

STOCK SHOW **ART** CONTEST

2025 - 2026 OFFICIAL RULES

SOUTHWESTERN EXPOSITION AND LIVESTOCK SHOW, with its home office located at 3400 Burnett-Tandy Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76107, is a nonprofit corporation organized and existing under the laws of Texas (hereinafter referred to as "SWELS").

DEFINITIONS: The following terms shall have the following meanings within these Official Rules. Any other specific terms will be defined within the text of Entry Form, Release of Liability & Indemnity Agreement.

FWSSR – Means SWELS DBA the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo.

Art Contest – Means the Stock Show Art Contest.

Art Entry – Means the illustration of a two-dimensional or three-dimensional work of art submitted to the Art Contest.

Exhibitor – Means the artist of the Art Entry submitted in the Art Contest.

Auction – Means the selling of the Art Entry to the highest bidder.

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

Art Entry Deadline: 5:00 p.m., Saturday, September 27, 2025. NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED.

ANY ART ENTRY RECEIVED AFTER SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025 WILL BE CONSIDERED INELIGIBLE FOR SUBMISSION.

Art Entry Drop Off: The Online Entry Form must be completed before dropping off physical artwork in person. Artwork can be brought to the FWSSR office starting on September 1, 2025 during regular office hours: *Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (or on Saturday, September 27, 2025 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)*. The FWSSR office is located across the street from Cattle Barn 1 in the Will Rogers Memorial Complex, 3400 Burnett-Tandy Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76107.

Mailed Entries Should Be Sent To: Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo, c/o Stock Show Art Contest, 3400 Burnett-Tandy Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76107. **MAILED ART ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Any Art Entry received after the deadline will be considered ineligible for submission.

Awards Ceremony (Invitation Only): Saturday, October 25, 2025. Invitee check-in will start at 10:30 a.m.

Champions Sale (Private Event): Saturday, November 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. – Champion, Reserve Champion, and students advancing to the sale are invited and recognized.

Cowboy Artist of America Workshop (Invitation Only): Monday, January 26. Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, 1st Place in the 3-D Division, and High School Classroom Champion will be invited to a one-day art workshop during the 2026 FWSSR.

Art Entry Pick Up: Art Entries must be claimed in person on Thursday, February 12, thru Saturday, February 14, 2026, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. from the exact location as the Art Entry drop-off – the FWSSR office, 3400 Burnett-Tandy Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76107. **THE EXHIBITOR AND HIS OR HER PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN EXPRESSLY ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE THAT ANY ART ENTRY NOT CLAIMED BY FEBRUARY 14, 2026, WILL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF FWSSR AND MAY BE DISCARDED. ART ENTRIES MUST BE CLAIMED IN PERSON** or by someone authorized by one (1) of the following: parent/guardian, teacher, or student.

SPECIAL RULES, GUIDELINES, AND REQUIREMENTS OF ART ENTRIES

READ CAREFULLY. AN ART ENTRY WILL BE DISQUALIFIED IF IT DOES NOT ADHERE TO THE RULES AND GUIDELINES.

Authorship, Plagiarism, Infringement:

The student and parent/legal guardian must sign the Entry Form, Release of Liability & Indemnity Agreement wherein the Exhibitor and his or her parent/legal guardian make certain representations and warranties with respect to the Art Entry. All Art Entries must be executed solely by the Exhibitor submitting the Art Entry and must be the **original work** of art of the Exhibitor. Parents/legal guardians, family members, friends and teachers must not assist in the execution of the Art Entry. By entering the Stock Show Art Contest, each student undertakes to present original artwork that has been created by her or himself in its entirety. By way of example and not by limitation, the Art Entry (i) shall not be a reproduction of a third party's work of art, (ii) shall not involve the usage of tracings or duplicating devices, (iii) shall not have been previously published, (iv) shall not have won a previous award, (v) shall not infringe upon the copyrights, trademarks, rights of privacy, publicity or other intellectual property rights or any personal or property rights of any third party, or (vi) shall not contain any trademarks, logos, or trade dress owned by third parties. If such student's Art Entry incorporates published materials as a reference, the student should provide a copy of all such reference material along with his or her Art Entry.

Any legal issue related to copyright infringement or the violation or infringement of any other intellectual, personal, or property right is the sole and exclusive responsibility of Exhibitor and his or her parent/legal guardian. FWSSR will not be responsible for or liable for or involved in any such legal issues.

If a placing Art Entry is found to violate these Official Rules or otherwise be in breach of the representations and warranties in the Entry Form, Release of Liability & Indemnity Agreement, any scholarships or cash prizes that were awarded to the Exhibitor are forfeited, and if already received, shall be returned to FWSSR. Likewise, any awards that have not yet been received will not be awarded.

Judging:

The following divisions will be judged: Two-Dimensional Division "2-D Division", Three-Dimensional Division "3-D Division" (for high school students only), and a Classroom Division. FWSSR reserves the right to reclassify a 3-D Art Entry into the 2-D Division and vice versa. The Exhibitor's Art Entry will be judged by a panel of art professionals. All Art Entries will be judged on artistic merit, creativity, and their expression of the theme and subject matter. Under no conditions may parents/legal guardians or students contact the judges to dispute the status of an Art Entry. **JUDGE'S DECISIONS ARE FINAL.**

Eligibility:

Participation in the Art Contest is limited to Texas students currently enrolled in a Texas Public, Private, Charter, or Home school in grades Kindergarten through 12. Exhibitors **MUST BE BETWEEN THE AGES OF FIVE (5) AND NINETEEN (19)** as of January 1, 2026, and must have a **valid social security number.**

Ineligibility:

An Exhibitor is ineligible to compete in the Art Contest division in which they have previously been awarded Grand Champion (see description page 5). However, an Exhibitor who has been awarded Grand Champion in the 2-D Division may compete in the 3-D Division in a subsequent year if still eligible.

Children of employees of the (i) The McClatchy Company, (ii) Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, (iii) The National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame or (iv) FWSSR may enter the Art Contest and/or their Art Entry may be submitted in connection with the Classroom Division (see below), but such children are not eligible for any awards.

Students currently enrolled in a college or university, students that do not reside in the State of Texas and students not currently enrolled in a Texas Public, Private, Charter or Home school program (grades Kindergarten through 12) are not eligible to enter the Art Contest.

Art Entry:

The Exhibitor must have created the Art Entry during calendar year 2025 for entry in the 2025 - 2026 Art Contest. Each Exhibitor may enter one (1) Art Entry in a division. No more than one (1) student may work on a single Art Entry. Each Art Entry must be titled. A student may submit only one (1) Art Entry, in either the 2-D Division or 3-D Division and one (1) Art Entry in the Classroom Division. In other words, students may submit an Art Entry with their classroom and submit a separate individual Art Entry. One (1) Entry Form for each Art Entry must be submitted. Students **MAY NOT** submit two (2) individual Art Entries such as, one (1) in the 2-D Division and one (1) in the 3-D Division. **DO NOT LAMINATE, USE ART SLEEVES, SHRINK-WRAP OR FRAME ART ENTRIES. PLEASE COMPLETE THE ONLINE ENTRY FORM BEFORE YOU TURN IN ART ENTRY. DO NOT ATTACH ENTRY FORM TO ARTWORK.** Use a permanent pen or marker and indicate on the back of the matting of each Art Entry the Exhibitor's name, school, title of Art Entry piece, entry number given once filling out online form, and Exhibitor's personal contact information so that pieces of the Art Entry can be identified in the event they become separated during transportation or display.

Theme / Subject:

Traditional, abstract, realism, contemporary, or impressionism styles that depicts or expresses the culture of Texas and western environments, both contemporary and historical. Some examples include but are not limited to: Texas landscapes, wildlife, livestock, agriculture, horticulture, ranching and farming activities, iconic Fort Worth scenes, and the legendary Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo.

Labels:

A LABEL SHOULD NOT BE PLACED ON THE FRONT SIDE OF THE ART ENTRY. FWSSR will place a label on each Art Entry with the student's name, age, grade and school to give a more unified look to the Art Contest displays. The Art Entry **MUST** have contact information **ON THE BACK** of the Art Entry.

Size, Matting and Mounting:

Matting/mounting serves as a form of protection for the Art Entry during delivery and display and is **REQUIRED** on all Art Entries except canvas and 3-D Division Art Entries.

- a) **Size Requirements for all 2-D Division Art Entries:** All 2-D Division Art Entries must be at least 8.5 X 11 and **NO LARGER THAN 18 X 24** inches in size. Art Entries not meeting size requirements will be disqualified and may not be displayed.
- b) **Matting / Mounting Requirements for all 2-D Division Art Entries:** All 2-D Division Art Entries with the exception of canvas and canvas board are required to have a border 1½" to 2" in size (or matting if desired) and be mounted on illustration board or cardboard cut to the exact dimensions of the final Art Entry. (Final size with 2" border no larger than 22 X 28 total inches. (Canvas and canvas board are not required to be mounted or matted). **2-D Division Art Entries cannot be made on wood** and cannot weigh more than one (1) pound.

Classroom Division:

A teacher entering the Classroom Division may enter a portfolio of five (5) to fifteen (15) classroom Artworks, **WHICH BEST REPRESENT THE SCHOOL'S ART PROGRAM** for one (1) of the following: (i) Elementary (K to Grade 5); (ii) Middle (Grades 6 to 8) or (iii) High School (Grades 9 to 12). **CLASSROOM DIVISION ART ENTRIES MUST FOLLOW SIZE, MATTING AND MOUNTING RULES (ABOVE)** and the back of each Art Entry must include the following: Classroom Art Entry, school name, teacher's name and numbering of the Art Entries (e.g., 1 of 15 to 15 of 15).

MEDIA GUIDELINES

Art Entries may be of the following media. Dry, unstable media such as pastels, charcoal or pencil that may rub off and be damaged or damage other works must be spray fixed. No conceptual drawings or photographs of the Art Entry will be accepted as an Art Entry.

- a) Colored Drawing: Colored pencil, pastels, crayons, conte, chalks.
- b) Mixed Media: Watercolor with pencil, pen and ink with watercolor or the use of any two (2) or more mediums.
- c) Monochromatic Drawing: The use of one (1) color and variations of the same color on flatwork (i.e. pen and ink). Can be a lead pencil drawing, charcoal drawing or a drawing made with one (1) color pencil.
- d) Painting: All mediums applied by brush, such as: oil, watercolor, ink washes, acrylics, tempera, designer colors, gouache, inks and dyes. Paint must be completely dry before submitting as an Art Entry.
- e) Three Dimensional ("3D") / Sculpture (high school students only): Realistic forms created by hand using only:
 - Clay – petroleum base or water base clays, air dried or fired in a kiln
 - Wood – carving different woods
 - Stone – carving stone
 - Metal
 - Mixed Media

HIGH SCHOOL THREE-DIMENSIONAL DIVISION ("3-D DIVISION") INFORMATION

NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING TO THE CONTRARY HEREIN, **ONLY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MAY ENTER THE 3-D DIVISION.**

Construction:

- a. **ANY CLAY USED MUST BE EXTREMELY STRONG AND DURABLE.** The 3-D Art Entry must be able to withstand repeated transporting and handling.
- b. The 3-D Art Entry should be well made. The 3-D Art Entry that cannot stand-alone must have a base for support and must be securely fastened to the base. The 3-D Art Entry cannot be top heavy and must sit solidly on the base or bottom of the Art Entry. The 3-D Art Entry must be transported and stored before display. A fragile 3-D Art Entry subject to damage is not eligible for participation in the Art Contest. **IF DAMAGE OCCURS TO ANY 3-D ART ENTRY, FWSSR, THE MCCLATCHY COMPANY, FORT WORTH MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND HISTORY, NATIONAL COWGIRL MUSEUM AND HALL OF FAME AND THE ART SHOW COMMITTEE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGES OR REPAIRS.**
- c. No commercial molds may have been utilized with respect to the Art Entry.
- d. The 3-D Art Entry must be completely dry (air dry clay). Allow a minimum of ten (10) days drying time.
- e. Small handheld motorized and non-motorized tools that are not programmable are permitted with a declaration of exact tools used on the Entry Form, Release of Liability & Indemnity Agreement.

3-D Dimensions and Weight:

- a. 3-D Art Entry **MAY NOT EXCEED 12 INCHES** in height, width or depth including the base.
- b. 3-D Art Entry **MAY NOT EXCEED 15 POUNDS** in total weight.

ART ENTRIES EXCEEDING HEIGHT OR WEIGHT LIMITS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

Transportation

- a. Exhibitors are responsible for packing and providing boxes with padding for any 3-D Art Entries that are to be transported to the Stock Show Art Contest.
- b. **The name of the student, school, and teacher must be on the box and bottom of any 3-D Art Entries.**
- c. All 3-D Art Entries must have a completed online Entry Form.

DISPLAY; PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

All Art Entries will be judged prior to display. All Art Entries will be displayed at the 2026 Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo. Selected non-placing Art Entries will be on display at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History and the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame as part of a special exhibit.

As the sole and exclusive owner of all rights (including copyrights and other intellectual property rights) in and to the Art Entries submitted to this Art Contest, FWSSR may reproduce, publish, display and otherwise use Art Entries in any media and for any purpose, including, but not limited to, FWSSR's use in promotion of the Art Contest and/or the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo. For more information regarding FWSSR's ownership rights, please see the provision in these Official Rules titled "Grant of Ownership in Art Entry to FWSSR."

AWARDS NOTIFICATION, PRESENTATION & RECOGNITION

Notification:

Exhibitors of placing Art Entries will be notified by October 6, 2025 by email and/or telephone using the contact information indicated on the online Entry Form. Actual Art Entry placings will not be announced until the awards ceremony held on Saturday, October 25, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

Awards Presentation Ceremony:

All Exhibitors of placing Art Entries will receive an invitation to attend the awards ceremony held October 25, 2025 11:00 a.m.

Grand Champion:

There will be one (1) overall Grand Champion for an individual Art Entry submission. The Grand Champion will receive a \$10,000 scholarship, Grand Champion belt buckle. The Grand Champion Art Entry will become the sole and exclusive property of FWSSR and will be offered for sale at a fixed price at the Art Sale to be held on November 8, 2025. Exhibitor will be eligible to receive scholarship dollars in addition to the \$10,000. The amount of additional scholarship dollars will be at the discretion of FWSSR.

The Grand Champion individual will be invited to attend the Cowboy Artist of America's workshop during the 2026 FWSSR. This one-day workshop will offer students the opportunity to work with experienced Western artists. Cowboy models and animals will be used to study figures, layout, and anatomy. Supplies and lunch will be provided.

Reserve Grand Champion:

There will be one (1) overall Reserve Grand Champion for an individual Art Entry submission. The Reserve Grand Champion will receive a \$8,000 scholarship, Reserve Grand Champion belt buckle. The Reserve Grand Champion Art Entry will become the sole and exclusive property of FWSSR and will be offered for sale at a fixed price at the Art Sale to be held on November 8, 2025. Exhibitor will be eligible to receive scholarship dollars in addition to the \$8,000. The amount of additional scholarship dollars will be at the discretion of FWSSR.

The Reserve Grand Champion individual will be invited to attend the Cowboy Artist of America's workshop during the 2026 FWSSR. This one-day workshop will offer students the opportunity to work with experienced Western artists. Cowboy models and animals will be used to study figures, layout, and anatomy. Supplies and lunch will be provided.

Division Awards:

The chart below identifies the awards to be awarded to those who have placed first through seventh in the corresponding divisions for the respective ages.

Place	5-6 Years Old	7-8 Years Old	9-11 Years Old	12-14 Years Old	High School 2-D	High School 3-D
1 st	\$500 & Rosette	\$500 & Rosette	\$500 & Rosette	\$500 & Rosette	\$6000 Scholarship	\$6000 Scholarship
2 nd	\$400 & Rosette	\$400 & Rosette	\$400 & Rosette	\$400 & Rosette	\$5000 Scholarship	\$5000 Scholarship
3 rd	\$350 & Rosette	\$350 & Rosette	\$350 & Rosette	\$350 & Rosette	\$4000 Scholarship	\$4000 Scholarship
4 th	\$300 & Rosette	\$300 & Rosette	\$300 & Rosette	\$300 & Rosette	\$3000 Scholarship	\$3000 Scholarship
5 th	\$200 & Rosette	\$200 & Rosette	\$200 & Rosette	\$200 & Rosette	\$2000 Scholarship	\$2000 Scholarship
6 th	\$150 & Rosette	\$150 & Rosette	\$150 & Rosette	\$150 & Rosette	\$1000 Scholarship	\$1000 Scholarship
7 th	\$100 & Rosette	\$100 & Rosette	\$100 & Rosette	\$100 & Rosette	\$ 500 Scholarship	\$ 500 Scholarship

ADDITIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Classroom Division Awards:

A Champion Elementary School, A Champion Middle School, and a Champion High School will also be awarded as Classroom Division awards. Each Champion of a Classroom Division will receive (i) a traveling trophy with its school name engraved upon to display at the school until the following year's Champion is awarded and (ii) a \$5,000 certificate awarded to the teacher of the school to be used for classroom art supplies.

Scholarships:

As indicated above, scholarships will be awarded to the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion, 1st through 7th places in the High School 2-D Division and 1st through 7th places in the High School 3-D Division; provided, however, a student receiving scholarships through the Art Contest may only receive a maximum of \$20,000 in total scholarships accumulated over the student's years of participation in the Art Contests. The amount of scholarship awards exceeding such \$20,000 total for a student will be placed in an art fund to be distributed to students, schools and art programs as deemed appropriate by FWSSR.

Students awarded a scholarship will receive a certificate(s) indicating the amount of the scholarship won with specifics on redemption printed on the back of each certificate. Scholarship certificate(s) will be awarded for use as scholastic assistance beginning with their initial semester of enrollment at a college or university of their choice and will be paid per semester. FWSSR will issue a check directly to the student's college or university. Cash payments will not be made to the student. Students may use scholarship funds to pay for tuition, books, room and board at the college or university. All scholarships must be initiated within six (6) years of the issue date.

YOUTH ART AUCTION:

Eight pieces of art will be sold during our Youth Art Auction

1st place in the 5-6 year old division

1st place 7-8 year old division

1st place 9-11 year old division

1st place 12-14 year old division

1st place High School 2-D

1st Place High School 3-D

Overall Reserve Grand Champion

Overall Grand Champion

The Art Entries of Exhibitors who receive 1st place in each division will be sold at the Youth Art Auction on November 8, 2025 for a fixed price. Each Exhibitor will be eligible to receive scholarship dollars or prize money in addition to the guaranteed scholarship/cash amount.

GRANT OF OWNERSHIP IN ART ENTRY TO FWSSR

IN EXCHANGE FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE ART CONTEST AND FOR POSSIBLE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS, EXHIBITOR AND HIS OR HER PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN GRANT FWSSR COMPLETE AND EXCLUSIVE OWNERSHIP OF THE ART ENTRY. EXHIBITOR AND HIS OR HER PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN AGREE TO RELINQUISH ALL RIGHTS IN AND TO THE ART ENTRY AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE ART ENTRY MAY BE SOLD AT A LIVE ART AUCTION WITH ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE AUCTION GOING TO FWSSR.

ENTRIES THAT ADVANCE TO AUCTION WILL BE PROFESSIONALLY PHOTOGRAPHED AND A SINGLE PRINT OF THE ENTRY WITH *CERTIFICATE OF AFFIDAVIT OF ACCURATE REPRODUCTION* WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE ARTIST FOR STUDENT'S PORTFOLIO.

THANK YOU NOTES

All Exhibitors of placing Art Entries are required to send a thank you note to the Stock Show Art Contest sponsors for any prizes received or awarded. Sponsor address and contact information will be supplied by FWSSR.

ART ENTRY PICK UP

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, non-placing Art Entries and placing Art Entries that did not go to Auction can be claimed in person on Thursday, February 12, and Saturday, February 14, 2026 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. from the same location as Art Entry drop-off – the FWSSR office, 3400 Burnett-Tandy Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76107. **EXHIBITOR AND THEIR PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN EXPRESSLY ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE THAT ANY ART ENTRY NOT CLAIMED BY FEBRUARY 21, 2025, WILL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF FWSSR AND MAY BE DISCARDED. ART ENTRIES MUST BE CLAIMED IN PERSON** or by someone authorized by one (1) of the following: parent/guardian, teacher, or student. Please note that many schools and/or school districts pick up Art Entries for all the students in that school or school district. Please check with the art teacher and/or the school prior to pick up to ensure that your Art Entry has not already been claimed. **NO ART ENTRY WILL BE RETURNED BY MAIL.**

IF AN ART ENTRY IS SOLD AT THE AUCTION, THE ART ENTRY WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO EXHIBITOR.

CONTACT INFORMATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE 2025 STOCK SHOW ART CONTEST PLEASE VISIT FWSSR.COM OR CONTACT JORDAN SIMONS AT ARTCONTEST@FWSSR.COM.

Please complete the online entry form ([CLICK HERE](#)) BEFORE turning in your entry in person. Do not attach the entry form to the artwork. Use a permanent pen or marker and indicate on the back of the matting of each art entry the exhibitor's name, school, title of art entry piece, entry number given after submitting online form, and exhibitor's personal contact information so that pieces of the art entry can be identified in the event they become separated during transportation or display.