil, acrylic, watercolor or mixed media, i.e., watercolor and ink, acrylic and chalk, acrylic, collage, etc.
3. **GRAPHICS/PRINTS** - any printing process that duplicates one or more identical images; this includes computer generated art. **IRON-ON GRAPHIC/PRINTS NOT ACCEPTABLE.**
4. **SCULPTURE** - Materials may be wood, stone, clay, original cast plaster, papier-mâché, metal (sheet or wire), fibers, fabric or combination of these. Processes may be carved, modeled, fired, soldered, glued, molded, laminated, nailed or sewn.

FINE CRAFTS

5. **FIBER/FABRIC** - Items **self-designed** with 2 or 3 dimensions of fibers and /or fabrics used singly or in combination, employing any of the following techniques : weaving; knotting; needle arts; string art; felting, etc. Commercial patterns or kits should be entered in the Home Environment section, under classes #9 or 10.
6. **HOBBY CERAMICS/ POTTERY** – Any form cast from a commercial mold or free-form. Projects must be object of clay, fire, cleaned and painted/stained/glazed. Proper sealant if not **glazed**. (Stepping stones should **not** be entered in Fine Arts. Stepping stones and tiles are entered in the Home Environment section, Outdoor Décor, class #14).
 - **Free-form Cast** – must include an index card stating the type of glaze and firing process.
7. **FABRIC DESIGN** – Processes: tie-dyeing; utilize knotting and folding techniques and 2 or more colors, silk screening. No fabric paint or scribbles.
8. **LEATHER CRAFT** – Objects can be tooled, carved, molded, stamped, laced, stitched and/or riveted. Sealant should be applied. Leather Craft from commercial patterns or a kit should be entered in the Home Environment section. Please contact the 4-H Educator for the Home Environment class #.
9. **GLASSWORK** – Etched or stained glass; can be from a commercial source. For painted glass see the Home Environment and Furnishing Section.
 - A) Etched, sandblasted, blown or pulled, annealing/tempering/slumped/fired

- B) Stained glass – must be liquid lead
10. **MOSAICS** – Two- or three-dimensional objects using clay tile, glass, stone. Projects should be grouted and sealed. Stepping stones are **not** entered under Fine Arts. Stepping stones are entered in the Home Environment section, Outdoor Décor, class #14.
 11. **WOOD and/or PAPER** – carving; wood burning, gluing; inlay; cutting; tearing; layering; (origami) folding, quilling, basket making.
 12. **METAL** – Objects of metal(s) used singly or in combination with other materials such as other metals, plastics, wood, ground stones, bone, enamel. Objects can be made by the following processes: hand cut, etched; engraved; tooled or molded. No entries with tin cans permitted.
 13. **JEWELRY**- May include designs from pattern books, bead loom, crochet, etc. No KITS, NO PONY BEADS.
 - A) Handmade materials: silverworks, glass blowing, clay formation, paper formation, stone, fossils, enameling, etc.
 - B) Pattern (hand-drawn design) must be provided with exhibit. NOTE: NO SIMPLE STRING OF BEADS will be eligible for State Fair.
 14. **NON- JEWELRY BEADWORK**- Examples include beaded ornament, beaded purse, or beaded belt. The predominant feature of this entry should be the beadwork.
 15. **MODEL HORSE DIORAMA** – Submit as a diorama depicting a specific horse activity. Include model horse (horse does not need to be handmade, but should be hard plastic sculptures/toys such as Breyer). Example equipment includes tack, jumps, rider apparel, landscape features, etc. Must be contained within 18x18 inch platform. Depict a specific activity such as showjumping, trail riding, halter, barrel racing, pasture grazing, cattle herding, etc. Should include all basic tack required for specific activity. Rider/handler doll optional for diorama. Entry can also be used for Model Horse Dressing Contest (refer to Horse Program Entry Form).
 16. **ANY OTHER FINE ARTS OR CRAFTS ITEM** – Approved by the 4-H Extension Educator, that does not fit into classes 1-15.

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 1st) 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.