



CANFIELD FAIR

8TH ANNUAL CROP ART AND ARRANGEMENTS COMPETITION

To: Prospective Entrants

Thank you for your interest in the 2024 Canfield Fair Crop Art & Arrangements Competition. This competition is open to all residents, individually or in a group. Judging will take place Wednesday, August 28, 2024.

The following information contains everything you will need to enter this year's competition. The Rules & Regulations contain all of the general information and should answer any questions you have about the competition.

Entry Forms

Entry Form included in this packet must be filled out completely.

Incomplete entry forms and/or non-payment of fees will be cause for refusal of entry.

Entry deadline is August 20, 2024.

Delivery of Entries

Your entries must be delivered to the Hay & Grain Building on Tuesday, August 27th.

Entry tags will be furnished at that time.

If you have any questions regarding the information, please feel free to contact us at (330) 533-4107, or stop by the fair office, Monday thru Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

We are very excited about the Crop Art & Arrangements Competition. This annual event continues to grow and create more enthusiasts each year.

Thanks again for your interest and support of our competition. We look forward to receiving your entries!

Woody Woolman

Woody Woolman, Director

**2024 CANFIELD FAIR CROP ART AND ARRANGEMENTS
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Open to any resident. Any individual or group can exhibit a single entry.
2. Limited to one entry per individual or group per class. One member only per family or household may make an entry in any class. If more than one family/household member(s) wants to enter, they must enter as a group.
3. Completed entry form and entry fee of \$4.00 plus \$1.00 processing fee must be received by **August 20th**.
4. Exhibits must be delivered to the Hay & Grain Building on **Tuesday, August 27th**.
5. Exhibits in this class must remain on exhibit until **Monday, September 2nd**. Time to be determined.
6. The exhibit must be the work of the exhibitor(s). No kits shall be used.
7. Name and address must be placed on back of exhibit.
8. Any exhibit which does not conform to requirements or which has plant parts or kinds, or products, which are not in compliance with the rules of this class, will be disqualified or discounted by the Superintendent in advance of the judging of the exhibits. Reason(s) for disqualification will be noted on the exhibitor tag.
9. Repeated showing of the same exhibit is discouraged and shall place lower than a new exhibit of equal quality.
10. The Management of the Canfield Fair reserves the right to interpret these rules and regulations and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters.
11. The Fair Management will use diligence to ensure the safety of articles entered for exhibition after their arrival and placement, but under no circumstances will it be responsible for any loss or damage done to any article on exhibition and the exhibitor shall indemnify the fair and the management thereof, against all legal or other proceedings in regard thereto.
12. **Definition of Exhibitors:**
 - a. Junior Exhibitor ~ All exhibitors through age 16
 - b. Novice Exhibitor ~ All exhibitors over the age of 16
 - c. Group (must list names of all exhibitors in the group)
13. **Materials.** Only the following materials may be used:
Seeds, stems, heads or panicles, and fruiting bodies or structures of oats, wheat, barley, flax, rye, corn, amaranth, canola, lentils, popcorn, decorative corn, soybeans, edible field beans, sunflowers, common buckwheat, field peas, millets, safflower, sorghum, sugar beet, sudan grass, common forage grasses (timothy, bluegrass, bromegrass and wild grasses, etc.), clovers, alfalfa, and wild rice. Crop plants shall be those specimens grown in Ohio; white rice and sesame seeds cannot be used. Superintendent shall be the final authority regarding crops grown in Ohio.
14. Seeds and dried fruiting structures only of any horticultural crop (vegetable and flower plants) which is suited or adapted for Ohio are allowed in all classes.
15. **Backgrounds:** Suitable backgrounds may be plywood, canvas board, heavy mat board, paneling, burlap (colored), linen, and suitable other fabric. Such backgrounds may be painted. Masonite/hardboard cannot be used as a backing, unless it is in a frame.
16. As indicated, 70% of the exposed area must be covered with seeds or plant parts. The background should be covered using seeds.
17. **Legend Cards:** Exhibitor is required to list by name all items used on 4" x 6" card(s) with each exhibit and to glue on the legend card a few specimens of the seeds used, but need not provide a specimen of plant materials used due to difficulty of showing such materials on a 4" x 6" card. Typing of the list will be preferred. Place the legend card in plastic bag and tape to the back of the exhibit. Failure to provide a list will result in a penalty. All materials used shall be shown in their natural color (not dyed or otherwise colored).
18. Hanging or free standing exhibits are permitted. With hanging exhibits, if possible, the exhibitor must fit the exhibit with a metal hanging bracket or eye screws and wire adequate to support the work when hung.
19. **Maximum dimensions:** 24" x 40" and 30" in diameter.

Entry Book No. 1 ~ Junior

Using seeds, stems, etc., in natural colors on supporting background and excluding paints and dyes of any kind (framing optional but must appear finished overall). Junior class will use "**The rooster**" as the theme.

Entry Book No. 2 ~ Novice

Using seeds, stems, etc. in natural colors on supporting background and excluding paints and dyes of any kind (framing optional but must appear finished overall). Novice class will use this year's theme "**The Valley's Homecoming**".

Entry Book No. 3 ~ Group (must list names of all exhibitors in the group)

Using seeds, stems, etc., in natural colors on supporting background and excluding paints and dyes of any kind (framing optional but must appear finished overall). Group class will use "**Canfield Fair**" as the theme.

Premiums Paid on Class 11 ~ 1st \$20.00 2nd \$15.00 3rd \$10.00 4th 7.00 5th \$5.00

2024 CANFIELD FAIR CROP ART AND ARRANGEMENTS BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

Crop Art

Crop art involves the use of seeds instead of paints to create a work of art. Paints are permitted as part of the background. Lovely seed mosaics, seed plaques, and irregular forms such as birds, and animals can be made from seeds and accessories. Even the beginner can create seed mosaics, etc., after a few simple instructions. In some localities, workshops are held to give the necessary instructions. For those persons who are unable to take advantage of the teaching and also to supplement the beginner's quest to being on his own, the following paragraphs will be useful information.

Seed Mosaics

Nature's seeds possess colors and textures which lend themselves to the making of seed art objects. We shall confine ourselves to field and horticultural crops, seeds, and tree or shrub plant parts, nuts, etc. Weed seeds, or seeds of cultivated kinds that will not produce a crop of seeds in Ohio are excluded in this competition.

Seeds: Start collecting seeds of eligible crops from whatever source is at your disposal. This could be at your local seed store, from your farm friends, from seed catalogs (many sell as little as one pound), at county elevators, through your local garden club or arts center, or even from your own garden.

Backgrounds: The material selected should be rigid. Try 3/16-inch plywood. Also useful are the masonite, canvas board, heavy map board, and unfinished wood, such as paneling. Some artists cover the backboard with some kind of fabric, such as burlap, linen, or similar textured fabric. The wood background, when shellacked, or clear varnished, is just as appealing. When employing a fabric over the rigid backing used, cut the fabric at least one inch larger than the board on all sides. Pull taut, glue, and tack to hold in place. Allow to dry.

Tracing the design is more difficult on fabric than on a hard surface. Use graphite carbon and soft pencils to trace the design onto the background.

To proceed:

1. Trace the design onto the surface. If a skyline is needed, add it first with paints.
2. The seeds are attached to the background with Elmers or Fullers glue. Use plenty of glue. Start by applying glue to the lines of the design which has been traced on the background. Do small areas at a time. Have seeds handy in saucers or cups. Use a round toothpick or similar tool and place a small amount of glue on it for picking up and placing the seeds. Large seeds can be handled with tweezers or the fingers. Keep glue off the surface where no seeds will be applied. Allow the glue to dry hard. Avoid flexing the support board during drying.
3. Seed selection for the best colors and textures is part of a successful mosaic. Experience and a good selection of seeds are necessary, and the beginner may make 2 or 3 mosaics using the same design with improved selection each time. Avoid dying or artificially coloring seeds as much as possible. Dye or color seeds only if absolutely necessary to get certain colors (i.e. blues).

Size small to medium art or seed mosaics are the most interesting. With birds, such as wild ducks, one-half to two-thirds normal size of the bird is best. The same holds with making rooster seed mosaics. Consider the use of the mosaic as a guide to size selected. The long length of the mosaic may be either vertical or horizontal, depending on the design selected. Beautiful mosaics may be 12" x 20", or even as small as 10" x 15", while others may need to be 20" x 30" in size.

Framing: Always frame rectangular or square mosaics or finish the edge to appear finished. Select frames that blend well with the mosaic. Irregular forms are not framed.

Preparation for Showing: The mosaic should be fitted with picture hanging wire or with hooks, if small, for hanging. The show chairman may hang the mosaic, or possibly stand it on a frame.

Finishing: Use a clear lacquer spray, or clear varnish, over the seeds and the supporting background if made of wood. The finish coat will hold seeds together better and it will bring more luster and color out of the seeds.

Textbook reference: Eleanor Van Rennseler. *Decorating with Seed Mosaics, Chipped Glass and Plant Materials*. Published by D. Van Nostrand Co. Inc., Princeton, N.J.