



NEEDLE ARTS

ONLINE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2025		
ENTRY FEE	AGES	SKILL LEVEL
One-Time \$25 per Exhibitor	13 & up	Amateur & Professionals
Exhibitors will be allowed entries throughout all the Erie County Fair Competitions. A promo code redeemable for three (3) admission passes will be emailed to the exhibitor on Monday, July 28, 2025.		
Tri-Color is an honorary award chosen by the judge for the outstanding article among those entered in competition in each of our sections. \$25 & ELIGIBLE FOR THE BEST TRI-COLOR AWARD.		
1 ST PLACE BLUE - \$8		2 ND PLACE RED - \$5
Entry Arrival: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 or Wednesday, July 23, 2025 between Noon - 8:00 PM		
Entry Removal: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 between Noon - 8:00 PM or Thursday, August 21, 2025 between 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM.		
Prize Checks: Available Tuesday, August 12, 2025 between 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM at the Creative Arts Info Desk along with satin ribbons earned. Checks remaining after this time will be mailed.		

Please call the Competitive Exhibits office at 716-649-3900 ext. 6407 or email ceoffice@ecfair.org with all questions.

Needle Arts Rules:

1. Please read and abide by all The Erie County Fair and Creative Arts Department rules and regulations.
2. **All entries must be registered by Friday, July 11, 2025.** Entries that are not registered will not be accepted. For more information see the Important Entry Information page at www.ecfair.org.
 1. Only one (1) entry per class.
 2. **IMPORTANT: Needle Art pictures MUST be well framed and wired with flexible picture wire, fastened to screw eyes on wooden frames or sliding hangers on metal frames. (No saw tooth hangers permitted). All others will not be accepted.**
 3. All entries must be clean and free of dirt, pet hair and stains.
 4. We are unable to facilitate projects that require any technological needs (e.g. electric plug access, etc.)
 5. **The following will not be accepted:**
 - Plastic canvas medium
 - Hoop pictures
 - Grouped miniatures to form a minimum picture size
 - Machine embroidery
8. Each entry will be judged on its own merit.
9. Size requirements:
 - Minimum size: 8" x 10" including frame; Must include wire on the back
 - Maximum size: 24" x 30" including frame; Must include wire on the back

Judging Criteria for Needle Arts

1. General Appearance - Is it pleasing to the eye? Does it have balance? Is there harmony among the subjects stitched?
2. Workmanship – Is it (technique) correctly executed?
3. Did the designer take into consideration the difficulty of the piece and use the correct technique?
4. Is the piece clean of smudges and marks?
5. Does the framing or finishing of the piece compliment the work itself?
6. Each entry will be judged on its own merit.



CLASSES

COUNTED CROSS STITCH - 1

Worked from a graph

1. Beginner - 1st piece using Aida cloth, any count
2. Using Aida cloth, any count
3. Using Linen, any count
4. Samplers (Must include the Alphabet)
5. Textured Specialty Stitches, on Linen or Aida cloth, using techniques such as Hardanger Motifs, Hemstitching, Pulled/Drawn work (Smyrna crosses etc.) No purchased embellishments.
6. Hardanger Embroidery on Linen, Aida or Canvas using only traditional Hardanger motifs and designs. May include purchased embellishments if desired.
7. Embellished Stitches using Linen or Aida cloth using Textured stitches as well as Beading, Metallic Threads, Silk Ribbon, buttons &/or other purchased embellishments.
8. Crewel Embroidery

NEEDLEPOINT - 2

Worked from a graph – On Canvas

1. Canvas Work. Needlepoint using all other stitches or techniques

FABRIC NEEDLEWORK WALL HANGING - 3

Maximum 30" x 30"

1. Worked in counted cross-stitch, crewel, embroidered or any other stitch technique, must have appropriate hardware for hanging.

NEEDLEWORK DOOR/WALL DÉCOR - 4

1. Worked in counted cross-stitch, crewel, embroidered or any other stitch technique, must have appropriate hardware for hanging.

DECORATIVE NEEDLEWORK PILLOWS - 5

1. Needlepoint using tent stitch or textured stitches
2. Counted Cross Stitch
3. Smocked
4. Patchwork or Appliquéd
5. Crewel
6. Crewel using Silk/Cotton threads or Crewel Yarn
7. Any needlework not listed above

BABY NEEDS - 6

1. Linen or Aida – Cross Stitch only – **FRAMED**
2. Baby Bib – Cross Stitch Only

NEEDLEWORK BELL PULLS - 7

Worked in any stitch technique. Must be hemmed and have appropriate hardware for hanging.

1. Mini Bell Pull: Maximum width 3", Maximum length 12"
2. Bell Pull: 3"–8" wide; Maximum length 24"

CHRISTMAS NEEDLEWORK - 8

1. Christmas Stocking Linen or Aida, using any stitch technique
2. Christmas Tree Ornaments

TABLE-TOP ITEM - 9

1. Paperweights – any technique
2. Boxes (porcelain, wooden, music or perforated paper) using any technique
3. Needlework Accessories (Needle cases, scissors fob or holder, pincushions, matched sets) Maximum 5 pieces accepted in this category only
4. Needlework trays – any technique
5. Jewelry such as earring, bracelet, pendants using needlework
6. Jewelry such as earring, bracelet, pendants, amulet bag using only beads

PERFORATED PAPER - 10

1. Anniversary
2. Christmas
3. Any other occasion not listed above

CRAZY STITCHING TECHNIQUE - 11

1. Crazy Quilt Squares

SPECIALTY & MISCELLANEOUS - 12

1. Black Work (Linen or Aida)
2. Needle Painting or Bunke Embroidery
3. Silk Ribbon Work (using linen, satin or aida ground fabric)
4. Stump Work or 3-Dimensional Embroidery
5. Brazilian Embroidery, using Rayon Brazilian Threads
6. Any needlework listed above worked by a person over 70 years of age.