

# HARDEE COUNTY 2026 FAIR

## Fine Arts and Crafts Rules

### **Canning:**

- Fruits
- Jams/Jellies/Butters
- Vegetables/Tomatoes
- Pickled Fruits/Vegetables
- Salsa/Sauces
- Meats/Jerky

### **Foods:**

- Breads – Quick, Yeast, Muffins
- Cakes
- Cupcakes
- Cookies
- Pies
- Candy
- Honey (raw/filtered)

### **Needlework:**

- Sewing
- Needlepoint/Cross-stitch
- Crochet
- Knit
- Embroidery Items
- Other needlework

### **Quilting:**

- Bed size Hand Stitched
- Bed size Machine Stitched
- Wall Hangings
- Other quilted items

### **Ceramics:**

- Coil
- Slab
- Mask
- Pinch Pot
- Other

### **Crafts:**

- Decorated Cakes
- Jewelry
- Legos
- Metal Work
- Paper Mache
- Stained Glass
- Woodworking
- Wood Burning
- Other Crafts

### **Photography:**

- Thing (still life, close-up studies, non-human subjects)

Flowers  
Animals  
People (one or more person[s] engaged in some sort of activity,  
non-portrait)  
Portrait (single or group depicting personalities)  
Place (architectural, landscapes, seascapes, sunsets)

**ART:**

Abstract  
Charcoal  
Mixed Media  
Pen/Ink  
Pencil  
Colored Pencil  
Crayon  
Marker  
Pastels  
Acrylic  
Watercolor  
Graphic Design

**Age Groups:**

**B-** Pre-K-2<sup>nd</sup>  
**I-** 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>  
**J-** Jr. High  
**H-** High School  
**A-** Adult

1. Participation is open to anyone living in Hardee County (including part-time residents), working fulltime in Hardee County, or attending school in Hardee County.
2. All exhibits should be brought to the exhibit hall between **10:00 AM and 2:00 PM on Saturday, February 7th, 2026**. No late entries will be accepted or displayed.
3. All exhibits will be required to remain on display until Sunday, February 22nd. Exhibits must be picked up **1:00 PM to 3:00 PM on Sunday**. Early removal of entry will result in forfeiture of any premium earned. The Hardee County Fair will not be responsible for items left beyond that point.
4. All entries must be clean, in good condition and not previously entered. Each entry must be labeled with the name, address and phone number of the person who made it. All entries are subject to Fair Board approval.
5. All **canned products** must be in standard canning jars (half-pint, pint or quart). ***Two jars must be entered of each variety (one for looks and display, the second for tasting [qt., pt., ½ pt. or ¼ pt.]).*** Jars must be clean and no rust apparent on rings or lids. Jerky should be in plastic bag and also have two amounts, one for tasting and one for display. Judging will be based on: taste, texture, and appearance. Attach a list of all ingredients for reference, complete recipe is not required.
6. **Bread** categories must consist of four muffins or one loaf on a plate and covered with clear plastic wrap. ***Two should be brought in – one***

**for display and one for tasting.** Judging will be based on: taste, texture, and appearance.

**7. Pies and Cakes** must be on a plate, covered with clear plastic wrap and should be accompanied by an attached 3x5 recipe card (***Only one cake or pie is required.***)

**8. Honey** must be in standard canning jars (half-pint, pint or quart). ***Two jars must be entered of each variety (one for looks and display, the second for tasting [qt., pt., ½ pt. or ¼ pt.]).*** Jars must be clean and no rust apparent on rings or lids. Judging will be on, clarity, taste, and color.

**9. Cupcakes, Cookies and Candy** must be on a plate with at least 4-6 pieces, covered with clear plastic wrap and should be accompanied by an attached 3x5 recipe card. ***Two should be brought in – one for display and one for tasting.***

Judging will be based on: taste, appearance and texture.

**10. Photography** must be an **8x10** print matted on heavy black material. Borders should allow for display and be no larger than 11x14. ***Only one entry per subcategory will be accepted (6 subcategories).*** The photographs should have been taken during the previous year and not obtained from another source (i.e. Facebook, Internet, another photographer, etc).

**11. Paintings** must be original work, not reprints. They may be framed or unframed and mounted on stretcher frames with hanging wire ***securely fastened on back.***

**12. Art** must be matted on heavy black material. Borders should allow for display. ***No more than 2 entries per person in any one subcategory will be accepted.***

### **Judging:**

Judging will be by qualified out of county judges and decisions of the judges are final. Entries will be judged with a first, second, third, and fourth place awarded in each subcategory if deemed appropriate by the judges. Best of Show will be awarded in each category and age group if deemed appropriate by the judges. Judging will be done prior to the opening of the fair.

### **Premiums:**

Premiums will be awarded as follows: Best of Show-\$25, Blue-\$20, Red-\$15, White-\$10 and Yellow-\$5.

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