



General Exhibits

Cooking Contests

Song, Dance,

Miscellaneous Competitions

CATALOG

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TO ENTER COMPETITIONS ONLINE:

Go to the website www.wncagcenter.org

Place cursor on “Competitions”

Click on “How to Participate in the Fair”

Click on “Click Here to Register – ShoWorks”

Directions from ShoWorks are fairly concise and simple; however, if you find them confusing,
you are welcome to call 828-687-1414 Ext 208 for help.



General Fair Rules and Regulations

The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern the overall operation of the fair. Each department will have specific rules outlined in their division catalog. Be sure to read the rules and regulations before entering or competing in any division and/or department.

- **Division I: Competition is limited to residents of North Carolina.**
- **Make your entries early!** The right is reserved to reject entries received after all available space is taken.
- **Online Entries Only!!** Be sure to fill in the online form completely and accurately.
 - All entries should be in the name of the entrant, not the parent or guardian.
 - Include the complete post office box number, rural route number, or street address, city, state, zip code, and telephone number, including area code. **Use ONLY your mailing address....not your physical address!**
- Awards in any department will be given only if merited.
- If an entry is misrepresented or the exhibitor misrepresents his/her status, the entry will be disqualified.
- All exhibits will be under the supervision and care of the NC Mountain State Fair.
- Proper attention will be given to prevent theft or damage, but we assume no responsibility for damage or loss of personal property of the exhibitors.
- Premium checks will be issued from Raleigh. Please Allow up to 10 weeks for premium checks to be processed.

**** NO DRIVING ON FAIRGROUNDS. ****



Pony Express

Providing Transportation of Entries to and From Outlying Counties To the

NC Mountain State Fair

If you live in one of the following counties:

Avery	828-733-8270	Graham	828-479-7979	Mitchell	828-688-4811
Buncombe	828-255-5520	Henderson	828-697-4891	Transylvania	828-884-3109
Burke	828-764-9480	Haywood	828-456-3575	Polk	828-894-8218
Caldwell	828-757-1290	Jackson	828-586-4009	Rutherford	828-287-6010
Cherokee	828-837-2210	Macon	828-349-2046	Swain	828-488-3848
Clay	828-389-6305	Madison	828-649-2411	Watauga	828-264-3061
Cleveland	704-482-4365	McDowell	828-652-8104	Yancey	828-682-6186
EBCI	828-359-6939				

Participation is Easy

- Enter Online **before August 28, 2026**, and print the entry form. (non-perishable items only).
- **Bring your entries on or before August 28, 2026, 11:30 AM** to your local County Extension Office.
- Bring your non-perishable items to the Extension office, wrapped & packed securely for transport. Label your box with your name and county. Also include a completed entry form inside the box with your items.
- Your entries will be picked up in your county from the Extension Office & transported to the Mountain State Fair for judging and display.
- Only items picked up on the Pony Express route will be returned on Pony Express. No items will be added to the return list of items that are dropped off by the exhibitors at the fairgrounds after the Pony Express has run.
- Items will be returned to your local Extension Office after the fair by September 30th, 2026.
- Any prize money will be mailed directly to you. (Exhibitors who win \$600 or more **must provide a completed NC Substitute W-9** to receive payment.)

This is a free service provided to you by the NC Mountain State Fair and the NC Cooperative Extension Service.

If your county is not listed or you have questions, call the NC Mountain State Fair at 828-687-1414 Extension 208.



Entry Deadlines for ALL Competitions

ONLINE ENTRIES ONLY

All Entries Must be Completed Online by the Following Deadline Dates by 11:55pm:

Division I: General & Special Cooking Contests

General Exhibits	August 28
Cooking Competitions	August 14

Division II: Livestock Division

August 28

Division III: Song and Dance

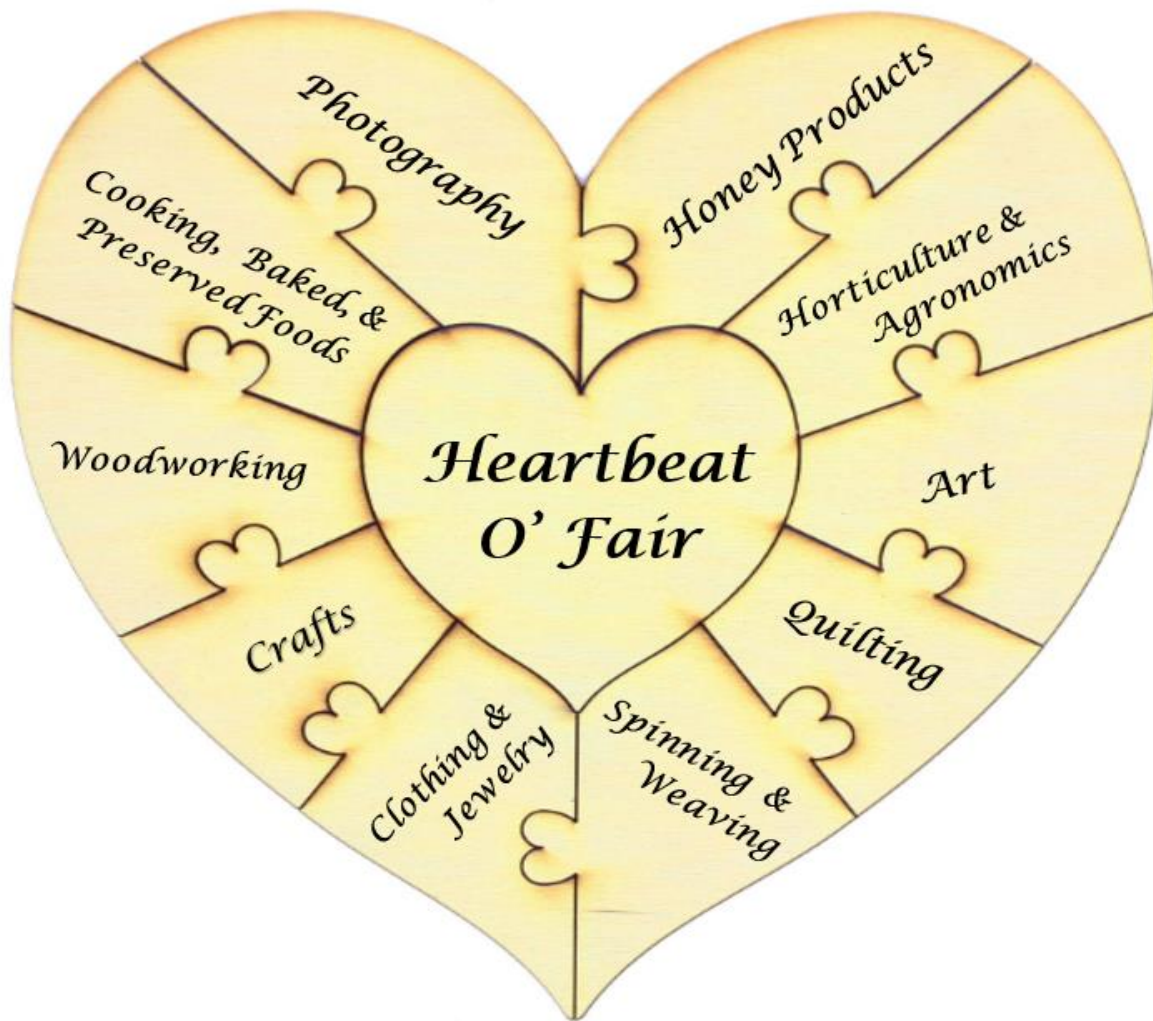
Gospel Singing Contest	August 14
Clogging Championship	August 21
Ice Cream Eating Contest	September 15 – <u>IN PERSON...NOT ONLINE</u>

See Catalog Pages for Complete Instructions!

QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL: 828-687-1414 Extension 208

- Entry Deadlines for ALL Competitions will be Strictly Enforced

Go to www.wncagcenter.org



DIVISION I
GENERAL EXHIBITS
& COOKING CONTESTS

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Heartbeat O' the Fair Focus Exhibits and Exhibitors

- **All exhibits must be officially entered in the Fair online before 11:55pm on Fri. August 28, 2026.**
 - All entries must be the work of the exhibitor, produced September 2025 – September 2026
 - The age on the entry is as of the first day of the fair.
 - Each exhibitor may make an entry in each class, except where indicated (e.g., Photography); no entry may be entered under more than one class.
 - Exhibits, containers, accessories, and props should be inconspicuously labeled with exhibitor's name and phone number.
- **Exhibit Drop-off - Monday, September 7 and Tuesday, September 8 between 9am and 7pm**
- Exhibit tags with corresponding numbers will be issued on the entry receiving days.
 - This tag must be securely attached to each exhibit and must remain on the exhibit throughout the Fair.
 - When exhibit tags are issued, a stub with a duplicate number will be given to the exhibitor. This stub will serve as his/her claim check to recover and secure the release of his/her exhibit.
 - Claim checks should be guarded carefully, since Department Superintendents and Directors are not allowed to release any exhibit without presentation of the exhibit tag stub. If the claim check is lost, such loss should be reported promptly, and it will be necessary for the exhibitor to furnish the Superintendent of the Entry Department proof of ownership of the article on exhibit.
- Once the exhibit is numbered and tagged, it should be delivered to the appropriate area.
 - The exhibit will be placed/arranged in the appropriate area, for suitable and attractive display.
 - The Fair management reserves the right to reject any exhibit which does not reflect merit, and which would not be a credit to both the exhibitor and the Fair.
 - The North Carolina Mountain State Fair assumes no responsibility for the incorrect tagging of exhibits.
 - Division Directors, Department Superintendents, and/or Judges must report disqualification of entries to the Manager of the Mountain State Fair immediately after such action is taken.
- **Exhibit Pick-up Date – TUESDAY, September 22 between 9am and 7pm. NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY.**
 - Unclaimed exhibits will be considered abandoned after closing at 7pm and may be disposed of as the Manager of the Fair sees fit.
 - Removal of exhibits before the date and time specified will cause the forfeiture of all awards won, all fees paid, and the right to further participate in the Fair.
- **Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.**



Judging and Awards

- Decision of the judges will be final, and no appeal will be considered except in cases of protest in writing, with strong evidence of fraud or violation of the rules of the Fair.
 - Protests must be filed with the Division Superintendent no later than Monday after the fair opens and must be accompanied by a protest fee of \$5 which will be retained by the Fair if the protest is not sustained.
 - The Division Superintendent will appoint a committee to consider the protest, and all interested parties will be notified of the time of the hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard.
 - The rules of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions governing appeals will be those of the North Carolina Mountain State Fair.
- No premium will be awarded to any exhibit that does not possess high intrinsic merit. All exhibits must be individually worthy. It is not the policy of the Fair to encourage indifferent production of any kind, or to distribute premiums equally among exhibitors.
 - Fraud or deception in any form will be exposed.
 - Any exhibitor found guilty of such violation will be excluded from further participation in the Fair and all premiums previously won will be forfeited.
 - Judges, when requested, may give the reasons for their decisions embracing the value and desirable qualities of the exhibits to which they have awarded premiums.
- Unless otherwise specified in the Department Rules and Regulations, no exhibitor may be paid more than two premiums in any one individual class.
- No exhibitor may accompany judges during their deliberations.
 - A judge cannot judge in a department in which he/she or any member of that judge's family has entered an exhibit.
 - Any exhibitor attempting to interfere with adjudication, or who publicly expresses disapproval of the decision of the judges, will be excluded from further competition and any premiums previously won will be forfeited.
- Premiums will be paid only on the basis of the records of the judging reports, which will be signed by the judge and by the Department Superintendent or Director.
 - Ribbons will be securely attached to the articles upon which they were awarded, if possible, but the ribbons and pins have no value in the payment of premiums.
- Entries made in wrong classes may be reclassified by the Entry Department Staff.
 - All records associated with the entry must be changed at that time.
 - If the records are altered and the entry department files are not changed, premiums will be withheld.
 - "Any other" or "Miscellaneous" categories at the end of each catalog section are only for items that are not listed in preceding categories. They shall not be used for duplications.
- There shall not be more than one premium paid for each placement in a class.



Division I: General Exhibits Cooking Contests

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit Drop-Off / Pick up Location: Gate 1F, Expo Building

Note Date Changes for Aquaculture, Sweetpotato and Small Vegetable Contests**

NC Tomato Growers Association	Friday, September 11	by 7:00pm
Whole Hog Series Barbeque Cook-Off	Set Up Friday, Sept 11 Cook-Off Saturday, September 12	
NC Sweetpotato Commission	Saturday, September 12	by 11:00am
NC Cattlemen’s Beef Council	Sunday, September 13	by 4:00pm
NC Pork Council	Monday, September 14	by 7:00pm
NC Egg Association	Tuesday, September 15	by 7:00pm
NC Aquaculture Association	Wednesday, September 16	by 7:00pm
NC Blueberry Council	Thursday, September 17	by 7:00pm
NC Dairy Producers Association	Friday, September 18	by 7:00 pm
NC Apple Growers Association	Saturday, September 19	by 11:00am
**NC Vegetable Growers Association (formerly “Small Vegetable Contest)	Sunday, September 20	by 3:00pm

***PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND TIME FOR SWEETPOTATO, TROUT, & NC VEGETABLE GROWERS
(SMALL VEGETABLE) CONTESTS***

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED

A • NURSERY & LANDSCAPING

Superintendent: Jared Sanders

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibit set up: Monday & Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Barn B

Exhibit pick-up: Tuesday, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

Competitive Exhibit Theme. Your garden should interpret the Competitive Exhibit Theme **“Mountain Fair, Mountain Fun”**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Each garden space will be 10’ x 10’. There are a limited number of garden spaces available, and they will be issued based on entries received first.
- The gardens are to be educational as well as artistic and should be functional for the purpose designed. The physical features should serve the purpose intended (e.g., walks should have a destination or disappear with the illusion of a destination).
- Correct common names of plants must be provided. Botanical names should also be included. This information must be easily readable by the general public from outside the garden. No artificial material is allowed.
- Necessary structures and accessories such as walkways, fountains, fences, etc. are permitted as long as they adhere to the theme.
- Exhibitors are expected to clean, replace dead plant material, and water daily. If the garden is not kept attractive, it will be disqualified. Monday through Thursday gardens must be attended to by 2:00 p.m. Tickets will be handed out for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
- Exhibitors should place at least two spotlights or equivalent lighting in garden for night lighting. The NC Mountain State Fair will provide electricity to garden sites, but no drop cords.
- Absolutely no dyed, artificial, or painted flowers or plants may be used. All plants must be live, in containers or balled and burlapped, and nursery grown. Plants may not be collected from the wild.
- Threatened or endangered species will not be permitted unless legally grown. Display should not include plants of cannabis, hemp, or invasive species.
- All material, including plant accessories, soil and mulch must be removed and the site should be cleaned and raked.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Nursery and Landscaping

- Appropriate Plant Selection and Plant Health = 10
 - Color, Form and Texture used in the display = 15
 - Use of space = 15
 - Overall uniqueness = 15
 - Curb and / or Yard Appeal = 20
 - Overall Attractiveness = 25
- Total = 100

AWARDS

Ribbons and awards will be awarded based on the exhibitor’s adherence to the particular theme of the class.

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$250	Blue Rosette Ribbon
Second Place	\$200	Red Rosette Ribbon
Third Place	\$150	White Rosette Ribbon
Honorable Mention	\$50	Light Blue Rosette Ribbon

CLASS

- A001 – Amateur Any person or group who is involved in nursery or landscape for pleasure only. No income is derived from his/her nursery or landscaping hobby.
- A002 - Youth Any one or group, 19 years and younger, who is interested in nursery or landscaping. No income is derived from his/her nursery or landscaping hobby.
- A003 - Professional Any person connected with nursery and landscape as a business owner, instructor, etc., who is involved in nursery and landscape for personal monetary gain. Professional Exhibitors may tastefully display their business sign after booth has been judged. Maximum sign size 2' X 2'.

B • HONEY & HONEY PRODUCTS

Superintendent: Lewis Cauble

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY, September 22** from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All honey and beeswax entered must have been produced by the exhibitor during the current season.
- No entries may be labeled, except with entry tags.
- All exhibits must be of required color, quality, and condition in order to receive premiums and prizes.
- All comb and extracted honey displayed must be protected from honeybees and other insects. Cellophane, glass, or other suitable transparent materials are recommended for this purpose.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon

HONEY

HONEY SECTIONS

CLASS

- B001 Light Exhibit, 3 sections, any size
 B002 Dark Exhibit, 3 sections, any size

HONEYCOMBS

CLASS

- B003 One deep comb for extracting
 B004 One shallow or medium comb/ extracting
 B005 One deep comb for chunk cutting

HONEY EXTRACTED

CLASS

- B006 Light, 3 jars (not less than 14 oz. size)
 B007 Dark, 3 jars (not less than 14 oz. size)

HONEY CHUNK

CLASS

- B008 Light, 3 jars (not less than 14 oz. size)
 B009 Dark, 3 jars (not less than 14 oz. size)

HONEY PRODUCTS

BEESWAX PRODUCTS

CLASS

- B010 Display of beeswax products - candles, carvings, models, novelties, etc.
 B011 Cosmetic Items containing Beeswax

BEESWAX

CLASS

- B012 Beeswax, in sizes and shapes commonly on sale by the apiarist (not less than 1 pound)

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN JUDGING - COMB HONEY

Uniformity of appearance (between and within sections)	= 20
Absence of uncapped cells	= 15
Uniformity of color	= 15
Absence of watery capping	= 10
Cleanliness and general appearance of sections or frames	= 15
Freedom from granulation and pollen	= 15
Appearance of capping and freedom from impurities	= 10
TOTAL = 100	

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN JUDGING - CHUNK

Density of liquid portion (moisture content over 18.6 DISQUALIFIED)	= 10
Cleanliness of liquid portion: absence of foam, dirt, wax, and crystallization	= 20
Neatness of comb cut: ragged edges, parallel cuts and uniformity of size of cut	= 20
Absence of watery capping, uncapped cells and pollen cells	= 15
Cleanliness: lack of travel stain and foreign matter in comb	= 15
Uniformity of appearance includes containers, cut comb, liquid honey and contents of jars	= 20
TOTAL = 100	

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN JUDGING - HONEY, EXTRACTED

Density (moisture content over 18.6 DISQUALIFIED)	= 15
Absence of granulation or crystallization	= 10
Cleanliness (absence of lint =8, dirt =12, wax =9, and foam =6)	= 35
Flavor: absence of overheating or fermentation	= 20
Accuracy of filling and uniformity	= 10
Container appearance	= 10
TOTAL = 100	

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN JUDGING - BEESWAX

Color: straw or canary yellow	= 25
Cleanliness: absence of honey, propolis and other impurities	= 30
Uniformity of appearance	= 20
Absence of cracking and shrinkage	= 15
Aroma and texture	= 10
TOTAL = 100	

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN JUDGING - BEESWAX PRODUCTS

Color: straw or canary yellow	= 20
Cleanliness: absence of honey, propolis and other impurities	= 30
Uniformity of appearance of all wax in entry	= 15
Aroma and texture	= 5
Quality and appearance of beeswax products	= 30
TOTAL=100	

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN JUDGING - COSMETIC ITEMS

Cleanliness	= 20
Quality of wax	= 20
Design, craftsmanship, and overall appearance	= 35
Originality	= 25
TOTAL = 100	

CA • HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Superintendent: Luke Owen

Assistant Superintendent: Adam Coulter

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits Received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits Pick-up: **TUESDAY, September 22**, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

Large items needing to use the forklift to load must be picked up **before 5:00 p.m.**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All exhibits must be this year's products. (Except for gourds)
- Entries must be in good condition.
- **Each entry must be grown, cared for from seed or starter plant to harvest, and exhibited by the grower.**
- All entries will be discarded when unsuitable for display.
- Exhibitor must provide help to place heavy garden vegetables on display and also help to remove them when display is released.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

- **The Fair will not be liable for any damage caused to Horticultural Products.**

Hints for good Horticultural fair entries:

1. Pay attention to maturity dates.
2. Control pests.
3. Select blemish-free produce.
4. Uniform size is the best selection. Example: Carrots, any type (all 3 carrots should be close to the same size).
5. Quality
6. Color
7. Make sure your entry is in the right class.
8. Be sure to prepare the exhibits according to catalog instructions.
9. Please indicate variety on entry tag.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING HORTICULTURAL PRODUCT EXHIBITS

Condition - freedom from blemish	= 30
Uniformity	= 25
Color and Finish	= 15
Size	= 15
Trueness to variety (or class)	= 15
Total	= 100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

PRODUCE

FRUIT AND POD VEGETABLES

CLASS

CA001	Green Beans	10
CA002	Edible Soybean	10
CA003	Eggplant	3
CA004	Okra	6
CA005	Bell Pepper	3
CA007	Banana Pepper	5
CA008	Any other sweet pepper not listed(specify)	3

CLASS

CA009	Hot Pepper	5
CA010	Slicing Tomatoes	3
CA011	Roma/Paste Tomatoes	3
CA012	Cherry/Grape/Pear type Tomatoes	10
CA013	Heirloom Tomatoes (specify variety)	3
CA014	Fruit or pod vegetable(specify) not already listed	3

LEAFY STEM AND HEADED VEGETABLES

CLASS

CA017	Cabbage	1 head
CA018	Sweet Corn, slip shuck do not cut off tips	3

CLASS

CA019	Popcorn	3
CA020	Leafy Stem/Headed vegetable not listed	3

ROOT, BULB AND TUBER VEGETABLES

Vegetable tops removed to 2" and onions left unskinned.

CLASS

CA021	Beets	3
CA022	Carrots, any type	3
CA023	Garlic	3
CA024	Potatoes (Washed)	4
CA025	Radishes, tops off to 1"	6

CLASS

CA026	Onions, Large Bulb	3
CA027	Onions, Bunching (Do not cut off tops)	6
CA028	Sweet Potatoes, (washed)	3
CA029	Root, bulb or tuber vegetable (specify) not already listed	3

VINE VEGETABLES

CLASS

CA032	Cucumbers, Pickling	6
CA033	Cucumbers, Slicing/Burpless	3
CA034	Kershaw Squash	1
CA035	Pumpkin, Jack-o-lantern	1
CA036	Pumpkin, Pie	1
CA037	Squash, Yellow, Summer	3
CA038	Pumpkin, Miniature	3

CLASS

CA039	Squash, Zucchini	3
CA040	Squash, Acorn	1
CA041	Any other squash not listed (specify)	1
CA042	Watermelon, best of type	1
CA043	Any other edible vine crop (specify) not already listed – (1 if large)	3
CA044	Candy Roaster	1

UNUSUAL VEGETABLES

ORNAMENTAL VEGETABLES

Gourds may be green or dried, specify on entry tag.

CLASS

CA045 Gourd, Small, (Best) under 8" diameter 3
 CA046 Gourd, Large, (Best) over 8" diameter 1
 CA047 Bird House Gourds 1

CLASS

CA048 Ornamental Corn 3
 CA049 Ornamental vegetable (specify) 1
 not already listed

ODDITIES OF THE GARDEN (Open to All Ages)

(NOTE: ON A 3" X 5" CARD GIVE YOUR ENTRY A NAME AND/OR TITLE)

CLASS

CA050 Most Unusual Fruit 1
 CA051 Most Unusual Vegetable 1

LARGEST VEGETABLE OR FRUIT

(This is for large produce, not Giants.)

** Entries should be larger than normal. Judges will decide if an entry merits an award. **

AWARD PREMIUM FOR LARGEST VEGETABLE OR FRUIT

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon

CLASS

CA054 Largest Gourd (by length)
 CA055 Largest Potato (by weight)
 CA056 Largest Pumpkin (Less than or equal to 199 lbs))

CLASS

CA057 Largest Sunflower (by seed head diameter)
 CA058 Largest Tomato (any type – by weight))
 CA059 Largest Watermelon (Less than or equal to 99 lbs; -
 100 lbs or more is a Giant)

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

DECIDUOUS FRUITS AND NUTS

Three per plate; apples should be polished but not waxed.

CLASS

CA060 Apple (specify) 3
 CA061 Pears, specify type 3
 CA062 Deciduous fruit not listed (specify) 3

CLASS

CA063 Grapes (specify) 3 bunches
 CA064 Nuts (specify) 1 pint

SMALL FRUITS AND BERRIES

1 pint in glass container.

CLASS

CA065 Small fruit or berry (specify) 1 pint

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

FRUIT, VEGETABLE & GOURD ARRANGEMENTS

- Prepare a basket that you would take to a neighbor or friend sharing your garden harvest.
- Any type of basket or garden container is acceptable.
- Accessories are permitted; however, the main objects are the fruits and vegetables.
- Prepare 8 or more pieces in a decorative arrangement. No artificial fruits, vegetables or gourds can be used in arrangements. Size limit 24" by 24" by 24" and under 40 pounds.

Criteria for Judging

- Originality = 25
 - Creativity = 25
 - Neatness = 25
 - Appeal = 25
- Total = 100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

CLASS

CA066 Best Garden Harvest Arrangement (8 or more pieces, under 40 lbs, 24" x 24" x 24")

BEST DECORATED PUMPKIN CONTEST

• EXHIBITOR MAY ENTER ONLY ONE PUMPKIN

- If entry is delicate and/or accessories or pieces attached, it should be securely mounted on a solid base such as wood (no greater than 10"x 10"), so that Fair staff does not have to handle the exhibit. **DO NOT PUNCTURE VEGETABLE!**
- Product must be in good condition.
- No artificial produce can be used.
- Exhibitor must show creativity in the design.
- The exhibit will be discarded when unsuitable for display.

Criteria for Judging

- Originality = 25
 - Creativity = 25
 - Neatness = 25
 - Appeal = 25
- Total = 100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

CLASS

CA073

Best Decorated Pumpkin (Adult 20 and older) (base no greater than 10" x 10")
(See **Youth Horticulture** for Youth entries)

SCARECROW COMPETITION

RULES & REGULATIONS

- Exhibit should be humorous, mischievous, or loveable – NOT frightening. Monsters, gruesome, bloody, or especially scary exhibits are not permitted.
- Props may be used; but no firearms (real or fake), or vulgar or suggestive decoration will be allowed.
- No Commercial or Political party signs of ANY KIND are allowed.
- Family entries to be made in ONE family member’s name, with that person’s social security number. School or Youth Group entries to be made in school or youth group’s name, with that entity’s EIN number
 - Scarecrow must be garden useable.
 - Exhibitors must use natural materials, like hay, straw, etc. Clothing may be used.
 - Scarecrow must be built by the competing family or school/youth group from scratch between September 2025 and September 2026.
 - Commercial creations and pre-molded or commercial face masks are not permitted.
 - Scarecrow must be between 5’ & 7’ tall and attached to a wooden base no larger than 3’ x 3’. Floor covering or decoration may be applied to the base.
 - **Select a name for the scarecrow and attach it to the scarecrow or base.**
 - Scarecrow must be assembled prior to arrival at the Fair.

Criteria for Judging

Appearance (Eye Appeal)	25
Construction	25
Creativity & Durability	25
Use of Materials	<u>25</u>
TOTAL	100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$30	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$20	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$10	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

CLASS

CA076

Family or Individual Exhibitor Scarecrow

CA077

School or Youth Group Scarecrow

GIANTS OF THE GARDEN COMPETITION

Sponsored by



- This competition is for all ages.
- **All Pumpkins or Watermelons weighing over 100 lbs. MUST be on a pallet when arriving at the Fair.**
- Exhibitor must provide help to place these garden vegetables on display and also help to remove them when display is released.
- **Weigh-in will be from 3-7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 8th only. Any item placed on the scale must be displayed until the end of the Fair.**
- Items needing to be loaded by forklift must be picked up **before 5:00 pm** on Tuesday, September 22nd.
- Product must be in good condition.
- If the entries become unsuitable for display, the exhibitor will be notified concerning the removal of the product.
- Placing is based on weight of entry.
- **If an item is placed on the scale, it must be displayed until the end of the fair, otherwise ALL premiums received by the exhibitor will be forfeited.**
- **The Fair will not be liable for any damage caused to the giants of the garden unloading, display, during the fair or loading after the fair.**

CLASS

CA067

Giant Pumpkin or Squash Vegetable
(by weight - 200 pounds or more)

CA068

Giant Watermelon
(by weight – 100 lbs or more)

AWARDS FOR GIANTS OF THE GARDEN – PUMPKINS OR SQUASH VEGETABLE

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$600	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$400	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$300	White Ribbon

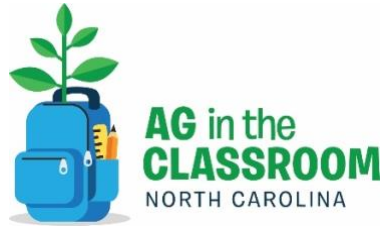
AWARDS FOR GIANTS OF THE GARDEN – WATERMELON

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$300	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$200	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$100	White Ribbon

There shall not be more than one ribbon awarded, and one award paid for each placement in a class.

SCHOOL GARDEN BOOTHS

Sponsored by



RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Any public, private, charter, etc. school in Western North Carolina is invited to participate.
- Entries are to be entered under the school's name, using the school's EIN for tax purposes.
- Each school may have only one entry.
- Entries will be closed when all allotted booth space is assigned.
- Display items should be inconspicuously labeled with exhibitor's name and phone number.
- A school Garden Booth should:
 - Celebrate the school garden.
 - Represent the school and community.
 - Represent the Agricultural programs/opportunities available at the school.
 - Display collaboration between students, teachers, and all participating parties.
 - Show evidence of student participation and involvement.
 - Highlight results of the garden and its use in the community.
- Booth sizes are 4' wide by 4' deep and should not exceed the allotted space.
 - The back curtain is 8' tall, the two sides and front curtains are 3'. Please adjust sides accordingly.
 - **No attaching materials to curtains!**
 - Displays should be designed and constructed to fit on a standard card table and to withstand the duration of the fair.
 - Booths must be self-contained and maintained.
- **Exhibits must be substantially different each year. The same exhibit cannot be reused.**
- Because of the limited number of booths available, space will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis by the date and time the entry is entered online through the fair software system.
- Participants must come and break down their booth on Tuesday, September 22nd, from 9:00am to 7:00pm.
 - Materials must be disposed of properly off fairgrounds.
 - **Exhibitors leaving trash behind will forfeit any premiums earned.**
- The NC Mountain State Fair **will not** provide tables or any other supplies for displays. It is suggested that card tables (usually 3'x3') be used for these displays.
- All booths judged will receive the premium associated with it.
- There will not be more than one ribbon awarded, and one award paid for each placement in a class.
- Physical produce/products of the school garden projects may be displayed; however, items will be discarded if they become unsuitable for display during the duration of the fair.
- Decision of the judges is final. Since ribbons may become misplaced or moved during the fair, premiums will be paid based solely upon Judges' Books.

Hints for good School Garden entries:

1. Artistic presentation can be anything creative, (posters, storyboards or videos, etc.), that **does not** require interaction between it and fair visitors.
2. Inclusion of physical products from the school garden project can be, but are not required to be, included in the exhibit. However, should any of these products become unsuitable for display during the fair, they will be discarded.
3. Neatness, originality and creativity will be considered.
4. Evidence of student involvement can include, but is not limited to, photos of the group involved with the project.
5. Educational Value: Show how the school garden/project was incorporated into school learning and what the students learned from the project.
6. Impact on Community: Show how the work involved with the project benefited those in the school and/or community.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING SCHOOL GARDEN BOOTHS

Artistic Presentation	25
Evidence of Student and Teacher Involvement	25
Educational Value	25
Impact on Community	<u>25</u>
TOTAL	100

AWARDS

<u>Place</u>	<u>Ribbon</u>	<u>Cash Premium</u>
First	Blue Rosette	\$250.00
Second	Red Rosette	\$200.00
Third	White Rosette	\$150.00

Class Numbers

Primary & Elementary Schools

CA074 - Sch Garden-Pri and Elem

Middle/Jr High and Sr High Schools

CA075 - Sch Garden Midde/Jr High & Sr High

CB • AGRONOMIC PRODUCTS

Superintendent: Luke Owen

Assistant Superintendent: Adam Coulter

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday, and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All exhibits must be this year’s products. This does not apply to field corn.
- **Each entry must be grown, cared for from seed or starter plant to harvest, and exhibited by the grower.**
- All entries will be discarded when unsuitable for display.
- **ONLY ONE ENTRY PER EXHIBITOR PER CLASS MAY BE ENTERED.**

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Agronomic Products

- | | |
|------------------------------|------|
| • Physical Condition of item | = 20 |
| • Color | = 20 |
| • Smell | = 20 |
| • Texture | = 20 |
| • Moisture Content | = 20 |
| Total = 100 | |

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$25	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$15	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$10	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

AGRONOMIC CROPS

HAY - Hay exhibits should consist of a **minimum 4" to maximum 8" "block" of hay**, taken from an actual bale and tied **tightly** with baler twine.

CLASS

CB001	Alfalfa	1 block only	CB003	Orchard Grass	1 block only
CB002	Fescue	1 block only	CB004	Timothy	1 block only

FIELD CORN - Shucked, but do not cut off tips.

CLASS

CB005	Field Corn	4 ears
CB012	Tallest Stalk of Corn (Cut off Roots)	1

HAYLAGE SILAGE GRAINS - Exhibits should be displayed in a one (1) gallon Zip Lock bag, NO full bales. Grains can be in quart jar.

CLASS

CB006	Haylage/Silage
CB007	Small grains dried and stored

TOBACCO

CLASS

CB008	Best stick of 5 stalks, Tobacco
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ANY OTHER AGRONOMIC PRODUCT

CLASS

CB011	Any other agronomic product not listed (specify)
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MOLASSES

CB009	Sugar Cane
CB010	Processed Molasses (Quart Jar)
CB013	Tallest Stalk of Cane (Cut off Roots)

AWARDS FOR MOLASSES ONLY

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$30	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$15	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$10	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

CC • APPLES / COMMERCIAL

Superintendent: Michele Roberts

Assistant Superintendent:

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday, and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

RULES AND REGULATIONS –

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All exhibits must be this year’s products.
- Entries must be grown by the exhibitor.
- All entries will be discarded when unsuitable for display.
- **ONLY ONE ENTRY PER EXHIBITOR PER CLASS MAY BE ENTERED.**

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Apples

- Condition – Exhibit should not be damaged by insects or disease = 25
 - Uniformity – Should be similar size, color, shape, and maturity = 25
 - Color – All should be free of blemishes and have good color, typical of the variety = 25
 - Trueness to variety = 25
- Total = 100

SINGLE TRAY

Single trays common to variety.

AWARD PREMIUMS:

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$30	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$25	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$20	White Ribbon
Fourth Place	\$18	Pink Ribbon
Fifth Place	\$15	Yellow Ribbon
Sixth Place	\$10	Dark Green Ribbon

CLASS

CC001 Red Delicious
 CC002 Jonagold
 CC003 Crimson Crisp
 CC004 Any other Red
 (specify)

CLASS

CC005 Ginger Gold
 CC006 Gala
 CC007 Fuji
 CC008 Any other Yellow
 (specify)

CLASS

CC009 Golden Delicious
 CC010 Wolf River
 CC011 Honey Crisp
 CC012 Granny Smith
 CC017 Any other Green

CLASS

CC013 Golden Russet
 CC014 Roxbury Russet
 CC015 Albemarle Pippin
 CC016 Any other Heritage variety
 not listed (specify)

THREE TRAY

Three trays are common to variety. To consist of one tray each of 3 different varieties.

VARIETIES: Red Delicious/Gala/Granny Smith/Fuji/Golden Delicious/Rome/Stayman/Any other variety

HERITAGE VARIETIES: Golden Russet/Roxbuty Russet/Albemarle Pippin/Any Other

AWARD PREMIUMS:

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$200	Blue Rosette Ribbon
Second Place	\$150	Red Rosette Ribbon
Third Place	\$100	White Rosette Ribbon
Fourth Place	\$75	Pink Rosette Ribbon
Fifth Place	\$50	Yellow Rosette Ribbon
Sixth Place	\$25	Dark Green Rosette Ribbon

CLASS CLASS DESCRIPTION

CC018 Three tray (3 different varieties)

CC019 Heritage Varieties - Three tray (3 different varieties)

DA • ART

Superintendent: Hillary Frye

Assistant Superintendent: Foster Smith

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Each entry must be equipped for hanging. **NO SAWTOOTH HANGERS.** (Using only tape to secure wire for hanging is **not acceptable**.) Each entry should be prepared with an appropriate hanging device for presentation. Canvas pieces must have a hanging wire.
- Fair Management reserves the right to reject any artwork not in the best interest of the Fair (no nudes, semi-nudes, etc.)
- Exhibitor's name, address, phone number, and type of media must appear on the back of each exhibit.
- **Artist signature ONLY can be visible on the front of the entry.**
- **NO TAPE to be used for mounting hanging devices to the back of artwork!**
- **Artwork not to exceed 4' wide.**
- **All Paintings & Drawings (2 Dimension) must be mounted on black or white foam core if not on canvas.**
- **Foam core thickness should be 1/8" or 3/16" (available at frame shops and craft stores).**
- **Art work must have been made between September 2025 and September 2026.**

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING ART EXHIBITS

Impact (catches the eye)	= 20
Technical Quality	= 20
Detailed Composition (leads the eye into the picture)	= 20
Originality (creativity)	= 30
Workmanship (painting mounted neatly and in accordance with requirements)	= 10
	Total = 100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

Exhibitor must choose between Amateur and Professional. One CANNOT enter both.

AMATEUR: Any person who is involved in art for pleasure only. This person does not derive income from his or her art.

PROFESSIONAL: Any person connected with art as a business owner, instructor, etc., or anyone producing art for personal monetary gain from his or her hobby.

PAINTINGS & DRAWINGS - 2 DIMENSION – Must be mounted on black or white foam core if not on canvas.

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS		AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
DA001	DA101	Acrylic – Landscape	DA010	DA110	Pastel (oil)
DA002	DA102	Acrylic – Still Life	DA011	DA111	Pen & Ink
DA003	DA103	Acrylic – Portraits	DA012	DA112	Pencil
DA004	DA104	Acrylic – Abstract	DA013	DA113	Tempera
DA005	DA105	Acrylic – Any Other	DA014	DA114	Watercolor
DA006	DA106	Charcoal	DA015	DA115	Mixed Media
DA007	DA107	Color Pencil	DA016	DA116	Collage
DA008	DA108	Oil	DA017	DA117	Calligraphy - Invitation, Certificate, etc.
DA009	DA109	Pastel (soft)			

3 DIMENSION ARTWORK

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS		AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
DA018	DA118	Sculpture-Clay	DA023	DA123	Sculpture-Fiber
DA019	DA119	Sculpture-Wire	DA024	DA124	Mixed Media
DA020	DA120	Sculpture-Metal	DA025	DA125	Collage
DA021	DA121	Sculpture-Glass	DA026	DA126	Other 3D artwork not listed
DA022	DA122	Sculpture-Stone			

DB • SCHOOL ART SHOW

Superintendent:

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Homeschoolers need to enter in the individual student art competition.
- Any public, private, charter etc. school in North Carolina is invited to participate.
 - Entries are to be entered under the school’s name, using the school’s EIN for tax purposes.
 - The student work should be part of a school assignment within the school year, September 2025-September 2026.
 - Each school can enter one entry per division class based on grades offered at their school.
- Each school must submit six (6) individual entries by six (6) different individual students.
 - Artwork should be a variety of techniques and styles.
 - Each piece of the entry (all 6 pieces) must be placed on black or white foam core boards with all boards being attached, not to exceed 8 feet in height and 4 feet in width.
 - When binding the school’s artwork into a single unit, grommets, string, ribbon, etc. are recommended.
 - Remember, the Expo center can be extremely humid.
 - Ensure appropriate hanging device is attached for display purposes. The artwork will be displayed on gridwall.
- All six (6) entries from the participating school should be received in a manner that is easy to handle and identify. List school, teacher, and student info on the back of each piece of artwork.
- The Mountain State Fair reserves the right to refuse pieces that it considers not in good taste (i.e., nude figures, hand gestures or illegal controlled substances).

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING SCHOOL ART:

Overall (Student technical quality, Age appropriate)	= 30
At least 3 quality lessons (using different Media)	= 30
Presentation (Overall presentation of the school art)	= 25
Followed artwork presentations in rule book	= 15
Total = 100	

Elementary School and After School Programs – grades K - 5

Middle School – grades 6 through 8

High School – grades 9 -12

(Schools representing a combination of the above may enter in only one category.)

AWARDS AND PLACINGS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$200	Blue Rosette Ribbon
Second Place	\$150	Red Rosette Ribbon
Third Place	\$100	White Rosette Ribbon
Fourth Place	\$60	Pink Rosette Ribbon
Fifth Place	\$40	Yellow Rosette Ribbon

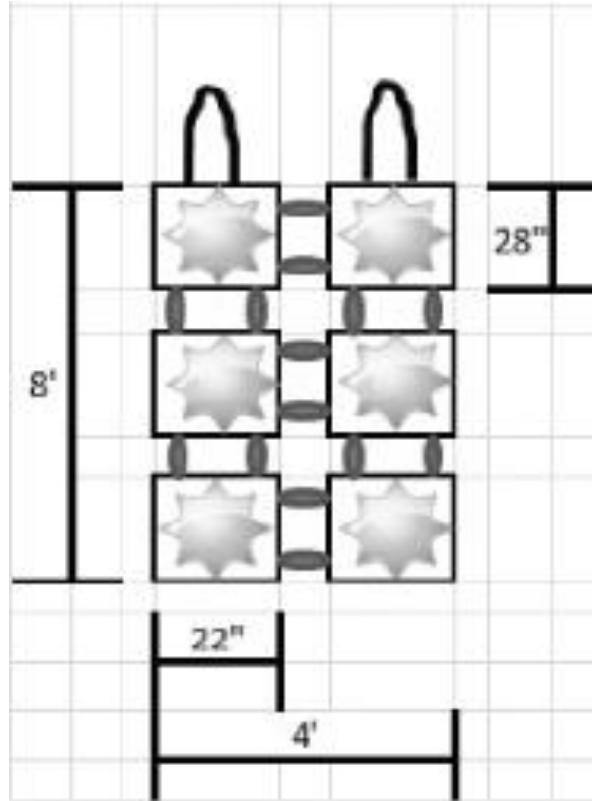
CLASS

DB001 Elementary School and After School Programs (Grades K-5)

DB002 Intermediate and Middle School (Grades 6-8)

DB003 High School (Grades 9-12)

“Display Diagram”



DC • PHOTOGRAPHY

Superintendent: Marshall Muse

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- **ENTRIES LIMITED: EXHIBITOR MAY ENTER ONLY 5 PHOTOGRAPHY ENTRIES WITH LIMIT OF 2 PER CLASS.**
 - **Individual photograph** must be 8" x 10" or 10" x 8". Pictures must be mounted on black or white foam core. Foam core board must be 11" x 14" or 14" x 11".
 - **Story Telling Photos** must be 4 total pictures that are 5" x 7" or 7" x 5" mounted on black or white foam core. Foam core board must be 11" x 30".
- Foam core thickness should be 1/8" or 3/16" (available at frame shops and craft stores).
- No frames, no glass, no mats, no embellishments or titles, no borders around pictures.
- All entries must be black and white or color photographic, inkjet or laser prints.
- Pictures must be the bona fide property and work of the exhibitor and must have been made by the exhibitor.
- Photos must have been taken between September 2024 and September 2025.
- Exhibitor's name, address and phone number must appear on the back of each exhibit.
- **Fair Management reserves the right to reject any print not in the best interest of the Fair (no nudes, semi-nudes, etc.).**

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITS

Impact (effect on viewer, catches the eye and holds attention, mood, and storytelling qualities)	= 35
Composition (arrangement, completeness, and balance of picture elements)	= 35
Technical Quality (sharpness, clarity, etc.)	= 20
Workmanship (prepared and mounted neatly and securely to meet requirement)	= 10
Total	= 100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon



NEW & EXCITING FOR THIS YEAR:

The *Photographic Society of America* will be supplying a **PSA Excellence Award Ribbon** and **certificate**, along with a **free one-year PSA Membership** to the *Best of Show* winners to both Amateur and Professional competitors. A "Best of Show" will be awarded in Color Prints and Black & White Prints in both Categories.

AMATEUR & PROFESSIONAL

Exhibitor must choose between Amateur and Professional. One CANNOT enter both.

AMATEUR: Any person who is involved in photography for pleasure only. This person does not derive income from his or her photography.

PROFESSIONAL: Any person connected with photography as a business owner, instructor, etc., or anyone producing photography for personal monetary gain from his or her hobby.

COLOR PRINTS

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
DC001	DC201	Agriculture Related
DC002	DC202	Plants & Flowers
DC003	DC203	Animals/Insects - in nature, natural habitat
DC004	DC204	Animals - pets, tamed, or domesticated
DC005	DC205	Landscape - Nature, Scenic
DC006	DC206	Landscape - Architectural, abstract
DC007	DC207	People & Portraits
DC008	DC208	Photograph of the 2025 NC Mountain State Fair
DC009	DC209	Story Telling Sequence (4)

BLACK & WHITE PRINTS

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
DC010	DC210	Agriculture Related
DC011	DC211	Plants & Flowers
DC012	DC212	Animals/Insects - in nature, natural habitat
DC013	DC213	Animals - pets, tamed, or domesticated
DC014	DC214	Landscape
DC015	DC215	People & Portraits
DC016	DC216	Photograph of the 2025 NC Mountain State Fair
DC017	DC217	Computer altered, edited, use of filters, or other techniques
DC018	DC218	Story Telling Sequence (4)

EA • BAKED FOODS

Superintendent: Renay Knapp

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday & Tuesday, September 7 & 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Photograph of entry and ribbons for placements)

NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Enter **1/2 cake** only (unless otherwise noted) except for decorated cakes.
- Place cake and/or bread on piece of heavy cardboard. The cardboard shall be covered with foil.
- Place each entry in a large, clear plastic zip lock bag (except decorated cakes) or clear cake container. Container will not be returned.
- An accurate recipe must accompany item. Please place recipe in a plastic bag for protection, please NO tape. Recipe should be on an 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper typed or printed in ink with exhibitor's name, age, and county. ***Entry will NOT be judged if there is no recipe.*** Recipes become the property of the NC Mountain State Fair and may be published without compensation.
- The same product may not be shared for entry by more than one individual. Violators (all individuals) will be disqualified.
- "Any Other" or "Miscellaneous" categories at the end of each class are only for items which are not listed in preceding categories. They are not for duplication.
- Decorated cakes will be judged for decoration only and displayed during the fair. It is suggested to make these cakes out of foam, then decorate.
- All entries must be **made from scratch unless otherwise stated** (except decorated cakes, decorated cupcakes, and/or doctored cake mixes).
- Coconut layer cake must have coconut in the icing.
- Pictures of all entries will be taken for display. After judging, the entries will be donated.
- There will not be more than one ribbon awarded and one award paid for each placement in a class.
- Participants are limited to ***one entry per class***

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

BREADS, CAKES, COOKIES, AND CANDIES

BREADS, ROLLS, MUFFINS, QUICK BREADS, BISCUITS

CLASS

- EA001 Bread, Loaf, Yeast with white flour
- EA002 Bread, Loaf, Yeast with other flours
- EA003 Sourdough Bread, White or Other flours
- EA004 Cornbread Squares, Wedges, or Sticks (6)
- EA005 Rolls, Yeast, with white flour (6)
- EA006 Rolls, Yeast, with whole wheat flour or other flours (6)
- EA007 Muffins, Fruit (6)
- EA008 Muffins, Vegetable (6)

CLASS

- EA009 Coffee Cake or Tea Ring
- EA010 Quick Bread, Loaf, banana
- EA011 Quick Bread, Loaf, other fruit
- EA012 Quick Bread, Loaf, vegetable
- EA013 Biscuits, Plain or buttermilk (6)
- EA014 Cheese Straws (12)
- EA015 Bread not already listed (specify)

CAKES - ICED, LAYER, AND OTHERS**CLASS**

- EA016 Chocolate Layer Cake Iced, any type
- EA017 Coconut Layer Cake
- EA018 Layer Cakes Iced (specify) not already listed
- EA019 Any Fruit Flavored Layer Cake

SHEET CAKE**CLASS**

- EA024 Chocolate Sheet Cake

TUBE BUNDT CAKE**CLASS**

- EA026 Chocolate Pound Cake
- EA027 Lemon Pound Cake
- EA028 Plain Pound Cake
- EA029 Coconut Pound Cake

LOAF CAKE**CLASS**

- EA033 Lemon Loaf Cake

DECORATED CAKE**CLASS**

- EA035 Birthday Cake
- EA036 Novelty Cake
- EA037 Wedding Cake

COOKIES ONE DOZEN**CLASS**

- EA041 Cookies, chocolate chip
- EA042 Cookies, ice box or rolled
- EA043 Cookies, Drop, Other than chocolate chip
- EA044 Cookies, Bar or Cooked in Sheet, cut in strips

CANDY ONE DOZEN PIECES**CLASS**

- EA049 Decorated Holiday Candy
- EA050 Fudge, Cooked, Choc Only, old fashion beaten product
- EA051 Fudge, Chocolate Only - quick methods
- EA052 Fudge, other flavors including chocolate combinations

PIES - Can Be refrigerated pies. (Fridge furnished)**CLASS**

- EA056 Chocolate Pie
- EA057 Lemon Pie
- EA058 Pecan Pie
- EA059 Coconut Pie
- EA060 Apple Pie

CHEESECAKE ITEMS

- EA066 Cheesecake - Plain
- EA067 Cheesecake - with Topping

CLASS

- EA020 Cupcakes, any icing (6 on tray/plate)
- EA021 Cake Pops with sticks
- EA022 Upside Down Pineapple Cake
- EA023 Doctored Box Mixes

CLASS

- EA025 Coconut Sheet Cake

CLASS

- EA030 Angel Food Cake
- EA031 Tube Bundt Cake (specify) not already listed
- EA032 Pound Cake not already listed (specify)

CLASS

- EA034 Loaf Cake (specify) not already listed

CLASS

- EA038 Anniversary Cake
- EA039 Decorated Cake (specify) not already listed
- EA040 Decorated Cupcakes (specify)

CLASS

- EA045 Cookies, filled or sandwich
- EA046 Cookies, sugar
- EA047 Cookies, decorated
- EA048 Cookies (specify) not already listed

CLASS

- EA053 Peanut Brittle
- EA054 Hand Dipped Candy
- EA055 Candy (specify) not already listed

CLASS

- EA061 Cherry Pie
- EA062 Peach Pie
- EA063 Pies (specify) not already listed.
- EA064 Fried Pies (4)
- EA065 Blueberry Pie

COOKING WITH HONEY

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- All entries in this class must contain honey as one of the principal sweetening ingredients.
- Entries must be prepared from ingredients compatible with commonly accepted recipes for the Class in which they are entered. Factors such as whether the entry is representative of the entered Class and freshness of the product will be considered in the judging.

CLASS

EA068 Bread
EA069 Muffins
EA070 Rolls
EA071 Cake

CLASS

EA072 Cookies
EA073 Candy
EA074 Cooking with Honey (specify) not already listed.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING BAKED FOODS-BREAD

General appearance (shape, proper “dome”, smoothness, crust, color)	= 10
Lightness	= 10
Crust (thickness, quality, crispness, tenderness)	= 10
Crumb (color and texture)	= 15
Texture (no streaks or close grain)	= 25
Flavor (taste and odor -sweet, nutty blend)	= 30
TOTAL	= 100

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING BAKED FOODS-CAKES

General appearance (surface - crust or frosting; crust - color, texture, depth; frosting - glossy, not granular, soft, not sticky, suitable flavor; filling, if applicable – minimum 1/4”, fluffy, good flavor blend)	= 30
Texture (Butter Cakes - tender, fine, even grain; Fruit Cakes - not sticky or gummy, dry or crumbly)	= 35
Flavor (delicate and pleasing, natural flavor)	= 35
TOTAL	= 100

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING BAKED FOODS-COOKIES

Appearance (outside - uniform, not too thick; size - not over 3”; surface-texture and color)	= 30
Texture (characteristic of type)	= 35
Flavor (natural flavor of ingredients)	= 35
TOTAL	= 100

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING BAKED FOODS-CANDIES

Appearance (color, size and shape of pieces)	= 15
Texture (crystalline - velvety, creamy, smooth)	= 30
Consistency (crystalline - firm, not hard or soft; non-crystalline - should hold shape, no crystals)	= 25
Flavor (blended, high quality, pleasing)	= 30
TOTAL	= 100

EB • PRESERVED FOODS

Superintendent: Cathy Hohenstein

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must have a recipe submitted with each jar. Please write or copy the recipe for each entry on separate pages or cards and place in plastic sandwich bag. Recipes are to ensure safety, so indicate source. Recipes not based on safe method sources listed below will be disqualified. Recipes will not be displayed with jars but discarded after judging.
- **All products must be processed according to recognized safe methods found in the most recent editions of the Ball Blue Book, the USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning, or recipes from the National Center for Home Food Preservation at the University of Georgia, <https://nchfp.uga.edu/>. Inverted jams and jellies will not be judged.**
- All jars must be labeled as to content, processing method (pressure canner or boiling water bath) and processing time. In order to award premiums on a quality basis, containers may be opened.
- Exhibits will be ruled out when not in standard canning jars of the specified size. Please include the ring with two-piece lids. This does not include flavored vinegars. Do not use decorative fabric under the ring.
- Unless an article is of good quality, no premiums will be awarded.
- Dried fruits, vegetables and herbs are an exception to recipe rule. Must be labeled as to content and method used for drying.
- There will not be more than one ribbon awarded and one award paid for each placement in a class.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

ENTRIES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED IF NOT LABELED.

Sample label	Content:	Green Beans
	Processing method:	Pressure Canned / # of pounds
	Processing time:	25 minutes

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

PRESERVED FOODS

CANNED FRUITS (PINT OR QUART JARS)

CLASS

EB001 Apples (whole or sliced)
 EB002 Applesauce
 EB003 Blackberries, Dewberries, Raspberries
 EB004 Blueberries, huckleberries
 EB005 Cherries (whole pitted & unpitted)
 EB006 Peaches

CLASS

EB007 Plums
 EB008 Pears
 EB009 Mixed Fruits (specify)
 EB010 Pie Filling (Blueberry, Cherry, Apple, Peach)
 EB011 Other Canned Single Fruits (specify)

CANNED VEGETABLES (PINT OR QUART JARS)

CLASS

EB012 Beans, (Green, Snap, Wax)
 EB013 Beets
 EB014 Carrots, (Whole or Cut)
 EB015 Corn, (Whole Kernel) (Pint Only)
 EB016 Mixed Vegetables

CLASS

EB017 Soup Mixture
 EB018 Tomatoes, (Quartered, Water Packed)
 EB019 Tomatoes, (Whole, Water Packed)
 EB020 Canned Vegetables (specify) not already listed

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

- Color:** That of natural fruit or vegetables = 20
- Liquid:** Appropriate for product and method of processing = 10
- Appearance:** Uniformly well-ripened products; no defective or overripe fruits or vegetables. = 40
 Only young fruits and vegetables should be canned.
- Appropriate size:** Uniformity of shape and size appropriate for product = 10
- Pack:** Arrangement with reference to symmetry and best use of space within the jar. = 10
 The attractiveness of packs should be considered, but not time-wasting fancy packs.
- Jar Fill:** Containers should be filled to the level specified by standard recommendations. = 10

TOTAL = 100

PRESERVES (HALF PINTS or PINTS)

Preserves contain whole fruits or fruit pieces that retain their shape and are clear, shiny, tender, and plump. The fruits are suspended in a clear syrup that is the consistency of honey or soft jelly. These products should be filled to within 1/4" of top of standard canning jars and must be processed in a boiling water bath for airtight seal (no paraffin).

CLASS

EB021 Blueberry
 EB022 Mixed Fruit (specify)
 EB023 Peach

CLASS

EB024 Strawberry
 EB025 Fruit Preserves, Single Fruit, (specify) not already listed

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING PRESERVES

- Shape:** Fruit should be whole and have an original shape as nearly as possible. = 10
- Clearness and Color:** Fruit should be translucent and not too dark; liquid should be clear. = 25
- Flavor:** Natural fruit flavor, not overpowered with too much sugar = 30
- Texture:** Tender, but firm and plump = 10
- Pack and Fill:** Arrangement of fruit with reference to symmetry of jar; = 5
 filled to within 1/4" of top, water bath processed
- Consistency:** Juice should be of honey consistency or slightly jellied = 10
- Proportion of Syrup:** About one-third as much syrup as fruit = 10

TOTAL = 100

BUTTER, CONSERVE, JAM AND MARMALADE (HALF PINT or PINT)

Jam is made from crushed fruits cooked to a smooth consistency that will mound up on a spoon but not jelly firm.

Conserve is a fruit mixture of jam consistency often containing citrus. A true conserve contains nuts and raisins.

Marmalade contains small pieces of fruit or citrus peel evenly suspended in a transparent soft jelly.

Butter is pureed fruit cooked to a smooth consistency. These products should be filled to within 1/4" of top of standard canning jars and must be processed in a boiling water bath for airtight seal (no paraffin).

CLASS

EB026	Apple Butter
EB027	Pear Butter
EB028	Butter (specify) not already listed
EB029	Conserve (specify)
EB030	Blackberry Jam
EB031	Blueberry Jam
EB032	Mixed Berry Jam (specify)
EB033	Cherry Jam
EB034	Fig Jam
EB035	Grape Jam
EB036	Peach Jam

CLASS

EB037	Pear Jam
EB038	Plum Jam
EB039	Raspberry Jam
EB040	Rhubarb Jam
EB041	Strawberry Jam
EB042	Jam, any other single fruit (specify)
EB043	Jam, any 2 fruits (specify)
EB044	Citrus Marmalade
EB045	Peach Marmalade
EB046	Marmalade (specify) not already listed.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING BUTTER, CONSERVE, JAM, AND MARMALADE

Smoothness: tender fruit with smooth texture	= 20
Flavor: natural fruit flavor, not overpowered with added ingredients or spices	= 35
Consistency and Texture: tender and will mound in spoon; not tough, sticky, or gummy; spreads easily	= 30
Color and Clearness: shiny fruit color; marmalades clear with suspended fruit or citrus	= 10
Jar Fill Process: fill jars to within 1/4" of top of standard canning jars and process in boiling water bath.	= 5

TOTAL = 100

JELLY FROM HOME-PREPARED JUICE (HALF PINT OR PINT JARS)

CLASS

EB047	Apple Jelly
EB048	Blackberry or Dewberry Jelly
EB049	Blueberry Jelly
EB050	Crabapple Jelly
EB051	Cherry Jelly
EB052	Grape Jelly (Concord)
EB053	Grape Jelly (Scuppernong or Muscadine)
EB054	Herbal Jelly

CLASS

EB055	Mint Jelly
EB056	Peach Jelly
EB057	Pepper Jelly
EB058	Plum Jelly (Damson and Others)
EB059	Raspberry Jelly
EB060	Strawberry Jelly
EB061	Jelly, any other single fruit (specify)
EB062	Fruit Mixture (specify)

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING JELLY

Color: pronounced, yet natural color	= 10
Clearness: transparent and sparkling	= 10
Crystals: lack of crystals; no sign of crystallization	= 10
Flavor: natural fruit flavor	= 30
Consistency: tender; breaks with distinct cleavage, angles hold shape; should not be syrupy, sticky or tough.	= 35
Jar Fill Process: fill jars to within 1/4" of top of standard canning jars and process in boiling water bath.	= 5

TOTAL = 100

JUICES AND SYRUPS (PINT OR QUART JARS)

CLASS

- EB063 Grape Juice
- EB064 Tomato Juice
- EB065 Apple Juice
- EB066 Berry Juice

CLASS

- EB067 Juice (specify) not already listed
- EB068 Strawberry Syrup
- EB069 Syrup (specify) not already listed

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING JUICES AND SYRUPS

- Color:** Typical color of well-ripened tomatoes or fruit = 20
- Stability:** Little or no tendency to separate after standing a few minutes = 15
- Absence of Defects:** No particles of fiber, skin, or seed = 15
- Flavor:** Typical ripe tomato or fruit flavor; no objectionable "off" flavor = 45
- Jar Fill Process:** fill jars to within 1/4" to 1/2" of top of standard canning jar = 5

TOTAL=100

PICKLES AND RELISH (HALF PINT, PINT OR QUART JARS)

CLASS

- EB070 Bread and Butter Pickles
- EB071 Beet Pickles
- EB072 Cucumber Pickles (Dill)
- EB073 Cucumber Pickles (Sliced-Sour)
- EB074 Cucumber Pickles (Sliced-Sweet)
- EB075 Green Bean Pickles (Dilly Beans)
- EB076 Hot Peppers in Vinegar (Whole)
- EB077 Hot Peppers in Vinegar (Sliced)
- EB078 Mixed Vegetable Pickles
- EB079 Okra Pickles
- EB080 Peach Pickles
- EB081 Squash Pickles
- EB082 Tomato Pickles (Green)

CLASS

- EB083 Pickles (specify) not already listed
- EB084 Chow Chow
- EB085 Corn Relish
- EB086 Cucumber Relish
- EB087 Fruit Relish
- EB088 Pepper Relish
- EB089 Relish, Other Vegetable not listed (specify)
- EB090 Mixed Relish
- EB091 Fruit Chutney
- EB092 Vegetable Chutney
- EB093 Sauerkraut
- EB094 Flavored Vinegars

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING PICKLES AND RELISH

- Size and Shape:** Uniform size and shape = 10
- Flavor:** Natural flavor in fruit pickles; Not over-spiced = 30
- Texture:** Firm, not tough, soft or flabby = 30
- Color:** As near natural color as possible (unless specified) = 15
- Proportion of Pickle to Liquid:** Jars filled with pickles; liquid to cover and fill spaces = 10
- Jar Fill Process:** Fill jars to within 1/2" of top of standard canning jars and process in boiling water bath. = 5

TOTAL = 100

DRIED FRUITS, VEGETABLES (Pint JARS); DRIED HERBS (HALF-PINT OR PINT JARS)

CLASS

EB095 Apples (Rings or Slices)
EB096 Blueberries
EB097 Cherries
EB098 Peaches
EB099 Dried Fruits (specify) not already listed
EB100 Basil
EB101 Oregano
EB102 Parsley

CLASS

EB103 Sage
EB104 Thyme
EB105 Dried Herbs (specify) not already listed
EB106 Beans, Green/Waxed
EB107 Beans, dried Pinto, Navy, Kidney, etc.
EB108 Tomatoes
EB109 Peppers
EB110 Dried Vegetables not already listed (specify)

•Fruits and vegetables may be dried by any method. They should be placed in **pint or half-pint** jars with tight fitting lids. Label contents and give method used for drying. Each jar should contain enough dried fruits, vegetables or herbs to give a good sample of the item.

SAUCES AND KETCHUP (PINT OR QUART JARS)

CLASS

EB111 Chili Sauce
EB112 Pizza Sauce
EB113 Spaghetti Sauce
EB114 Tomato Sauce

CLASS

EB115 Salsa
EB116 Tomato Ketchup
EB117 Bar-B-Que Sauce
EB118 Sauces and Ketchup (specify) not already listed

F • CRAFTS

Superintendent: Betty Crain

Assistant Superintendent: Lynn Wooten

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
- All articles must be made by hand, within the time period September 2025 - September 2026.
- If an entry is misrepresented or the exhibitor misrepresents his/her status, the entry will be disqualified.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

AMATEUR & PROFESSIONAL

Exhibitor must choose between Amateur and Professional. One CANNOT enter both. **Regardless of their age, crafters who enter this Department as "Professional" may not enter in the Department FA, Senior Citizen Crafts.**

AMATEUR: Any person making items in a specific handicraft for pleasure only. This person does not derive income from that specific handicraft.

PROFESSIONAL Any person connected with a craft business or workshop as owner or instructor or anyone making pieces or working for personal monetary gain from his or her hobby.

Criteria for Judging General Crafts

• Overall Appearance	= 25
• Creativity / Design / Originality	= 20
• Quality of Workmanship	= 30
• Level of Difficulty	= 15
• Suitability of material	= 10
Total	= 100

BASKETRY**AMATEUR****PROFESSIONAL****CLASS****CLASS**

F001	F301	Round Reed 100 %
F002	F302	Combination Material
F003	F303	Coiled Non fabric
F004	F304	Miniatures under 4"
F005	F305	Natural Gathered Materials: Vines, Bark, Leaves, Roots, Other
F006	F306	Decorative Painting, Stencils, Decals and other Embellishments
F007	F307	Basketry (specify) not already listed

BROOMS / WHISK BROOMS - Brooms not to exceed 72"**AMATEUR****PROFESSIONAL****CLASS****CLASS**

F008	F308	Whisk Broom (specify)
F009	F309	Broom not already listed (Specify)

CERAMIC**AMATEUR****PROFESSIONAL****CLASS****CLASS**

F010	F310	Animal
F011	F311	Holiday
F012	F312	Ceramic (specify) item not already listed

DECORATIVE PAINTING**AMATEUR****PROFESSIONAL****CLASS****CLASS**

F013	F313	Furniture (max. size 4' x 4' x 4')
F014	F314	Holiday
F015	F315	General
F016	F316	Canvas
F017	F317	Fabric
F018	F318	Original Design (own pattern)
F019	F319	Ornament
F020	F320	Decorative Painting (specify) not already listed

DOLLS - Must provide Doll Stand for each standing doll.**COSTUME****AMATEUR****PROFESSIONAL****CLASS****CLASS**

F021	F321	Miniature Under 6"
F022	F322	Costume Doll 6" to 20"
F023	F323	Costume Dolls Over 20" (Max size 36")
F024	F324	Costume Doll not listed (specify)

DOLLS - SOFT AND SEWN**AMATEUR****PROFESSIONAL****CLASS****CLASS**

F025	F325	Miniature Under 6"
F026	F326	Baby Dolls/ Cloth body 6" to 20"
F027	F327	Soft & Sewn Dolls over 20" (Max size 36")

HAND CROCHETED

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
F028	F328	Afghans, Throw (1-2 colors)
F029	F329	Afghans, Throw (3 or more colors)
F030	F330	Afghans, Throw (variegated yarn)
F031	F331	Baby Afghans
F032	F332	Bedspread, coverlet
F033	F333	Tablecloth
F034	F334	Doilie(s)
F035	F335	Holiday Items
F036	F336	Linens (4 place mats, 4 napkins, 4 dish cloths, table runner, 2 doilies or table scarf)
F037	F337	Any other hand crocheted item or accessory not listed above (specify)
F105	F405	Amigurumi – Up to 6” high

HANDICRAFTS

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
F038	F338	Chair Caning (max. size 4’ x 4’ x 4’)
F039	F339	Nature found items used in crafting (dried flowers, corn husks, pinecones,)
F040	F340	Silk Arrangement - max size 3’ x 3’
F041	F341	Flag
F042	F342	Leather Craft
F043	F343	Macrame Craft
F044	F344	Wood Craft (including pinecones, branches, etc.)
F045	F345	Stained Glass Craft (max. size 3’ x 3’ x 3’)
F046	F346	Ornament
F047	F347	Wreath
F048	F348	Hand Quilted Item
F049	F349	Machine Quilted Item
F050	F350	Diamond Art – Full – up to 1’
F051	F351	Diamond Art – Not Full – up to 1’
F052	F352	Diamond Art – Full – over 1’ to 4’
F053	F353	Diamond Art – Not Full – over 1’ to 4’
F054	F354	Paper Crafts – Flat (cards, scrapbooking page, picture mat,....)
F055	F355	Paper Crafts -3D (Origami, animals, flowers, household items,....)
F056	F356	Handmade Paper
F057	F357	Stenciled or Stamped Items
F058	F358	Sewn Household Accessories (Casserole carriers, cozies for hot bowls, etc.)
F059	F359	Other Handicraft not listed (specify)
F106	F406	Handicraft made from recycled materials

HANDMADE - MIXED MEDIA -Combination of crocheted, hand knitted, embroidery, lacework, quilted or needlepoint.

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
F060	F360	Handmade “Mixed Media” Linens (4 placemats, 4 napkins, table runner, 2 doilies or table scarf)
F061	F361	Any other handmade “Mixed Media” item or accessory not listed (specify)

HERITAGE TECHNIQUES

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
F062	F362	Tatting
F063	F363	Filet Crochet
F064	F364	Any other Handmade Lace (specify) (Broomstick, Hairpin, Bobbin, etc.)

KNITTING**AMATEUR
CLASS****PROFESSIONAL
CLASS**

F065	F365	Afghans, Throw (1 - 2 colors)
F066	F366	Afghans, Throw (3 or more colors)
F067	F367	Afghans, Throw (variegated yarn)
F068	F368	Baby Afghans
F069	F369	Doilie(s)
F070	F370	Holiday Items
F071	F371	Any other hand knitted item or household accessory not listed above (specify)
F107	F407	Amigurumi – Up to 6” high

NEEDLE WORK**AMATEUR
CLASS****PROFESSIONAL
CLASS**

F072	F372	Cross Stitch - Original Design - Counted
F073	F373	Cross Stitch - Charted, Graphed, Kit - Counted
F074	F374	Cross Stitch - Stamped
F075	F375	Items made on hand looms
F076	F376	Needlepoint - Charted, Graphed, Kit
F077	F377	Needlepoint – Original Design
F078	F378	Crewel (Kit or Original)
F079	F379	Openwork (drawn and pulled)
F080	F380	Smocking
F081	F381	Embroidery - Hand Embroidered item (Sewn, Appliqued, Stamped)
F082	F382	Embroidery - Machine Embroidered item (Sewn, Appliqued)

POTTERY**AMATEUR
CLASS****PROFESSIONAL
CLASS**

F083	F383	Sculpture
F084	F384	Container, Hand Formed
F085	F385	Wall Piece, Hand Formed
F086	F386	Container, Wheel Thrown
F087	F387	Other Wheel Thrown (specify)
F088	F388	Any other pottery not already listed above (specify)

RUGS - (max. size 6’ x 6’)**AMATEUR
CLASS****PROFESSIONAL
CLASS**

F089	F389	Hooked or Punched (max size 6’ x 6’)
F090	F390	Braided (max size 6’ X 6’)
F091	F391	Rugs (specify) not already listed (max size 6’ X 6’)

HANDMADE STUFFED - TOYS / ANIMALS**AMATEUR
CLASS****PROFESSIONAL
CLASS**

F092	F392	Sewn Miniature toy or stuffed animal, under 6”
F093	F393	Sewn toy or stuffed animal, 6” to 20”
F094	F394	Sewn toy or stuffed animal, over 20” (Max. 36”)
F108	F408	Crocheted or Knitted Doll, Toy or Animal, under 6”
F109	F409	Crocheted or Knitted Doll, Toy or Animal – 6” to 20”,
F110	F410	Crocheted or Knitted Doll, Toy or Animal, - Over 20” (Max. size 36”)

WOODWORK

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
F095	F395	Wood (not toys or furniture) Objects, under 12"
F096	F396	Wood (not toys or furniture) Objects, 12" to 36"
F097	F397	Toys, woodwork under 12"
F098	F398	Toys, woodwork 12" to 36"
F099	F399	Woodwork (specify) not already listed (max. size 3' x 3' x 3')
F111	F411	Barn Quilt (Max size 3' x 3')

DUCT TAPE

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
F100	F400	Wall Hanging
F101	F401	Floral Arrangement
F102	F402	Christmas Ornament
F103	F403	Wallet / Purses
F104	F404	Hair Accessory
F112	F412	Duct Tape Item not already listed (specify)

FA • SENIOR CITIZEN CRAFTS

Superintendent: Betty Crain

Assistant Superintendent: Lynn Wooten

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
- All articles must be made by hand and completed between September 2025 and September 2026.
- If an entry is misrepresented or the exhibitor misrepresents his/her status, the entry will be disqualified.
- There shall not be more than one ribbon awarded and one award paid for each placement in a class.
- This Department is intended for **Amateur** crafters only. **Professional** crafters are to enter in Department H, Crafts.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

Criteria for Judging Senior Citizens Crafts

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| • Overall Appearance | = 25 |
| • Creativity / Design / Originality | = 20 |
| • Quality of Workmanship | = 30 |
| • Level of Difficulty | = 15 |
| • Suitability of material | = 10 |
| Total | = 100 |

AGE	AGE	AGE	
62 - 70	71 - 80	OVER 80	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
FA001	FA101	FA201	Cross Stitch
FA002	FA102	FA202	Crocheted or Knitted Item
FA003	FA103	FA203	Embroidered Item (Both Hand or Machine)
FA004	FA104	FA204	Swedish Weaving (Huck Weaving)
FA005	FA105	FA205	Holiday Decoration
FA006	FA106	FA206	Dried Flowers
FA007	FA107	FA207	Silk Flower Arrangement (max size 3' X 3')
FA008	FA108	FA208	Household Accessories
FA009	FA109	FA209	Needlepoint Item
FA010	FA110	FA210	Wearable Accessories
FA011	FA111	FA211	Stuffed Article (Dolls, Animals, etc.)
FA012	FA112	FA212	Diamond Art – Full – up to 1'
FA013	FA113	FA213	Diamond Art – Not Full – up to 1'
FA014	FA114	FA214	Diamond Art – Full – over 1' to 4'
FA015	FA115	FA215	Diamond Art – Not Full – over 1' to 4'
FA016	FA116	FA216	General Decorative Painting
FA017	FA117	FA217	Canvas Painting
FA018	FA118	FA218	Wood Craft (including pinecones, branches, etc.)
FA019	FA119	FA219	Paper Crafts – Flat (cards, scrapbooking page, picture mat,....)
FA020	FA120	FA220	Paper Crafts -3D (Origami, animals, flowers, household items,....)
FA021	FA121	FA221	Ornament
FA022	FA122	FA222	Wreath
FA023	FA123	FA223	Hand Quilted Item
FA024	FA124	FA224	Machine Quilted Item
FA025	FA125	FA225	Rugs – Hooked, Punched, or Other (Max 6'x6')
FA026	FA126	FA226	Plastic Canvas Craft
FA027	FA127	FA227	Craft/Handiwork (specify) not already listed (specify)

FB • WOOD CARVING WNC WOODCARVERS

Superintendent: Bruce Dalzell

Assistant Superintendent:

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
- All entries must have been completed between September 2024 and September 2026 and must not have won a blue ribbon in any past Mountain State Fair.
- Only three carvings can be entered in each class per carver, although no carver can win more than two premiums in any one individual class.
- No kits or duplicator pieces (intarsia, marquetry, puzzles) will be accepted. Carvings from roughouts are permitted; no scroll saw works will be admitted.
- All entries must be hand carved. Power carvers and Dremel type rotary tools may be used.
- All carvings must be of wood. The use of molded feet of wire & putty, and glass eyes is permitted. The use of plastic or molded metallic or any other commercially manufactured parts is not permitted.
- Group carvings - that is, 2 or more pieces mounted on the same base, or as a group not mounted - will be judged as a single carving.
- The Mountain State Fair reserves the right to add, delete, or combine categories and/or classes.
- The Mountain State Fair reserves the right to refuse carvings that it considers not in good taste (i.e., nude figures, hand gestures or illegal controlled substances).
- If an entry is misrepresented or the exhibitor misrepresents his/her status, the entry will be disqualified.
- Any metal supports such as screws, wire and rods should not be visible.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Woodcarving

- Originality & Design – Unusual and Exceptional interpretation of the subject matter
- Skill – Difficulty of carving
- Surface Finish – sanding where applicable; cleanliness of finish and application of finish.
- Final Representation – Decorative value and esthetics.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$20	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$12	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$8	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

There are 2 categories of entrants: Exhibitor must choose between **Amateur** and **Professional**. One CANNOT enter both.

Amateur: A hobbyist; someone who carves for fun, who may occasionally sell a piece.

Professional: An individual who carves to sell his/her pieces, who may teach classes for pay or whose primary income is derived from teaching or selling his/her carvings.

AMATEUR & PROFESSIONAL

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
FB001	FB101	Animals - All realistic proportioned in the round carvings of animals; mammals, reptiles, fish, amphibians, and insects.
FB002	FB102	Miniature - Complete carving must fit inside a 2" x 2" x 2" cube. If the carving has a base, the carving and base together must fit within the cube.
FB003	FB103	Birds - All realistic proportioned in the round carving of songbirds, birds of prey, upland game birds, ducks, geese, pelicans, swans, loons, shorebirds, poultry, decoys, and any other birds not previously listed.
FB004	FB104	Canes & Walking Sticks - These must not exceed 60" in length and must contain elements that have been carved and/or wood burned not merely bark peeled.
FB005	FB105	Santa and Yuletide Decorations - Santa, this includes old world classics or modern examples as well as caricatures. This category also includes, but is not limited to, religious or secular holiday ornaments such as tree ornaments, room decorations, and nativity scenes.
FB006	FB106	Stylized – Carvings emphasize form over detail; carvings represent subject without recreating it exactly. Normally, sanded smooth with flowing lines. May be unpainted showing wood grain or painted.
FB007	FB107	Caricatures - All in the round carvings with exaggerated proportions. This includes mythical figures, carousel animals, bottle stopper busts, clowns, animals, birds, humans, cartoon, and storybook characters.
FB008	FB108	Relief - Two dimensional carvings in "low" and "high" relief including half round pierced and incised carvings.
FB009	FB109	Found Wood - All carvings utilizing driftwood, knots, tree trunks, limbs or bark.
FB010	FB110	Native American Representation - All items entered to be carved of wood to represent human forms, busts, clothing, bows, knives, pipes, anything that Native Americans made or used to survive. NO CARICATURES! Group carvings will be counted as a single carving, e.g., hunting scenes, camp scenes, home scenes.... Up to 3 carvings may be entered but only 2 ribbons can be awarded to an individual.
FB011	FB111	Pyrography - Pictures or objects burned for design and/or effect.
FB012	FB112	Spoons – Carved wooden spoons both traditional and modern in style. These objects may be usable or ornamental and include concave spoon like forks as seen in salad bowl utensil sets.
FB013	FB113	Miscellaneous - Any item not already listed and/or covered in the above classes (specify).

FC • WOOD TURNING

Superintendent: Jo Miller

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
- All entries must have been completed between September 2025 and September 2026 and must not have won a ribbon in any past Mountain State Fair.

Criteria for Judging Wood Turning

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| • Imagination, Design, Originality, and Artistic expression in wood | = 30 |
| • Workmanship- Evidence of good tool technique and smooth profile | = 25 |
| • Difficulty – Complexity of geometry, multiple wood parts, multiple axis | = 25 |
| • Finish – Finish consistently and evenly applied (Absence of runs, marks, patchiness, and dust free) | = 20 |
| Total | = 100 |

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$20	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$12	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$8	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

There are 4 categories of entrants: Exhibitor must choose between **Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced** or **Professional**. One CANNOT enter more than one category.

- Beginner:** Has been turning for up to 2 years
- Intermediate:** Has been turning from 2 to 5 years
- Advanced:** Has been turning more than 5 years
- Professional** Has sold more than 10 turned items in gallery(ies) between Sept 1, 2025 and Aug 31, 2026.:

BEGINNER CLASS	INTERMEDIATE CLASS	ADVANCED CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
FC101	FC201	FC301	Spindles: Cylindrical – with or without penetration of axis (single or multi-axis) Ex: lamp, candle stick, rolling pin, salt & pepper grinders, vases, other household items, etc.
FC102	FC202	FC302	Plain Bowls: Top opening is nearly the largest inside diameter; any depth; level or natural edge (with or without bark).
FC103	FC203	FC303	Decorative Bowls: Top opening is nearly largest inside diameter; any depth. May include plasticizing/epoxy, segmented parts, <u>on-lathe color / textured embellishments</u> , handles, wings, separate base, etc.
FC104	FC204	FC304	Ornaments: For trees, mantels, or other special / seasonal situations (can be any shape).
FC105	FC205	FC305	Pens / Micro-tools (Using kits): Ex: ball point pens, ink cartridge pens, mechanical pencils, letter openers, seam rippers, sewing needle cases, etc.
FC106	FC206	FC306	Lidded Boxes: Must have turned mortis / tenon connection – “Bowl-style” or “Hollow-style.”
FC107	FC207	FC307	Pierced – Carved – 3-D Art: Any size and shape with <u>off-lathe enhancements</u> – may be functional or decorative.
FC108	FC208	FC308	Other: Can be anything – submitter’s choice to use this category.
	FC209	FC309	Hollow – Tall: Opening is considerably smaller than largest inside diameter; height is greater than largest diameter.
	FC210	FC310	Hollow – Squat: Opening is considerably smaller than largest inside diameter; height is less than largest diameter.
FC111	FC211	FC311	Platters – Plain or embellished, not higher than 1 ½”
	FC212	FC312	Miniatures: Less than ½” in diameter or less than 4” of height. Display items to scale – not useable items.
PROFESSIONAL		FC401	Professional: Any size and shape – may be functional or decorative. Exhibitor would have more than 12 items sold in galleries.

FD • JEWELRY

Superintendent: Joanna Crain

Assistant Superintendent: Emma Crain

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: TUESDAY, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
- All articles must be made by hand and completed between September 2025 and September 2026.
- If an entry is misrepresented or the exhibitor misrepresents his/her status, the entry will be disqualified.
- There shall not be more than one ribbon awarded and one award paid for each placement in a class.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

Exhibitor must choose between Amateur and Professional. One CANNOT enter both.

Amateur-Any person making jewelry items for pleasure only. This person does not derive income from that specific handicraft.

Professional-Any person connected with a jewelry craft business or workshop as owner or instructor or anyone making pieces or working for personal monetary gain from their hobby. In this category, special consideration will be given to pieces with completely hand-fabricated components (no purchased findings).

Criteria for Jewelry Judging

- | | |
|--------------------|------|
| • Craftsmanship | = 20 |
| • Material Quality | = 20 |
| • Color Selection | = 20 |
| • Originality | = 20 |
| • Artistry | = 20 |

Total =100

AMATEUR

CLASS

FD001

FD002

FD003

FD004

FD005

FD006

FD007

FD008

FD009

FD010

FD011

PROFESSIONAL

CLASS

FD101

FD102

FD103

FD104

FD105

FD106

FD107

FD108

FD109

FD110

FD111

Wire Jewelry

Clay Jewelry

Clay Bead Jewelry

Crocheted Jewelry / Knotted Jewelry / Braided Jewelry

Beaded Jewelry (including Illusion Jewelry)

Bead Weaving

Crystal Jewelry - Designs created using predominantly crystals

Mixed Media Jewelry & Wearable Art, featuring found or recycled items (including, but not limited to, paper beads, Steampunk jewelry, etc.).

Accessories - Brooch, Hairpin, Charm, Watch, etc...

Rings

Other Jewelry Not Listed (specify)

FE • CLOTHING

Superintendent: Mandy Sanders

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

• All entries must be made between September 2025 and September 2026.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
- **Only 3 entries per class** may be entered.
- **Bring entries on hangers and covered in a CLEAR plastic bag.**
- Only those items that cannot be displayed on hangers will be accepted in bags; all others must be hung and covered with clear plastic bag.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING CLOTHING EXHIBITS

General Appearance , color combination, neatness, originality, cleanliness	= 25
Design in relationship to fabric selection	= 25
Workmanship fabric cut on grain, appropriate choice of seams, hems, finishes, and their proper execution; perfection of stitches and construction details; appropriate choice of closures (buttons, zippers, snaps, hooks and eyes, etc.) and their proper application	= 50

TOTAL = 100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

AMATEUR & PROFESSIONAL

Exhibitor must choose between Amateur and Professional. One CANNOT enter both.

AMATEUR: Any person who is involved in the production of clothing for pleasure only. This person does not derive income from the production of clothing.

PROFESSIONAL: Any person connected with the production of clothing as a business owner, instructor, etc. - or anyone producing clothing for personal monetary gain from his or her hobby.

SEWN CLOTHING (MEN & WOMEN)

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
FE001	FE101	Apron
FE002	FE102	Casual (Dress, Skirt, Pant, Shirt, Blouse, or Jumper)
FE003	FE103	Dressy (Dress, Skirt, Pant, Shirt, Blouse, or Jumper)
FE004	FE104	Formal (Dress, Skirt, Pant, Shirt, Blouse, or Jumper)
FE005	FE105	Jacket
FE006	FE106	Suit
FE007	FE107	Sewn item (Men & Women) (specify) Item not already listed.

SEWN CLOTHING (INFANT & CHILDREN)

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
FE008	FE108	Christening Gown
FE009	FE109	Dress Clothes/Girl
FE010	FE110	Play Clothes/Girl
FE011	FE111	School Clothes/Boy
FE012	FE112	School Clothes/Girl
FE013	FE113	Sleepwear Girl
FE014	FE114	Sewn Clothing (Infant & Children) (specify) Item not already listed.

HEIRLOOM SEWING

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
FE015	FE115	Blouse/Women
FE016	FE116	Christening Gown
FE017	FE117	Dress Clothes/Girl
FE018	FE118	Sleepwear/Girl
FE019	FE119	Sleepwear/Women
FE020	FE120	Heirloom Sewing (specify) Item not already listed

HAND KNITTED

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
FE021	FE121	Handbag/Purse
FE022	FE122	Hat
FE023	FE123	Poncho/Wrap
FE024	FE124	Scarf
FE025	FE125	Sweater/Children
FE026	FE126	Outfit/Infant
FE027	FE127	Sweater/Women
FE028	FE128	Vest
FE029	FE129	Accessory Set (2 or more pieces: Hat, scarf, gloves, purse etc.)
FE030	FE130	Hand Knitted (specify) Item not already listed

HAND CROCHETED

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
FE031	FE131	Baby Outfit
FE032	FE132	Collar
FE033	FE133	Dress/Infant or Child
FE034	FE134	Handbag/Purse
FE035	FE135	Hat
FE036	FE136	Poncho/Wrap
FE037	FE137	Scarf
FE038	FE138	Sweater/Women
FE039	FE139	Sweater/Children
FE040	FE140	Accessory Set (2 or more pieces: Hat, scarf, gloves, purse etc.)
FE041	FE141	Hand Crocheted (specify) Item not already listed

QUILTED CLOTHING - HAND OR MACHINE

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
FE042	FE142	Handbag/Purse
FE043	FE143	Vest
FE044	FE144	Quilted Clothing (specify) Item not already listed

COSTUMES

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
FE045	FE145	Costume/Women or Girls
FE046	FE146	Costume/Men or Boys

MISCELLANEOUS

AMATEUR CLASS	PROFESSIONAL CLASS	
FE047	FE147	Duct Tape Clothing
FE048	FE148	Duct Tape Accessories (Wearable)

FF • QUILTING

Superintendent: Laura Jones

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor, completed between September 2025 and September 2026.
- A quilt pieced by one person and quilted by another or by a quilting service must be entered in a “Quilted by Another” class.
- The judge will have the right not to award a first-place ribbon/award if the item does not merit the placing.
- Awards in any class will be given only if merited.
- There shall not be more than one ribbon awarded and one award paid for each placement in a class.
- **A hanging sleeve finishing at 4” is required for all quilts wider than 50”.** For more information, go to americanquilter.com/hanging-sleeve-instructions.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$75	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$50	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$20	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

Criteria for Quilt Judging

- Visual Impact
- Design
- Workmanship

QUILTING

CLASS

- FF001 Bed Quilts, Appliqued or Mixed Techniques (can be appliqued with embellishments, pieced & appliqued, pieced with embellishments, any combination)
- FF002 Bed Quilts, Pieced
- FF003 Throw-size Quilts (larger than wall quilts, smaller than bed, any technique)
- FF004 SMALL - Quilted by Another - majority of work done by maker but hand or machine quilting done by another. Perimeter 250 inches or less
- FF005 LARGE - Quilted by Another - majority of work done by maker but hand or machine quilting done by another. Perimeter greater than 250 inches
- FF006 Lullaby Quilts (Juvenile theme)
- FF007 Miniature (a scaled down quilt design with block less than 4”in size and a perimeter less than 100”)
- FF008 Other Techniques (embroidered, whole-cloth, candle wicking, ragged-edge, yo-yo, etc.)
- FF009 Wall Quilts, Appliqued
- FF010 Wall Quilts, Mixed Techniques (At least two techniques used, any combination of pieced, embroidered, embellished or appliqued)
- FF011 Wall Quilts, Mixed Techniques with embellishments
- FF012 Wall Quilts, Pieced
- FF013 Quilts - Hand sewn, non-machine

FG • HAND WEAVING & SPINNING

Superintendent: Micheline “Rusti” Nichols

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

• All entries must be completely made by entrant between September 2025 and September 2026.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon
WNC Fiber/Handweavers Guild Award		Special Award – Sponsored by the organization, the award goes to the best handwoven fabric in the department.

Criteria for Weaving & Spinning Judging

• Workmanship	= 20
• Level of Difficulty	= 20
• Design, including color and texture	= 20
• Appropriate Pattern Technique	= 20
• Creative use of materials or fabric	= 20
Total	= 100

AMATEUR & PROFESSIONAL

Exhibitor must choose between Amateur and Professional. One CANNOT enter both.

- **Amateur** – Any person making items in a specific handicraft for pleasure only. This person does not derive income from that specific handicraft.
- **Professional** – Any person connected with a craft business or workshop as owner or who teaches this art on a regular basis, or anyone making pieces or working for personal monetary gain from his/her hobby.

HAND WOVEN - Floor or Table Looms, two or more shafts

CLASS	CLASS		
AMATEUR	PROFESSIONAL		
FG101	FG201	Accessories	Scarves, shawls, totes, etc.
FG102	FG202	Constructed Clothing	Vests, Jackets, tops, etc. made with hand woven fabric.
FG103	FG203	Non-functional	Art pieces, wall hangings, pillow covers, etc.
FG104	FG204	Functional	Household and table linens, rugs, etc.
FG105	FG205	Miscellaneous	Any other hand-woven item not previously listed. (specify)

HAND WOVEN – Using looms other than those with two (2) or more shafts. Knitting looms are excluded (e.g. inkle, triaxial, rigid heddle, card weaving, kumihimo)

CLASS	CLASS		
AMATEUR	PROFESSIONAL		
FG106	FG206	Accessories	Scarves, shawls, totes, etc.
FG107	FG207	Clothing	Made with hand woven fabric
FG108	FG208	Functional	Household and table linens, rugs, straps, etc.
FG109	FG209	Non-functional	Art pieces, wall hangings, pillow covers, etc.
FG110	FG210	Miscellaneous	Any other hand-woven item not previously listed. (specify)

HAND SPUN – skeins – minimum two (2) ounces

CLASS	CLASS		
AMATEUR	PROFESSIONAL		
FG111	FG211	Functional items constructed using hand spun fiber.	
FG112	FG212	Animal Fibers	
FG113	FG213	Plant Fibers	
FG114	FG214	Mixed Fibers	
FG115	FG215	Novelty or “Art” yarn	
FG116	FG216	Nonfunctional items constructed using handspun fiber	
FG117	FG217	Any hand spun item not listed above – specify.	

Tapestry

CLASS	CLASS		
AMATEUR	PROFESSIONAL		
FG118	FG218	Accessories	Purses, totes. etc.
FG119	FG219	Clothing	Vests, jackets. etc.
FG120	FG220	Non-functional	Art pieces, wall hangings, etc.
FG121	FG221	Miscellaneous	Any other tapestry not listed. (specify)

FELTING – includes Needle Felting, Wet Felting and Nuno Felting

CLASS	CLASS		
AMATEUR	PROFESSIONAL		
FG122	FG222	Accessories for the home.	
FG123	FG223	Accessories to wear.	
FG124	FG224	Clothing	
FG125	FG225	Pictorial	
FG126	FG226	3D Pieces	
FG127	FG227	Any other felting nor listed. (specify)	

FULLING

CLASS	CLASS		
AMATEUR	PROFESSIONAL		
FG128	FG228	Any item fullled.	

NOVICE

CLASS	
FG129	Novice – Any piece(s) woven by a weaver with less than two (2) years’ experience.
FG130	Novice – Any piece(s) hand spun by a spinner with less than two (2) years’ experience.
FG131	Novice – Any piece(s) felted by a felter with less than two (2) years’ experience.

FH • VILLAGE MODELS

Superintendents:

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Competition is limited to residents of North Carolina.
- Each exhibitor may enter two classes as desired within his/her age category.
- No entry may be entered under more than one class.
- Entry tags will be provided when exhibits are brought in.
- All exhibits must have been produced within the year September 2025- September 2026.
- Must be built on a solid base. A shoe box can be used or other base like wood, stiff cardboard..... (In the event there is a need for entry to be moved by fair staff.)
- All objects must be secured: No loose pieces.
- Should be age-appropriate and represent the primary work of the exhibitor.
- Size not to exceed 14" x 14" x 14"
- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

Criteria for Village Models Judging

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| • Originality | = 20 |
| • Neatness | = 20 |
| • Craftsmanship | = 20 |
| • Materials Used | = 20 |
| • Overall Appearance | = 20 |
| Total | = 100 |

AGE 6 - 8	AGE 9 - 13	AGE 14 - 19	AGE OVER 19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
FH001	FH101	FH201	FH301	History - A moment in time
FH002	FH102	FH202	FH302	Agriculture and/or Mountain Scenery
FH003	FH103	FH203	FH303	Animal Theme Related
FH004	FH104	FH204	FH304	Fair Theme Related "Mountain Fair, Mountain Fun"
FH005	FH105	FH205	FH305	Any other not listed above (specify)

G – CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOOTHS

Superintendent: Luke Owen

Assistant Superintendent: Adam Coulter

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibit Display Set-up: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1F, EXPO BUILDING ***New for 2026***

Exhibit Display Tear down: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

RULES AND REGULATIONS –

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Any public, private, charter etc. school in Western North Carolina is invited to participate. (Including Polk, Rutherford, McDowell, Avery and those further west)
- Entries are to be entered under the school's name, using the school's EIN number for tax purposes.
- Each school can enter one entry per class.
- Display items should be inconspicuously labeled with exhibitor's name and phone number.
- A Career-Technical Education booth should represent the school as well as the program areas available at the school such as agriculture, business, family and consumer science, health occupations, marketing, technology, trade and industrial education.
 - Booths have to be self-contained and maintained. (No live plants, No eggs, - raw or cooked)
 - Career pathways and preparation for employment and/or post-secondary education should be emphasized.
- Booth sizes are 4' wide by 4' deep and should not exceed the allotted space.
 - **The booths must be self-supporting.**
 - **The back curtain is 8' tall, the two sides and front curtain are 3'. Please adjust sides according to height.**
 - **No attaching materials to curtains!**
 - **Displays should be designed and constructed to withstand the duration of the fair.**
- Exhibits must be different each year and should reflect the theme of the fair.
- **Because of the limited number of booths available, space will be assigned on a first come, first served basis by the date and time the entry was entered online through the fair software system.**
- Participants must come back and break down their booth on **TUESDAY, September 22 from 9am – 7pm. NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**
 - Materials must be disposed of properly off fairgrounds.
 - **Exhibitors leaving trash behind will forfeit any premiums earned.**
- The NC Mountain State Fair **will not** provide tables or any other supplies for displays.
- All booths judged and awarded honorable mention will receive the premium associated with it.
- There will not be more than one ribbon awarded and one award paid for each placement in a class.

Criteria For Judging: Career-Technical Education Exhibits

Contents	= 20
Evidence of Student Involvement	= 20
Arrangement	= 25
Educational Value	= 25
Reflection of Fair's Theme: "Makin; Mountain Memories"	= 10
TOTAL	= 100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$250	Blue Rosette Ribbon
Second Place	\$200	Red Rosette Ribbon
Third Place	\$150	White Rosette Ribbon
Honorable Mention	\$60	Light Blue Rosette Ribbon

CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOOTH

CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOOTH CLASS

G001 Career-Technical Education

SPECIAL CAREER BOOTH CLASS

G002 Special Needs Career Related



H – Community Involvement Section

NC Mountain State Fair is pleased to include the Community Involvement Section. Each Department has a specific goal for public participation in different age groups. Refer to the catalog on the WNC Agriculture Center Website for complete information.

- HA - Community Club Booth (Civic, Youth and Other Non-Profit Organizations and Churches)
- HB – Assisted Living Facilities
- HC – Caps for Cancer (Sponsored by **Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair(SAFF)** Donations to Messino Cancer Center for distribution to Western North Carolina counties.
- HD – Warm Covers for Cancer Patients (Sponsored by **Novant Health.**) Donated to Messino Cancer Center for distribution to Western North Carolina counties.

HA • COMMUNITY CLUB BOOTHS

Superintendent:

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibit Display Set-up: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1F, EXPO BUILDING *****New Location for 2026*****

Exhibit Display Tear down: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- **Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.**
- **Registration must be in the association’s name using the association’s Federal ID Number, not as an individual, to be eligible for premium payout.**
 - **This is not for any school entries.**
- Competition is limited to communities in Western North Carolina (including the counties of Rutherford, McDowell, Watauga, Polk, Avery, and those farther west).
- Entries will be closed when all allotted booth space is assigned.
- Display items should be inconspicuously labeled with Club’s name and phone number.
- A Community booth should:
 - **Represent the community for which it is named.**
 - Be representative of **the activities of the community such as facilities, recreation, programs, festivals, etc.**
 - Represent **people working together to improve their community, farms, and homes. Progress being made in the community should be stressed.**
- Booth size is 4’ wide by 4’ deep and should **not** exceed the allotted space.
 - **The booths must be self-supporting.**
 - **The back curtain is 8’ tall, the two sides and front curtain are 3’. Please adjust exhibits accordingly.**
 - **No attaching materials to curtains!**
 - Booths must be self-contained and maintained. (No live plants or perishable items)
- **The exhibit must be substantially different each year. The same exhibit cannot be reused.**
- **Because of the limited number of booths available, space will be assigned on a first-come, first served basis by the date and time the entry was entered online through the fair software system.**
- Participants must come back and break down their booth on **TUESDAY, September 22 from 9am – 7pm.** Materials must be disposed of properly off fairgrounds. Exhibitors **leaving trash behind will forfeit any premiums earned.**
- Tables or any other supplies will **NOT** be supplied by the NC Mountain State Fair.
- **Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.**

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$250	Blue Rosette Ribbon
Second Place	\$200	Red Rosette Ribbon
Third Place	\$150	White Rosette Ribbon
Honorable Mention	\$60	Light Blue Rosette Ribbon

All booths judged and awarded honorable mention will receive the premium associated with it.

WESTERN CAROLINA COMMUNITY BOOTHS

CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
HA001	Civic Booth (Lions Club, Shriners, Elk, Rotary, and other civic groups)
HA002	Youth Groups (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H groups, etc.) **Please note that this class (HA002) is to be completed by youth, with some adult assistance. If youth are not doing the work for this project, the entry will be considered for display only. **
HA003	Other non-profit organizations and churches

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING COMMUNITY BOOTH EXHIBITS

Theme	Does it relate to your organization's purpose AND goals? =5, Simple - easy to understand=5	10
Educational Theme	Does it exemplify ideals represented by your organization? =15 Major points displayed in clear, concise format. =10 Contributes to knowledge of viewer. =10, Motivates others to participate. =5	40
Artistic Design & Creativity	Eye catching/originality=10 Colorful=10 Neat; Lack of clutter=10 Durability: pictures, posters, etc. securely attached=10	40
Set-up	Involvement of members in preparing exhibits, especially in youth division=10	10
	TOTAL	100

HB • RETIREMENT AND ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITIES

Superintendent: Helen Owen

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
- All articles must be made by hand and completed between September 2025 and September 2026.
- If an entry is misrepresented or the exhibitor misrepresents his/her status, the entry will be disqualified.
- There shall not be more than one ribbon awarded and one award paid for each placement in a class.

• This department is for residents of retirement and assisted living communities. If premiums are to be paid to the facility, entries must be made in the facility's name with its Tax ID number. If premiums are to be paid to residents, entries must be made in the resident's name.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

Criteria for Judging Retirement and Assisted Living Communities Crafts

- Overall Appearance = 25
 - Creativity / Design / Originality = 20
 - Quality of Workmanship = 30
 - Level of Difficulty = 15
 - Suitability of material = 10
- Total = 100**

CLASS

HB001	Cross Stitch
HB002	Crocheted or Knitted Item
HB003	Embroidered Item (Both Hand & Machine)
HB004	Swedish Weaving (Huck Weaving)
HB005	Holiday Decoration
HB006	Dried Flowers
HB007	Silk Flower Arrangement (max size 3' X 3')
HB008	Household Accessories
HB009	Needlepoint Item
HB010	Stuffed Article (Dolls, Animals, etc.)
HB011	Plastic Canvas Crafts
HB012	Diamond Art – Full – up to 1'
HB013	Diamond Art – Not Full – up to 1'
HB014	Diamond Art – Full – over 1' to 4'
HB015	Diamond Art – Not Full – over 1' to 4'
HB016	General Decorative Painting
HB017	Canvas Painting
HB018	Wood Craft (including pinecones, branches, etc.)
HB019	Paper Crafts – Flat (cards, scrapbooking page, picture mat,....)
HB020	Paper Crafts -3D (Origami, animals, flowers, household items,....)
HB021	Ornament
HB022	Wreath
HB023	Hand Quilted Item
HB024	Machine Quilted Item
HB025	Rugs – Hooked, Punched or other
HB026	Wood Working
HB027	Pottery and Ceramic
HB028	Fiber Art
HB029	Photography
HB030	Art – 2 Dimension (Must be mounted on black or white foam core if not on canvas)
HB031	Art – Mixed Media
HB032	Adult Coloring Pages
HB033	Any Other Not Listed (specify)
HB034	Jewelry
HB035	Articles made from recycled items

HC • “CAPS FOR CANCER”
Sponsored By Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair



Superintendent:

Assistant Superintendent:

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit Pick-up: Ribbons only **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY TO PICK UP RIBBONS FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

All caps will be donated to the “Messino Cancer Center” for distribution to cancer patients in Western North Carolina. They will be delivered after the Fair. All caps will be on display during the Fair.

NO CAPS WILL BE SOLD OR GIVEN TO ANYONE. ALL CAPS MUST BE DONATED TO MESSINO CANCER CENTER.

- **Each cap must contain a tag** stating: 1) Fiber content of yarn or fabric; 2) Whether item is machine washable / dryable.
- Caps made of soft, stretchy fabric such as fleece tend to be more comfortable. Cotton, Bamboo, and Tencel work very well for caps. Some acrylics and synthetic blends are also very soft and work well. No chenille yarn should be used. For more yarn suggestions and / or free patterns see the website: www.knotsoflove.org Caps should not be made from materials which cause static electricity (e.g., wool or wool blends), since these would not be usable if the patient is on oxygen.
- Because caps and beanies will most likely be rubbing against the scalp of the person wearing them, make sure that the yarn won't be scratchy or uncomfortable to wear. Example, using wool can be rough or scratchy.
- The recipients may sleep in caps; therefore, the yarn shouldn't be “lumpy”. Do not tie yarn together, as knots irritate the scalp.
- Avoid caps you can see through, as they won't protect from sun or mask hair loss.
- Patterns and colors can be the personal choice of the exhibitor. One website offering free hat patterns is crochetforcancer.org.
- The exhibitor must be a North Carolina resident *to receive a premium*. Donations are welcomed from crafters from any state.
- Caps must be machine washable and dryable.
- If exhibitor is awarded three or more places in a class, premiums will be paid for only two places. Exhibitors will receive ribbons for all three places.
- All entries to be judged must be the work of the exhibitor, completed between September 2025 and September 2026.
- **Exhibitors are encouraged to donate additional caps, which will be on display.**
- **Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.**

Criteria for Judging Caps for Cancer

Tag MUST be Included on Each Item

Suitability of Material	40
Workmanship	30
Finishing	20
General Appearance	<u>10</u>
Total	100

Fiber Content of Yarn or Fabric _____			
Item	IS	IS NOT	Machine Washable
Item	IS	IS NOT	Machine Dryable

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

Chart for different size caps:

Size	Age	Head Circumference	Hat Height
Medium	Child – Teen	20 – 22”	7 – 8”
Large	Adult	22 – 24”	8 – 10”

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$16	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$14	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$12	White Ribbon
Fourth Place	\$10	Pink Ribbon
Fifth Place	\$7	Yellow Ribbon
Best of Show	No Cash Award	Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice	No Cash Award	Red Rosette Ribbon
	<u>MOST CAPS DONATED</u>	
First Place	\$200	Individuals (Not Clubs)
Second Place	\$175	Individuals (Not Clubs)
Third Place	\$150	Individuals (Not Clubs)
Clubs	\$100	Clubs (4-HClubs, Schools, Church or Civic Groups)

Youth -- Ages 6 - 19

Class

- HC101 Crochet
- HC102 Knit
- HC103 Constructed (Any other than Crochet or Knit / including Weaving Loom)

Adult – Ages 20 - 69

Class

- HC201 Crochet
- HC202 Knit
- HC203 Constructed (Any other than Crochet or Knit / including Weaving Loom)

Senior Citizens – Ages 70 and older

Class

- HC301 Crochet
- HC302 Knit
- HC303 Constructed (Any other than Crochet or Knit / including Weaving Loom)

Club Showcase (Must have 3 or more entries, each made by a different club member. Club members may be adult or youth.

This class is for 4-H Clubs, Schools, Churches or Civic Groups, etc.) Recognition will be given to the club or group with the **most entries**; however, no other premiums will be awarded to this section of exhibitors.

Class Club Showcase

HC401 Youth Clubs

HC402 Schools

HC403 Churches

HC404 Civic Groups

OTHER

HC501 Donated Caps (not for competition)

HD • “WARM COVERS FOR CANCER”

Sponsored By



Superintendent: Christine Price

Assistant Superintendent: Rhoda Robinette

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit Pick-up: Ribbons only TUESDAY, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FOR RIBBONS FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

All quilts and afghans will be donated to the “Messino Cancer Center” for distribution to cancer patients in Western North Carolina. They will be delivered after the Fair. All entries will be on display during the Fair.

NO QUILTS OR AFGHANS WILL BE SOLD OR GIVEN TO ANYONE. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE DONATED TO and THROUGH MESSINO CANCER CENTER.

Exhibitors are encouraged to donate additional quilts and afghans, which will be on display during the fair.

Blankets

- **Yarns:** Any yarn must be suitable for frequent machine washing and drying. Good quality cotton or acrylic yarns usually meet these criteria. Some wool blends are machine washable and dryable; but it’s important to know whether these blends will cause static electricity, which would not be usable if the user is on oxygen. One good website for advice about choosing yarn is bhookedcrochet.com. Several websites offer free patterns for both knit and crochet blankets. One such website is yarnspirations.com.
- **Sizes for Blankets:** Several websites advise various sizes for chemo blankets. The most common size for a “throw” seems to be **48”wide x 72”long**. Another website suggests **40” - 42” wide x 50”– 60” long**. The blanket ideally would cover the user from the feet to the chin.

Quilts

- **Quilt Materials:** Good quality cotton fabrics are essential for quilt tops because cotton will withstand frequent washing in hot water and is machine dryable. It is suggested to avoid using red colors because they may bleed, or dark colors such as black and dark blue which may fade after multiple washings. Minky or cuddle fabrics, flannel or fleece are good for backing materials because they are soft and warm. (Again, fabric must withstand frequent laundering.) A quality light-weight batting will hold up well to washings and will not add weight to the quilt. Refer to website auntieemscrafts.com for more suggestions.
- The quilts should be quilted with a tight pattern, no more than a few inches in between. Tied quilts will likely not hold up to multiple washings and so are not acceptable for this purpose.
- **Sizes:** Quilts should be no smaller than **40” x 55”** and no larger than **60” x 75”**. Anything in between is just fine.

- Patterns and colors can be the personal choice of the exhibitor. One website which offers free quilt patterns for chemo quilts is www.victoriasquiltsCanada.com/donate-quilt-patterns.
- **Each entry must contain a tag** stating: 1) Fiber content of yarn or fabric; 2) Whether item is machine washable / dryable
- The exhibitor must be a North Carolina resident *to receive a premium*. Donations are accepted from crafters of any state.
- If exhibitor is awarded three places in a class, premiums will be paid for only two places. Exhibitors will receive ribbons for all three places.
- **Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.**

Criteria for Judging Warm Covers for Cancer

Tag MUST be Included on Each Item

Suitability of Material	40
Workmanship	30
Finishing	20
General Appearance	<u>10</u>
Total	100

Fiber Content of Yarn or Fabric _____				
Item	IS	IS NOT	Machine Washable	
Item	IS	IS NOT	Machine Dryable	

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries to be judged must be the work of the exhibitor, completed between September 2025 and September 2026.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums		Award Type / Color
	<u>QUILTS</u>	<u>AFGHANS</u>	
First Place	\$25	\$15	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$22	\$12	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$20	\$10	White Ribbon
Best of Show	No Cash Award		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice	No Cash Award		Red Rosette Ribbon
	<u>MOST WARM COVERS</u>		
	<u>DONATED</u>		
First Place	\$200		Individuals (Not Clubs)
Second Place	\$175		Individuals (Not Clubs)
Third Place	\$150		Individuals (Not Clubs)
Youth Clubs, School Groups, Church Groups and Civic Groups.	\$100		Given to the Youth Club, School Group, Church Group and Civic Group with the most Warm Covers donated.

Youth -- Ages 6 - 19

Class

- HD101 Crochet
- HD102 Knit
- HD103 Lap Quilt – Any not Crocheted or Knitted

Adult – Ages 20 - 69

Class

- HD201 Crochet
- HD202 Knit
- HD203 Lap Quilt – Any not Crocheted or Knitted

Senior Citizens – Ages 70 and older

Class

- HD301 Crochet
- HD302 Knit
- HD303 Lap Quilt – Any not Crocheted or Knitted

Club Showcase (Must have 3 or more entries, each made by a different club member. Club members may be adults or youth. This class is for Youth Clubs, Schools, Churches or Civic Groups.

Recognition will be given to the club or group with the most entries; however, no premiums for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places will be awarded to this section of exhibitors.

Class Club Showcase

- HD401 Youth
- HD402 Schools
- HD403 Churches
- HD404 Civic Groups

Class OTHER (Individuals)

- HD501 Donated Blankets or Quilts (not for competition)



I - Youth Section

The NC Mountain State Fair is pleased to offer a variety of categories for our youth ages 6- 19 within the General Exhibits & Cooking Contests as well as Livestock. Please refer to the catalog on the WNC Agriculture Center Website for complete information. Listed below are some of the opportunities for youth, but the list is not complete. Please see Youth Section in the catalog for a complete listing.

A - NURSERY & LANDSCAPING

See Department A for Youth Group or Individual class and entry information.

CA -HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS

CB – AGRONOMIC PRODUCTS

CC – COMMERCIAL APPLES

See Department for competitions open to all ages. Decorating contest divided up by age groups.

DA - ART

DB - SCHOOL ART SHOW

See Department for details on how to enter individual art pieces or group school art.

DC – PHOTOGRAPHY

See Department for details on how to enter photography pieces

EA and EB – BAKED FOODS and PRESERVED FOODS

See Departments EA and EB for details on entering

FC - WOOD TURNING

See Department for details on entering, based upon years of experience.

FH – VILLAGE MODELS

See Department for details on themes and exhibitors' age groups.

G - CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOOTHS (High School & Middle School Competition)

See Department for instructions on entering.

H - COMMUNITY BOOTHS (Youth Groups -Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, etc.) CAPS FOR CANCER & WARM COVERS FOR CANCER

See Departments HA, HC & HD for instructions on entering.

J - VERY SPECIAL ARTS

See Department for details for exhibitors with special disabilities & needs; ages 6 and older.

K - PARTICIPATION

See Department for details for exhibitors age 5 and under.

L - COOKING CONTESTS

See Department for requirements for each contest.

IA • YOUTH HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Superintendent: Luke Owen

Assistant Superintendent: Adam Coulter

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**
 Large items needing to use the forklift to load need to be picked up **before 5:00 p.m.**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All exhibits must be this year’s products. (Except for gourds.)
- Entries must be in good condition.
- **Each entry must be grown, cared for from seed or starter plant to harvest, and exhibited by the grower.**
- All entries will be discarded when unsuitable for display.
- Exhibitor must provide help to place heavy garden vegetables on display and also help to remove them when display is released.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Hints for good Horticultural fair entries:

1. Pay attention to maturity dates.
2. Control pests.
3. Select blemish-free produce.
4. Uniform size is the best selection. Example: Carrots, any type (all 3 carrots should be close to the same size).
5. Quality
6. Color
7. Make sure your entry is in the right class.
8. Be sure to prepare the exhibits according to catalog instructions.
9. Please indicate variety on entry tag.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING HORTICULTURAL PRODUCT EXHIBITS

Condition - freedom from blemish	= 30
Uniformity	= 25
Color and Finish	= 15
Size	= 15
Trueness to variety (or class)	= 15
TOTAL =	100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS

FRUIT AND POD VEGETABLES

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE		
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19		
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	
IA001	IA201	IA601	IA801	Green Beans	8
IA002	IA202	IA602	IA802	Peppers - Hot	3
IA003	IA203	IA603	IA803	Bell Peppers	3
IA004	IA204	IA604	IA804	Banana Peppers	3
IA005	IA205	IA605	IA805	Pepper - Any other sweet pepper (specify) not already listed.	3
IA006	IA206	IA606	IA806	Tomatoes - Yellow	3
IA007	IA207	IA607	IA807	Tomatoes - Red	3
IA008	IA208	IA608	IA808	Tomatoes - Heirloom (specify variety)	3
IA009	IA209	IA609	IA809	Tomatoes - Small Variety (Pear, Cherry, Grape)	8
IA010	IA210	IA610	IA810	Tomatoes - Roma	3
IA011	IA211	IA611	IA811	Eggplant	3
IA012	IA212	IA612	IA812	Okra	8
IA013	IA213	IA613	IA813	Fruit/Pod vegetable not already listed (specify)	3

LEAFY STEM AND HEADED VEGETABLES

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE		
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19		
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	
IA014	IA214	IA614	IA814	Corn, slip shuck do not cut off tips	3
IA0141	IA2141	IA6141	IA8141	Cabbage	1 head
IA015	IA215	IA615	IA815	Leafy Stem/Headed vegetable not already listed (specify)	3

ROOT BULB AND TUBER VEGETABLES

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE		
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19		
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	
IA016	IA216	IA616	IA816	Carrots	3
IA017	IA217	IA617	IA817	Beets	3
IA018	IA218	IA618	IA818	Onions	3
IA019	IA219	IA619	IA819	Potatoes	3
IA020	IA220	IA620	IA820	Sweet Potatoes	3
IA021	IA221	IA621	IA821	Root Bulb/Tuber vegetable not already listed (specify)	3

VINE VEGETABLES

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE		
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19		
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	
IA022	IA222	IA622	IA822	Squash, Summer Variety (Yellow, Zucchini)	3
IA023	IA223	IA623	IA823	Squash, Winter Variety (Acorn, Butternut)	1
IA024	IA224	IA624	IA824	Pumpkin, Lg (Best of Type) (Not Giant)	1
IA025	IA225	IA625	IA825	Pumpkins, Small Pie	1
IA026	IA226	IA626	IA826	Pumpkins, Miniature (type)	3
IA027	IA227	IA627	IA827	Kershaw	1
IA028	IA228	IA628	IA828	Candy Roaster	1
IA029	IA229	IA629	IA829	Cucumbers	3
IA030	IA230	IA630	IA830	Watermelon (Best of type) (Not Giant)	1
IA031	IA231	IA631	IA831	Vine vegetable not already listed (specify)	3 (1 if large)

ORNAMENTAL VEGETABLES

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE		
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19		
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	
IA032	IA232	IA632	IA832	Gourds - Small under 8" diameter	3
IA033	IA233	IA633	IA833	Gourds - Large over 8" diameter	1
IA034	IA234	IA634	IA834	Decorative Corn / Ornamental Corn	3
IA035	IA235	IA635	IA835	Ornamental vegetable not already listed (specify)	3 (1 if large)

FRUITS

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE		
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19		
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	
IA036	IA236	IA636	IA836	Apple, Red Delicious	3
IA037	IA237	IA637	IA837	Apple, Granny Smith	3
IA038	IA238	IA638	IA838	Apple, Golden Delicious	3
IA039	IA239	IA639	IA839	Apple, Gala	3
IA040	IA240	IA640	IA840	Apple (specify) not already listed	3
IA041	IA241	IA641	IA841	Grapes (specify)	1 bunch.
IA042	IA242	IA642	IA842	Berries (specify)	1 pint (glass container)
IA043	IA243	IA643	IA843	Fruit not already listed (specify)	3

FRUIT, VEGETABLE & GOURD ARRANGEMENTS

- Prepare a basket that you would take to a neighbor or friend sharing your garden harvest.
- Any type of basket or garden container is acceptable.
- Accessories are permitted; however, the main objects are the fruits and vegetables.
- Prepare 8 or more pieces in a decorative arrangement. No artificial fruits, vegetables or gourds can be used in arrangements. Size limit 24" by 24" by 24" and under 40 pounds.

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE		
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19		
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	
IA049	IA249	IA649	IA849	Fruit and/or vegetable arrangement in an old bucket, boot or hat	

BEST DECORATED PUMPKIN CONTEST

EXHIBITOR MAY ENTER ONLY ONE PUMPKIN

- If entry is delicate and/or accessories or pieces attached, it should be securely mounted on a solid base such as wood (no greater than 10"x 10"), so that Fair staff does not have to handle the exhibit. DO NOT PUNCTURE VEGETABLE!
- Product must be in good condition.
- No artificial produce can be used.
- Exhibitor must show creativity in the design.
- The exhibit will be discarded when unsuitable for display.

Criteria for Judging

• Originality	25
• Creativity	25
• Neatness	25
• Appeal	<u>25</u>
Total	100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IA050	IA250	IA650	IA850	Best Decorated Pumpkin (base no greater than 10"x10")

*****See Adult Horticulture section for entries for Scarecrows! This competition is open to Families and/or individual exhibitors as well as Youth/School groups*****

LARGE VEGETABLES/FRUITS

Sponsored by



*****PLEASE NOTE NEW FORMAT FOR THIS SECTION OF YOUTH HORTICULTURE*****

- All age groups will be combined for this competition. **Ages for each class will be 6 – 19 years old.**
- Instead of a premium for first place only, there will be ribbons and cash premiums for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place.
- Only one (1) entry per class per exhibitor.**

<u>Class</u>	<u>Class Description</u>
IA901	(Ages 6-19) Largest Pumpkin by Weight (Not Giant)(199 lbs or less)
IA902	(Ages 6-19) Largest Watermelon by Weight (Not Giant)(99 lbs or less)
IA903	(Ages 6-19) Sunflower, Largest Head (by seed head diameter)
IA904	(Ages 6-19) Largest Gourd (by length)
IA905	(Ages 6-19) Largest Potato (by weight)
IA906	(Ages 6-19) Largest Tomato (by weight)

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$100	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$55	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$30	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

IB • YOUTH AGRONOMIC PRODUCTS

Superintendent: Luke Owen

Assistant Superintendent: Adam Coulter

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All exhibits must be this year’s products. This does not apply to field corn.
- **Each entry must be grown, cared for from seed to harvest, and exhibited by the grower.**
- All entries will be discarded when unsuitable for display.
- **ONLY ONE ENTRY PER EXHIBITOR PER CLASS MAY BE ENTERED.**

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Agronomic Products

- Physical Condition of item = 20
 - Color = 20
 - Smell = 20
 - Texture = 20
 - Moisture Content = 20
- Total = 100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

AGRONOMIC PRODUCTS

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	CLASS DESCRIPTION
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
IB001	IB201	IB601	IB801	Hay, any variety, 1 block only
IB002	IB202	IB602	IB802	Field Corn, Yellow or White, 4 ears, shucked, do not cut off tips
IB0021	IB2021	IB6021	IB8021	Tallest Stalk of Corn (Cut off Roots)
IB003	IB203	IB603	IB803	Silage or Haylage in 1-gallon plastic bag
IB004	IB204	IB604	IB804	Any other crop not already listed (specify)
IB005	IB205	IB605	IB805	Sugar Cane
IB006	IB206	IB606	IB806	Tallest Stalk of Cane (Cut off Roots)
IB007	IB207	IB607	IB807	Processed Molasses (1 Quart)

AWARDS FOR **MOLASSES ONLY**

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$30	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$15	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$10	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

IC • YOUTH ART

Superintendent: Hillary Frye

Assistant Superintendent: Foster Smith

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Each entry must be equipped for hanging. **NO SAWTOOTH HANGERS.** (Using only tape to secure wire for hanging is **not acceptable**.) Each entry should be prepared with appropriate hanging device for presentation. Artwork presented to us with mats only: two holes will be punched in the foam core so that the work can be hung from paired hooks. Canvas pieces must have a hanging wire.
- Fair Management reserves the right to reject any artwork not in the best interest of the Fair (no nudes, semi-nudes, etc.)
- Exhibitor’s name, address, phone number, and type of media must appear on the back of each exhibit.
- **Artist signature ONLY can be visible on the front of the entry.**
- **NO TAPE to be used for mounting hanging devices to the back of artwork!**
- **Artwork not to exceed 4’ wide.**
- **All 2D Art (Paintings & Drawings) Entries not on canvas must be mounted on black or white foam core.**
- **Foam core thickness should be 1/8” or 3/16” (available at frame shops and craft stores).**
- **Artwork must have been completed between September 2025 and September 2026.**

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING ART EXHIBITS

- Impact (catches the eye) = 20
- Technical Quality = 20
- Detailed Composition (leads the eye into the picture) = 20
- Originality (creativity) = 30
- Workmanship (painting mounted neatly and in accordance with requirements) =10
- Total =100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

2D ART**PAINTINGS & DRAWINGS - 2 DIMENSION – Entries not on canvas must be mounted on black or white foam core.**

Classify your exhibit in the majority medium; otherwise use the Mixed Media class. Not to exceed 4' Wide

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IC001	IC201	IC601	IC801	Acrylic
IC002	IC202	IC602	IC802	Printing (Block Print, Stamping, Rubbings)
IC003	IC203	IC603	IC803	Digital (Any work with aid of computer & printer)
IC004	IC204	IC604	IC804	Color Pencil
IC005	IC205	IC605	IC805	Crayon
IC006	IC206	IC606	IC806	Mixed Media
IC007	IC207	IC607	IC807	Oil
IC008	IC208	IC608	IC808	Pastels (Soft and Oil)
IC009	IC209	IC609	IC809	Pen & Ink
IC010	IC210	IC610	IC810	Black & White Drawing (Pencil or Charcoal)
IC011	IC211	IC611	IC811	Tempera Paints
IC012	IC212	IC612	IC812	Watercolor
IC013	IC213	IC613	IC813	Any Other Not Listed (Specify)

3D ART**3 DIMENSION ARTWORK - Non-hanging items Not to exceed 4' Wide**

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IC014	IC214	IC614	IC814	Clay
IC015	IC215	IC615	IC815	Wire
IC016	IC216	IC616	IC816	Stone
IC017	IC217	IC617	IC817	Mixed Media
IC018	IC218	IC618	IC818	Fiber Art
IC019	IC219	IC619	IC819	Any Other Not Listed (Specify)

ID • YOUTH PHOTOGRAPHY

Superintendent: Marshall Muse

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY OF PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS –

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

• ENTRIES LIMITED: EXHIBITOR MAY ENTER ONLY 5 PHOTOGRAPHY ENTRIES WITH LIMIT OF 2 PER CLASS.

- **Individual photograph** must be 8" x 10" or 10" x 8". Pictures must be mounted on black or white foam core. Foam core board must be 11" x 14" or 14" x 11".
- **Story Telling Photos** must be 4 total pictures that are 5" x 7" or 7" x 5" mounted on black or white foam core. Foam core board must be 11" x 30".

- Foam core thickness should be 1/8" or 3/16" (available at frame shops and craft stores).
- No frames, no glass, no mats, no embellishments or titles, no borders around pictures.
- All entries must be black and white or color photographic, inkjet or laser prints.
- Pictures must be the bona fide property and work of the exhibitor and must have been made by the exhibitor.
- Photos must have been taken between September 2025 and September 2026.
- Do not enter pictures that have been entered in previous fairs. They will be disqualified.
- Exhibitor's name, address and phone number must appear on the back of each exhibit.
- **Fair Management reserves the right to reject any print not in the best interest of the Fair (no nudes, semi-nudes, etc.).**

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITS

Impact (effect on viewer, catches the eye and holds attention, mood and storytelling qualities)	= 35
Composition (arrangement, completeness and balance of picture elements)	= 35
Technical Quality (sharpness, clarity, etc.)	= 20
Workmanship (prepared and mounted neatly and securely to meet requirements)	= 10
	Total = 100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon



NEW & EXCITING FOR THIS YEAR:

The *Photographic Society of America* will be supplying a **PSA Excellence Award Ribbon** and **certificate**, along with a **free two-year PSA Membership** to the *Best of Show* winners to both Adult and Youth competitors. A "Best of Show" will be awarded in Color Prints and Black & White Prints.

COLOR PRINTS

AGE 6-8 CLASS	AGE 9-11 CLASS	AGE 12-14 CLASS	AGE 15-19 CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
ID001	ID201	ID601	ID801	Agriculture Related
ID002	ID202	ID602	ID802	Plants & Flowers
ID003	ID203	ID603	ID803	Animals/Insects - in nature, natural habitat
ID004	ID204	ID604	ID804	Animals - pets, tamed, domesticated.
ID005	ID205	ID605	ID805	Landscape - nature, scenic
ID006	ID206	ID606	ID806	Landscape - architectural, abstract
ID007	ID207	ID607	ID807	People & Portraits
ID008	ID208	ID608	ID808	2025 the NC Mountain State Fair
ID009	ID209	ID609	ID809	Story Telling Sequence (4)
ID010	ID210	ID610	ID810	Computer altered, edited, use of filters, or other techniques.

BLACK & WHITE PRINTS

AGE 6-8 CLASS	AGE 9-11 CLASS	AGE 12-14 CLASS	AGE 15-19 CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
ID011	ID211	ID611	ID811	Agriculture Related
ID012	ID212	ID612	ID812	Plants & Flowers
ID013	ID213	ID613	ID813	Animals/Insects - in nature, natural habitat
ID014	ID214	ID614	ID814	Animals - pets, tamed, domesticated.
ID015	ID215	ID615	ID815	Landscape
ID016	ID216	ID616	ID816	People & Portraits
ID017	ID217	ID617	ID817	2025 NC Mountain State Fair
ID018	ID218	ID618	ID818	Computer altered, edited, use of filters, or other techniques.
ID019	ID219	ID619	ID819	Story Telling Sequence (4)

IE • YOUTH BAKED FOODS

Superintendent: Renay Knapp

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Ribbons & photographs ONLY) **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP OF RIBBONS FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Enter **1/2 cake** only (unless otherwise noted) except for decorated cakes.
- Place cake and/or bread on piece of heavy cardboard. The cardboard shall be covered with foil.
- Place each entry in a large, clear plastic Ziplock bag (except decorated cakes) or clear cake container. (Cake container *will not* be returned.)
- An accurate recipe must accompany item. Please place the recipe in a plastic bag for protection, please NO tape. The recipe should be on an 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper typed or printed in ink with exhibitor's name, age, and county. ***Entry will NOT be judged if there is no recipe.*** Recipes become the property of the NC Mountain State Fair and may be published without compensation to exhibitor..
- The same product may not be shared for entry by more than one individual. Violators (all individuals) will be disqualified.
- "Any Other" or "Miscellaneous" categories at the end of each class are only for items which are not listed in preceding categories. They are not for duplication.
- Decorated cakes will be judged for decoration only and displayed during the fair. It is suggested to make these cakes out of foam, then decorate.
- All entries must be **made from scratch unless otherwise stated** (Except decorated cakes and decorated cupcakes and doctored cake mixes.)
- Coconut layer cake must have coconut in the icing.
- Pictures of all entries will be taken for display. After judging, the entries will be donated.(Except decorated cakes, and cupcakes)
- There will not be more than one ribbon awarded and one award paid for each placement in a class.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

BREADS, ROLLS, MUFFINS, QUICK BREADS, BISCUITS

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	CLASS DESCRIPTION
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
IE001	IE201	IE601	IE801	Yeast Bread, 1/2 loaf
IE002	IE202	IE602	IE802	Quick bread, 1/2 loaf
IE003	IE203	IE603	IE803	Muffins or rolls from scratch, 4
IE004	IE204	IE604	IE804	Biscuits, Plain, from scratch, 4

CAKES, PIES

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IE005	IE205	IE605	IE805	Pound Cake, any type, 1/2 cake
IE006	IE206	IE606	IE806	Any Layer Cake, any frosting, 1/2 cake
IE007	IE207	IE607	IE807	Cupcakes - 6
IE008	IE208	IE608	IE808	Pies, any

DECORATED CAKES, CUPCAKES

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IE009	IE209	IE609	IE809	Decorated Cake
IE010	IE210	IE610	IE810	Decorated Cupcakes

COOKIES

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IE011	IE211	IE611	IE811	Cookies, Drop, 1/2 dozen
IE012	IE212	IE612	IE812	Cookies, Rolled, 1/2 dozen
IE013	IE213	IE613	IE813	Cookies, Bar, 1/2 dozen
IE014	IE214	IE614	IE814	Cookies, Decorated, 1/2 dozen

CANDY

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IE015	IE215	IE615	IE815	Fudge, cooked, old fashioned beaten chocolate, 6 pieces
IE016	IE216	IE616	IE816	Fudge-like candy, any type or flavor, 6 pieces
IE017	IE217	IE617	IE817	Mints, quick method, not pulled, 6 pieces
IE018	IE218	IE618	IE818	Any candy-toffee, caramel, etc., 6 pieces

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING BAKED FOODS-BREAD

General appearance (shape, proper “dome”, smoothness, crust, color)	= 10
Lightness	= 10
Crust (thickness, quality, crispness, tenderness)	= 10
Crumb (color and texture)	= 15
Texture (no streaks or close grain)	= 25
Flavor (taste and odor -sweet, nutty blend)	= 30
TOTAL	= 100

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING BAKED FOODS-CAKES

General appearance (surface - crust or frosting; crust - color, texture, depth; frosting - glossy, not granular, soft, not sticky, suitable flavor; filling, if applicable - minimum 1/4”, fluffy, good flavor blend)	= 30
Texture (Butter Cakes - tender, fine, even grain; Fruit Cakes - not sticky or gummy, dry or crumbly)	= 35
Flavor (delicate and pleasing, natural flavor)	= 35
TOTAL	= 100

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING BAKED FOODS-COOKIES

Appearance (outside - uniform, not too thick; size - not over 3”; surface-texture and color)	= 30
Texture (characteristic of type)	= 35
Flavor (natural flavor of ingredients)	= 35
TOTAL	= 100

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING BAKED FOODS-CANDIES

Appearance (color, size and shape of pieces)	= 15
Texture (crystalline - velvety, creamy, smooth)	= 30
Consistency (crystalline - firm, not hard or soft; non-crystalline - should hold shape, no crystals)	= 25
Flavor (blended, high quality, pleasing)	= 30
TOTAL	= 100

IF • YOUTH PRESERVED FOODS

Superintendent: Cathy Hohenstein

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- In order to award premiums on a quality basis, containers may be opened.
- Exhibits will be ruled out when not in standard canning jars of the specified size. Please include the ring with two-piece lids. This does not include flavored vinegars. Do not use decorative fabric under the ring.
- Unless an article is of good quality, no premiums will be awarded.
- **All products must be processed according to recognized safe methods found in the most recent editions of the Ball Blue Book or the USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning. Inverted jams and jellies will not be judged. See these instructions on Page 33.**
- All jars must be labeled as to content, processing method (pressure canner or boiling water bath) and processing time.
- Dried fruits, vegetables and herbs must be labeled as to content and method used for drying.
- There will not be more than one ribbon awarded and one award paid for each placement in a class.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

ENTRIES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED IF NOT LABELED.

Sample label	Content:	Green Beans
	Processing method:	Pressure Canned / # of pounds
	Processing time:	25 minutes

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

CANNED FRUITS (PINT OR QUART JARS)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IF001	IF201	IF601	IF801	Applesauce
IF002	IF202	IF602	IF802	Peaches (whole or slices)
IF003	IF203	IF603	IF803	Other Fruit not already listed (specify)

CANNED VEGETABLES (PINT OR QUART JARS)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IF004	IF204	IF604	IF804	Tomatoes (whole or quartered, water packed)
IF005	IF205	IF605	IF805	Tomato Juice
IF006	IF206	IF606	IF806	Beans (Green, Snap or Wax)
IF007	IF207	IF607	IF807	Vegetable not already listed (specify)

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Color: That of natural fruit or vegetables	= 20
Liquid: Appropriate for product and method of processing	= 10
Appearance: Uniformly well-ripened products; no defective or overripe fruits or vegetables. Only young fruits and vegetables should be canned.	= 40
Appropriate size: Uniformity of shape and size appropriate for product	= 10
Pack: Arrangement with reference to symmetry and best use of space within the jar. Attractiveness of pack should be considered, but not time-wasting fancy packs.	= 10
Jar Fill: Containers should be filled to level specified by standard recommendations	= 10
TOTAL = 100	

DRIED FRUITS, VEGETABLES, HERBS (PINT JARS FOR FRUITS/VEG, HALF PINT OR PINT JARS FOR HERBS)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IF008	IF208	IF608	IF808	Dried Fruits
IF009	IF209	IF609	IF809	Dried Vegetables
IF010	IF210	IF610	IF810	Dried Herbs

•Fruits and vegetables may be dried by any method. They should be placed in **Pint** jars with tight fitting lids. Herbs may be placed in **Half-Pint** or **Pint** jars. Label contents and give method used for drying. Each jar should contain enough dried fruits, vegetables or herbs to give a good sample of the item.

JELLY FROM HOME-PREPARED JUICE (HALF PINT OR PINT JARS)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IF011	IF211	IF611	IF811	Apple Jelly (home-prepared juice)
IF012	IF212	IF612	IF812	Grape Jelly (home-prepared juice)
IF013	IF213	IF613	IF813	Blackberry Jelly
IF014	IF214	IF614	IF814	Jelly not already listed (specify)

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING JELLY

Color: pronounced, yet natural color	= 10
Clearness: transparent and sparkling	= 10
Crystals: lack of crystals; no sign of crystallization	= 10
Flavor: natural fruit flavor	= 30
Consistency: tender; breaks with distinct cleavage, angles hold shape; should not be syrupy, sticky or tough	= 35
Jar Fill Process: fill jars to within 1/4" of top of standard canning jars and process in boiling water bath	= 5
TOTAL = 100	

PRESERVES (HALF PINTS or PINTS)

- Preserves contain whole fruits or fruit pieces that retain their shape and are clear, shiny, tender, and plump. The fruits are suspended in a clear syrup that is the consistency of honey or soft jelly. These products should be filled to within 1/4" of top of standard canning jars and must be processed in a boiling water bath for airtight seal (no paraffin).

PRESERVES (HALF PINT OR PINT JARS)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IF015	IF215	IF615	IF815	Peach Preserves
IF016	IF216	IF616	IF816	Strawberry Preserves
IF017	IF217	IF617	IF817	Preserves not already listed (specify)

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING PRESERVES

Shape: Fruit should be whole and have original shape as nearly as possible	= 10
Clearness and Color: Fruit should be translucent and not too dark; liquid should be clear	= 25
Flavor: Natural fruit flavor, not overpowered with too much sugar	= 30
Texture: Tender, but firm and plump	= 10
Pack and Fill: Arrangement of fruit with reference to symmetry of jar; filled to within 1/4" of top, water bath processed	= 5
Consistency: Juice should be of honey consistency or slightly jellied	= 10
Proportion of Syrup: About one-third as much syrup as fruit	= 10
TOTAL =	100

JAM, BUTTER, (HALF PINT or PINT)

Jam is made from crushed fruits cooked to a smooth consistency that will mound up on a spoon but not jelly firm.

Butter is pureed fruit cooked to a smooth consistency. These products should be filled to within 1/4" of top of standard canning jars and must be processed in a boiling water bath for airtight seal (no paraffin).

JAM, BUTTER (HALF PINT OR PINT JARS)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IF018	IF218	IF618	IF818	Peach Jam
IF019	IF219	IF619	IF819	Blueberry Jam
IF020	IF220	IF620	IF820	Blackberry Jam
IF021	IF221	IF621	IF821	Strawberry Jam
IF022	IF222	IF622	IF822	Jam not already listed (specify)
IF023	IF223	IF623	IF823	Apple Butter
IF024	IF224	IF624	IF824	Butter not already listed (specify)

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING BUTTER, CONSERVE, AND JAM

Smoothness: tender fruit with smooth texture	= 20
Flavor: natural fruit flavor, not overpowered with added ingredients or spices	= 35
Consistency and Texture: tender and will mound in spoon; not tough, sticky, or gummy; spreads easily	= 30
Color and Clearness: shiny fruit color;	= 10
Jar Fill Process: fill jars to within 1/4" of top of standard canning jars and process in boiling water bath	= 5
TOTAL =	100

PICKLES, RELISH (HALF PINT, PINT OR QUART JARS)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IF025	IF225	IF625	IF825	Bread and Butter Pickles
IF026	IF226	IF626	IF826	Cucumber Pickles - Sweet
IF027	IF227	IF627	IF827	Cucumber Pickles - Sour
IF028	IF228	IF628	IF828	Vegetable Pickles not already listed (specify)
IF029	IF229	IF629	IF829	Relish - All types

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING PICKLES AND RELISH

Size and Shape: Uniform size and shape	= 10
Flavor: Natural flavor in fruit pickles; Not over-spiced	= 30
Texture: Firm, not tough, soft or flabby	= 30
Color: As near natural color as possible (unless specified)	= 15
Proportion of Pickle to Liquid: Jars filled with pickles; liquid to cover and fill spaces	= 10
Jar Fill Process: Fill jars to within 1/2" of top of standard canning jars and process in boiling water bath	= 5

TOTAL = 100

SAUCES (PINT OR QUART JARS)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IF030	IF230	IF630	IF830	Salsa
IF031	IF231	IF631	IF831	Any other sauces (specify) not listed.

IG • YOUTH CRAFTS

Superintendent: Jennifer Bryant

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: TUESDAY, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
- All articles must be made by hand, within the time period September 2025 - September 2026.
- If an entry is misrepresented or the exhibitor misrepresents his/her status, the entry will be disqualified.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

Criteria for Judging Youth Crafts

• Overall Appearance	= 25
• Creativity / Design / Originality	= 20
• Quality of Workmanship	= 30
• Level of Difficulty	= 15
• Suitability of material	= 10
Total	=100

CRAFTS, GENERAL

Not to exceed 2' by 2'

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	CLASS DESCRIPTION
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
IG001	IG201	IG601	IG801	Toothpick Art
IG002	IG202	IG602	IG802	Household Accessories (not to exceed 2' X 2')
IG003	IG203	IG603	IG803	Silk Arrangement (not to exceed 2' X 2')
IG004	IG204	IG604	IG804	Tie Dying
IG005	IG205	IG605	IG805	Toys (not to exceed 2' X 2')
IG006	IG206	IG606	IG806	Wall Hanging (not to exceed 2' X 2')
IG007	IG207	IG607	IG807	Beadwork (other than jewelry)(not to exceed 2' X 2')
IG008	IG208	IG608	IG808	Key Chains
IG009	IG209	IG609	IG809	Hair Accessories
IG010	IG210	IG610	IG810	Clothes Pin / Stick Art
IG011	IG211	IG611	IG811	Button Art
IG0111	IG2111	IG6111	IG8111	Handicraft Not Listed (Specify)

CRAFTS, 3D

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IG012	IG212	IG612	IG812	Candle Making (not to exceed 1' X 1')
IG013	IG213	IG613	IG813	Ceramics (not to exceed 1' X 1')
IG014	IG214	IG614	IG814	Pottery (not to exceed 1' X 1')
IG015	IG215	IG615	IG815	Metal Crafts – (not to exceed 1' X 1')
IG016	IG216	IG616	IG816	Paper Crafts – (not to exceed 1' X 1')
IG017	IG217	IG617	IG817	Plaster Crafts – (not to exceed 1' X 1')
IG018	IG218	IG618	IG818	Plastic Crafts (not to exceed 1' X 1')
IG019	IG219	IG619	IG819	Painted Rocks – (Max 6" X 6")

YARD ART

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IG062	IG262	IG662	IG862	Decorated Bird Houses – Kits – Max size 12"x12"x12"
IG063	IG263	IG663	IG863	Decorated Bird Houses – Non-Kits – Max size 12"x12"x12"
IG064	IG264	IG664	IG864	Decorated Stepping Stone – Max size 12"x12"
IG065	IG265	IG665	IG865	Decorated Terra Cotta Pots – Max size 12" diameter
IG067	IG267	IG667	IG867	Any Other Yard Art Not Listed

STUFFED ARTICLES (Machine or Hand)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IG021	IG221	IG621	IG821	Sewn - Stuffed articles
IG022	IG222	IG622	IG822	Hand knitted/crocheted - Stuffed articles
IG023	IG223	IG623	IG823	Toys
IG024	IG224	IG624	IG824	Household Accessories (potholders, pillows, etc...)

NEEDLE / HAND CRAFTS

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IG025	IG225	IG625	IG825	Cross Stitch, Counted
IG026	IG226	IG626	IG826	Embroidered/Needlepoint Items
IG027	IG227	IG627	IG827	Leather Crafts
IG028	IG228	IG628	IG828	Latch Hook
IG029	IG229	IG629	IG829	Stenciling
IG030	IG230	IG630	IG830	Diamond Art – Full – up to 1'
IG031	IG231	IG631	IG831	Diamond Art – Not Full – up to 1'
IG032	IG232	IG632	IG832	Diamond Art – Full – over 1' to 4'
IG033	IG233	IG633	IF833	Diamond Art – Not Full – over 1' to 4'

SEWN (Machine or Hand)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IG034	IG234	IG634	IG834	Sewn - Housewares
IG035	IG235	IG635	IG835	Sewn - Accessories (wearable or non)
IG036	IG236	IG636	IG836	Sewn - Item not already listed (Specify)

KNITTED & CROCHETED (Machine or Hand)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IG037	IG237	IG637	IG837	Knitted/crocheted - Accessories (non-wearable)
IG038	IG238	IG638	IG838	Knitted/crocheted - Housewares

QUILTED (Machine or Hand)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IG039	IG239	IG639	IG839	Quilted - Accessories / Housewares (non-wearable)

HOLIDAY OR SEASONAL DECORATIONS

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IG040	IG240	IG640	IG840	Fall Wreath
IG041	IG241	IG641	IG841	Fall Centerpiece
IG042	IG242	IG642	IG842	Christmas Wreath
IG043	IG243	IG643	IG843	Christmas Centerpiece
IG044	IG244	IG644	IG844	Christmas Ornaments
IG045	IG245	IG645	IG845	Christmas Stocking
IG046	IG246	IG646	IG846	Christmas Apron
IG047	IG247	IG647	IG847	Table Runner
IG048	IG248	IG648	IG848	Christmas Tree Skirt
IG049	IG249	IG649	IG849	Christmas Tree Topper
IG050	IG250	IG650	IG850	Autumn Decoration
IG051	IG251	IG651	IG851	Spring Decoration
IG052	IG252	IG652	IG852	Summer Decoration
IG053	IG253	IG653	IG853	Winter Decoration

TIN PUNCH

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IG054	IG254	IG654	IG854	Flat Sheet
IG055	IG255	IG655	IG855	3D Object (cans, pans, tin boxes, etc....)

DUCT TAPE

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IG056	IG256	IG656	IG856	Wall Hanging
IG057	IG257	IG657	IG857	Floral Arrangement
IG058	IG258	IG658	IG858	Christmas Ornament
IG059	IG259	IG659	IG859	Wallet / Purses
IG060	IG260	IG660	IG860	Hair Accessory
IG061	IG261	IG661	IG861	Jewelry

IH • YOUTH CLOTHING

Superintendent: Mandy Sanders

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

RULES AND REGULATIONS –

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
- Only 3 entries per class may be entered.
- Clothing must be made between September 2025 and September 2026.
- **Bring entries on hangers and covered in a CLEAR plastic bag.**
- Items that cannot be displayed on hangers must be in a Clear plastic bag.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING CLOTHING EXHIBITS

General Appearance, color combination, neatness, originality, cleanliness = 25

Design in relationship to fabric selection = 25

Workmanship fabric cut on grain, appropriate choice of seams, hems, finishes, and = 50

their proper execution; perfection of stitches and construction details.

appropriate choice of closures (buttons, zippers, snaps, hooks, and eyes, etc.) and

their proper application

TOTAL = 100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

SEWN (Machine or Hand)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
Class	Class	Class	Class	Class Description
IH001	IH201	IH601	IH801	Sewn - Garment or Outfit (1 or more pieces)
IH002	IH202	IH602	IH802	Sewn - Costume
IH003	IH203	IH603	IH803	Sewn - Item not already listed (Specify).

KNITTED & CROCHETED (Machine or Hand)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
Class	Class	Class	Class	Class Description
IH004	IH204	IH604	IH804	Knitted/crocheted - Garment or Outfit (1 or more pieces)
IH005	IH205	IH605	IH805	Knitted/crocheted - Accessories (wearable)

II • YOUTH QUILTED ITEMS

Superintendent: Laura Jones

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor, completed between September 2025 and September 2026.
- The judge will have the right not to award a first place ribbon/award if the item does not merit the placing.
- Awards in any class will be given only if merited.
- There shall not be more than one ribbon awarded and one award paid for each placement in a class.
- **A hanging sleeve finishing at 4" is required for all quilts wider than 50".** For more information, go to americanquilter.com/hanging-sleeve-instructions.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$25	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$15	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$10	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

Criteria for Quilt Judging

- Visual Impact
- Design
- Workmanship

QUILTED (Machine or Hand)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
11001	11201	11601	11801	Wall hanging
11002	11202	11602	11802	Bed/Lap Quilt (any size)

IJ • YOUTH HAND WEAVING & SPINNING

Superintendent: Micheline “Rusti” Nichols

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

• Each entry must be the work of the exhibitor, completed between September 2025 and September 2026.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

Criteria for Weaving & Spinning Judging

• Workmanship	= 20
• Level of Difficulty	= 20
• Design, including color and texture	= 20
• Appropriate Pattern Technique	= 20
• Creative use of materials or fabric	= 20
Total	=100

SPINNING, WEAVING & FELTING

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IJ001	IJ201	IJ601	IJ801	Weaving - Clothing
IJ002	IJ202	IJ602	IJ802	Weaving - Household Accessories
IJ003	IJ203	IJ603	IJ803	Weaving - Any other (Specify)
IJ004	IJ204	IJ604	IJ804	Felting - Clothing
IJ005	IJ205	IJ605	IJ805	Felting - Household Accessories
IJ006	IJ206	IJ606	IJ806	Felting - Any other (specify)
IJ007	IJ207	IJ607	IJ807	Hand Spun Yarn

IK • YOUTH JEWELRY

Superintendent: Joanna Crain

Assistant Superintendent: Emma Crain

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: TUESDAY, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
- All articles must be made by hand and completed between September 2025 and September 2026.
- If an entry is misrepresented or the exhibitor misrepresents his/her status, the entry will be disqualified.
- There shall not be more than one ribbon awarded, and one award paid for each placement in a class.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

Criteria for Jewelry Judging

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| • Craftsmanship | = 20 |
| • Material Quality | = 20 |
| • Color Selection | = 20 |
| • Originality | = 20 |
| • Artistry | = 20 |
| Total | =100 |

JEWELRY

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IK001	IK201	IK601	IK801	Beaded
IK002	IK202	IK602	IK802	Wire
IK003	IK203	IK603	IK803	Recyclables
IK004	IK204	IK604	IK804	Clay
IK005	IK205	IK605	IK805	Clay Beads
IK006	IK206	IK606	IK806	Braided/Woven
IK007	IK207	IK607	IK807	Rings
IK008	IK208	IK608	IK808	Any Jewelry Not Listed (Specify)

IL • YOUTH WOOD CRAFTS

Superintendent:

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
- All entries must have been completed between September 2025 and September 2026.
- All items must be of wood.
- The Mountain State Fair reserves the right to add, delete, or combine categories and/or classes.
- The Mountain State Fair reserves the right to refuse items that it considers not in good taste.
- If an entry is misrepresented or the exhibitor misrepresents his/her status, the entry will be disqualified.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Wood Crafts

•Originality & Design – Unusual and Exceptional interpretation of the subject matter: true to life	25
•Skill – Difficulty of carving	25
•Surface Finish – sanding where applicable; cleanliness of finish and application of finish.	25
•Final Representation – Decorative value and worthiness of exhibit	<u>25</u>
Total	100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

WOOD CRAFTS

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IL001	IL201	IL601	IL801	Wood Burning
IL002	IL202	IL602	IL802	Wood Carving
IL003	IL203	IL603	IL803	Wood Working, small, under 1’, Kits
IL004	IL204	IL604	IL804	Wood Working, large, max 2’ x 2’, Kits
IL005	IL205	IL605	IL805	Wood Working, small, under 1’, NO kits
IL006	IL206	IL606	IL806	Wood Working, large, max 2’ x 2’, NO kits
IL007	IL207	IL607	IL807	Wood Walking Stick (Max Length 60”)
IL008	IL208	IL608	IL808	Bird Feeder, no larger than 12” X 12” X 12”
IL009	IL209	IL609	IL809	Bird House, no larger than 12” X 12” X 12”
IL010	IL210	IL610	IL810	Any Wood Craft Not Listed (Specify)

IM • YOUTH BUILDING BLOCKS

Superintendent: Andrew Ruffle

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Each entry must be the work of the exhibitor, completed between September 2025 and September 2026.
- **Must have a solid base, not to exceed 2' wide by 2' long by 3' high.**
- **Exhibitors are limited to 4 exhibits for this department, only 1 entry in a class.**

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Building Blocks

- Creativity, Overall Concept and Originality – clever and unusual usage of the building blocks = 25
 - Presentation and General Appearance = 25
 - Degree of Difficulty = 25
 - Craftsmanship – Excellent skill and technique = 25
- Total =100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

KITS (NOT TO EXCEED 2'W X 2'L X 3'H)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IM001	IM201	IM601	IM801	Plastic Block, Lego, Duplo, Building Blocks
IM002	IM202	IM602	IM802	Wooden Block, Building Blocks, Logs
IM003	IM203	IM603	IM803	Wood Puzzle/Sticks, Fiddle Sticks, Tinker Toy, 3D Wood
IM004	IM204	IM604	IM804	Metal
IM005	IM205	IM605	IM805	Plastic Connectors, Crazy Connectors, Knex, Magnetic Builders
IM006	IM206	IM606	IM806	Plastic Connectors/Blocks with Working Parts
IM010	IM210	IM610	IM810	Any Building Block <u>Kits</u> Not Listed (Specify)

NON-KITS (NOT TO EXCEED 2'W X 2'L X 3'H)

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
IM007	IM207	IM607	IM807	Plastic Block, Lego, Duplo, Building Blocks - No Kits
IM008	IM208	IM608	IM808	Wooden Block, Building Blocks, Logs - No Kits
IM009	IM209	IM609	IM809	Plastic Connectors, Crazy Connectors, Knex, Magnetic Builders – No Kits
IM011	IM211	IM611	IM811	Any <u>Non-Kit</u> Building Blocks Not Listed (Specify)

IN • YOUTH RECYCLING

Superintendent:

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: TUESDAY, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

• Each entry must be the work of the exhibitor, completed between September 2025 and September 2026.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Recycling

- Effective use of recycled / reused materials = 25
 - Originality and Innovation = 25
 - Creativity = 25
 - Overall Presentation = 25
- Total =100**

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge’s Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

RECYCLING

Not to exceed 2’ wide by 2’ long by 3’ high.

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	CLASS DESCRIPTION
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
IN001	IN201	IN601	IN801	Toys
IN002	IN202	IN602	IN802	Art / Decoration
IN003	IN203	IN603	IN803	Yard Art
IN004	IN204	IN604	IN804	Accessories
IN005	IN205	IN605	IN805	Any Recycled Item Not Listed (Specify)

IP • YOUTH FLOWER & GARDEN

Superintendent: Grace Sanders

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: TUESDAY, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

• Each entry must be grown, cared for from seed to harvest, and exhibited by the grower.

- Must be established for at least 30 days- 20 pounds max.
- All plant material in horticultural specimen classes must be grown by the exhibitor, from seed or transplants.
- Artificial flowers and silk flowers are not permitted. Dry materials may be treated. Fresh plant material may not be treated, or in any way artificially altered by paint, dye, stain, etc.
- Any endangered species or extremely invasive plants may disqualify exhibit.
- Exhibitors are responsible for knowing what flowers and what class to enter. Entry tags will not be corrected after Exhibitor leaves the building.
- Exhibitors are limited to 2 entries per class.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Flower & Garden

- Form. Shape and symmetry of petals 25
- Size of bloom / leaf 25
- Color of bloom / leaf 25
- Condition – Refers to damage from 25
 - W – Weather
 - I - Insects
 - S – Spraying
 - H - Handling

Total = 100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

CONTAINER GROWN -FLOWERING ANNUALS - Grown in exhibitor's container - maximum size 12" x 12" x 12"

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	CLASS DESCRIPTION
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
IP001	IP201	IP601	IP801	One variety
IP002	IP202	IP602	IP802	Two or more varieties

CONTAINER GROWN -FLOWERING PERENNIALS - Grown in exhibitor's container - maximum size 12" x 12" x 12"

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IP003	IP203	IP603	IP803	One variety
IP004	IP204	IP604	IP804	Two or more varieties

CONTAINER GROWN -CULINARY HERBS - Grown in exhibitor's container - maximum size 12" x 12" x 12", with or without blooms

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IP005	IP205	IP605	IP805	Basil
IP006	IP206	IP606	IP806	Mint
IP007	IP207	IP607	IP807	Oregano
IP008	IP208	IP608	IP808	Parsley
IP009	IP209	IP609	IP809	Rosemary
IP010	IP210	IP610	IP810	Sage
IP011	IP211	IP611	IP811	Lavender
IP012	IP212	IP612	IP812	Any herb not listed (specify)

CONTAINER GROWN - No Hanging Containers. Grown in exhibitor's container - maximum size 18" x 18" x 18"

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IP013	IP213	IP613	IP813	Fairy Garden, 2 or more plants, accessories
IP014	IP214	IP614	IP814	Terrarium garden - Animal Theme
IP015	IP215	IP615	IP815	Terrarium garden - House/Village Theme
IP016	IP216	IP616	IP816	Terrarium garden - Fair Theme <i>"Mountain Fair, Mountain Fun"</i>
IP017	IP217	IP617	IP817	Plants in a container from kitchen
IP018	IP218	IP618	IP818	Any other not listed (specify)

LARGEST GROWN ITEMS

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IP019	IP219	IP619	IP819	Largest Elephant Leaf

MISCELLANEOUS

AGE	AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-8	9-11	12-14	15-19	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
IP020	IP220	IP620	IP820	Any Floral Item Not Already Listed (Specify)

IR • YOUTH MODELS

Superintendent:

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Each entry must be the work of the exhibitor, completed between September 2025 and September 2025.
- **Must have a solid base which must be 2" larger than model; and model, not to exceed 22" wide by 14" deep by 16" high.**
- Models can be glued, painted, or snapped together.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Models

- Overall Appearance: Models will score higher with paint job than those without, decals should be neat; all parts of a car should be painted or chromed, except tires. = 30
- Creativity = 30
- Quality of Workmanship: Lack of glue smears & paint blobs, parts fit, parts belong to model. = 40
- Total = 100**

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

KITS

AGES <u>6-8</u>	AGES <u>9-11</u>	AGES <u>12-14</u>	AGES <u>15-19</u>	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
IR001	IR201	IR601	IR801	Auto
IR002	IR202	IR602	IR802	Planes
IR003	IR203	IR603	IR803	Trains
IR004	IR204	IR604	IR804	Boats
IR005	IR205	IR605	IR805	Spaceships / Space Vehicles
IR006	IR206	IR606	IR806	Any Other not listed (specify)

NON-KITS

AGES <u>6-8</u>	AGES <u>9-11</u>	AGES <u>12-14</u>	AGES <u>15-19</u>	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
IR007	IR207	IR607	IR807	Auto
IR008	IR208	IR608	IR808	Planes
IR009	IR209	IR609	IR809	Trains
IR010	IR210	IR610	IR810	Boats
IR011	IR211	IR611	IR811	Spaceships / Space Vehicles
IR012	IR212	IR612	IR812	Any Other not listed (specify)

IU • YOUTH PENMANSHIP

Superintendent:

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibits pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Each entry must be the work of the exhibitor, completed between September 2025 and September 2026.
- Printing for Ages 6 – 8 – Alphabet Only (both the lower- and upper-case letters.....Aa, Bb, Cc.....Zz)
- Cursive writing for Ages 9 – 14 (Cursive writing joins 50% or more of its letters) Consists of the alphabet in both lower- and upper-case letters (*Aa, Bb, Cc ... Zz*) followed by the Pledge of Allegiance in its correct form.
- The entire entry on one sheet of paper.
- Entry must be mounted on 11' X 14" foam core board

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging

- | | |
|---|------------|
| • Legibility: How easy to read? | 25 |
| • Competence: Spacing between letters, words and lines; consistency of the size of letters. | 25 |
| • Correctness of Spelling | 25 |
| • Overall Appearance: General Appearance and neatness | <u>25</u> |
| Total | 100 |

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

AGES

6-8

CLASS

IU001

CLASS DESCRIPTION

Alphabet Only - both lower- and upper-case letters.

AGES

9-11

CLASS

IU201

AGES

12-14

CLASS

IU 301

CLASS DESCRIPTION

Cursive Writing - both lower- and upper-case letters, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

There is no required format for your rendering of the Pledge of Allegiance; however, it must contain all the words of the document below. Remember: Your alphabet and the pledge must be written on one sheet of paper and mounted on 11"x14" foam core board.

I pledge allegiance
to the flag
of the United States of America
and to the republic
for which it stands,
one nation under God,
indivisible,
with liberty and justice for all.

J • VERY SPECIAL ARTS

Superintendent: Juanita Sanders

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: **TUESDAY**, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY.**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Competition is limited to individuals with special disabilities, ages 6 and older, living in North Carolina.
- All school and home-schooled students in North Carolina are invited to participate.
- All entries must be the work of the individual exhibitor from September 2025 - September 2026.

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Very Special Arts

• Selection of Material – Appropriate color and type of material	25
• Originality – Captures attention	25
• Quality of Work	25
• Overall Presentation	<u>25</u>
	100

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
First Place	\$10	Blue Ribbon
Second Place	\$6	Red Ribbon
Third Place	\$4	White Ribbon
Best of Show		Blue Rosette Ribbon
Judge's Choice		Red Rosette Ribbon

FLORAL DESIGN

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J001	J101	J201	“Flower Foot”- Arrangement of any type of artificial flowers in an old boot or shoe.

FLOWER & GARDEN

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J002	J102	J202	Any cut flower, any color, under 3” in dia, 1 stem
J003	J103	J203	Any cut flower, any color, over 3” in dia, 1 stem
J004	J104	J204	House plant in any container, Hanging basket
J005	J105	J205	Exhibit / Arrangement using fresh flowers in any container
J006	J106	J206	Exhibit / Arrangement using natural materials found in nature (sticks, leaves....) in any container
J007	J107	J207	Fair themed arrangement – “Mountain Fair, Mountain Fun”

BEST DECORATED PUMPKIN OR GOURD

•If entry is delicate and/or accessories or pieces attached, it should be securely mounted on a plate, tray, or piece of wood (no greater than 10"x 10"), so that Fair staff does not have to handle the exhibit. (DO NOT PUNCTURE)

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J008	J108	J208	Best Decorated Pumpkin
J009	J109	J209	Best Decorated Gourd (fresh or dried)

SHOE BOX PARADE FLOAT COMPETITION

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J010	J110	J210	Decorated Shoe Box - Size not to exceed 14" x 14" x 14"

BAKED FOODS

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J011	J111	J211	Bread (Whole), muffins (6), rolls (6) or biscuits (6)
J012	J112	J212	Decorated Cake, Cupcakes, Cookies
J013	J113	J213	Cookies

ART (Mounted on Black / White Foam Core if not on Canvas)

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J014	J114	J214	Acrylic
J015	J115	J215	Collage – People
J016	J116	J216	Collage – Animals
J017	J117	J217	Color Pencil – People
J018	J118	J218	Color Pencil – Place
J019	J119	J219	Color Pencil – Animals
J020	J120	J220	Crayon – People
J021	J121	J221	Crayon – Place
J022	J122	J222	Crayon – Animals
J023	J123	J223	Finger Paint – People
J024	J124	J224	Finger Paint – Place
J025	J125	J225	Finger Paint – Animals
J026	J126	J226	Mixed Media - Flat
J027	J127	J227	Mixed Media - 3D (classify in the majority medium; otherwise use this class)
J028	J128	J228	Pen & Ink
J029	J129	J229	Pencil
J030	J130	J230	Watercolor - Abstract
J031	J131	J231	Watercolor – Other (specify)
J032	J132	J232	Any other art not listed above (Specify)
J0321	J1321	J2321	Pour Painting (Flow Art)

PHOTOGRAPHY (Color or Black & White Prints) (Mounted on Black / White Foam Core)

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J033	J133	J233	Agriculture Related
J034	J134	J234	Plants & Flowers
J035	J135	J235	Animals/Insects
J036	J136	J236	Landscape - Scenic
J037	J137	J237	People & Portraits & Sports
J038	J138	J238	2025 Photograph of the NC Mountain State Fair

CRAFTS, GENERAL

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J039	J139	J239	Holiday Craft
J040	J140	J240	Tie Dying
J041	J141	J241	Toy
J042	J142	J242	Wall Hanging
J043	J143	J243	Any other not listed (Specify)
J044	J144	J244	Toothpick Art
J045	J145	J245	Key Chain
J046	J146	J246	Hair Accessories
J047	J147	J247	Clothes Pin Art
J048	J148	J248	Button Art
J049	J149	J249	Yard Art (not to exceed 2' X 2')
J050	J150	J250	Bird Feeder, no larger than 12" X 12" X 12"
J051	J151	J251	Bird House, no larger than 12" X 12" X 12"

CRAFT KITS

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J052	J152	J252	Craft Kit
J053	J153	J253	Model Kits
J054	J154	J254	Lego - Must have a solid base, not to exceed 2' wide by 2' long by 3' high
J055	J155	J255	Any other not listed (Specify)

CRAFTS - ART

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J056	J156	J256	Paper Crafts
J057	J157	J257	Plaster Crafts
J058	J158	J258	Seed Crafts
J059	J159	J259	String Art
J060	J160	J260	Diamond Art – Full – up to 1'
J061	J161	J261	Diamond Art – Not Full – up to 1'
J062	J162	J262	Diamond Art – Full – over 1' to 4'
J063	J163	J263	Diamond Art – Not Full – over 1' to 4'

3D CRAFTS

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J064	J164	J264	Basketry
J065	J165	J265	Dolls
J066	J166	J266	Jewelry - Necklace
J067	J167	J267	Jewelry - Bracelet
J068	J168	J268	Recycling - Natural materials found in nature (wood, sticks, pinecones....)
J069	J169	J269	Recycling - Household trash (bottles, cans....)
J070	J170	J270	Woodworking

NEEDLE / HAND CRAFTS

AGES 6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	CLASS DESCRIPTION
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	
J071	J171	J271	Crocheted, Handknitted or Plastic Loom item
J072	J172	J272	Cross Stitch, Embroidered, Needlepoint item
J073	J173	J273	Spinning, Weaving and Felting

Duct Tape

AGE	AGE	AGE	
6-12	13-18	19 & OLDER	
CLASS	CLASS	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION
J074	J174	J274	Wall Hanging
J075	J175	J275	Floral Arrangement
J076	J176	J276	Christmas Ornament
J077	J177	J277	Wallet / Purses
J078	J178	J278	Hair Accessory
J079	J179	J279	Jewelry
J080	J180	J280	Any Duct Tape Item Not Listed (Specify)

K • PARTICIPATION

(Competition open to children 5 years old and under.)

Superintendent:

Entry Deadline: August 28, 2026, by 11:55pm.

Exhibits received: Monday and Tuesday, September 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Gate 1, Expo Building

Exhibit pick-up: TUESDAY, September 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR PICK UP FROM MONDAY TO TUESDAY.**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read important information on preceding pages 4, 8, and 9.

- Competition is limited to children ages 5 and under, living in North Carolina.
- All artwork must be prepared with appropriate hanging device and/or mounted onto standard poster paper.
- Artwork should be labeled on the back with exhibitor’s name
- **Only one entry per class per exhibitor.**

Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.

Criteria for Judging Participation

- Selection of Material – Appropriate color and type of material
- Originality – Captures attention
- Quality of Work
- Overall Presentation

AWARDS

Place	Premiums	Award Type / Color
Participation	\$1	Light Blue Ribbon

CLASS

CLASS DESCRIPTION

- | | |
|------|---|
| K001 | Seed, Button and/or Bean Art
Should be securely mounted on a plate, paper, cardboard, or wood. (no greater than 12”x 12”) |
| K002 | Jewelry Exhibit
Material is artist’s choice. Please provide the jewelry in a zip lock bag or attached to cardboard. |
| K003 | Art Exhibit - Painted, Drawn, or Coloring Page
Artwork (artist’s choice). See above for artwork preparation. (No larger than 12” x 12”) |
| K004 | Art Exhibit - Hand or Fingerpaint Work
Artwork (artist’s choice). See above for artwork preparation. (No larger than 12” x 12”) |
| K005 | Art Exhibit – String and / or Yarn Art - Base can be paper plate, wood, cardboard...
Artwork (artist’s choice). See above for artwork preparation. (No larger than 12” x 12”) |
| K006 | Craft Exhibit (not jewelry) - Artist’s choice of material (example: egg carton art, wind chime art, pom pom art, foam art, popsicle stick art, etc.) This can be any type of handmade craft. If the craft is small, please provide it in a zip lock bag or attached to cardboard. |
| K007 | Craft Exhibit - Use of items found in nature -- sticks, pinecones, leaves, etc. No larger than 12” x 12”) |

- K008 Shoe Box Parade Float Exhibit - Size not to exceed 14" x 14" x 14". Decorate a shoe box. Be creative and have fun.
- K009 Horticultural - Item or items grown by exhibitor. Can be fruit, vegetables, and/or flowers.
- K011 Painted Rock – No larger than 6" X 6"
- K012 Yard Art (Max 2' X 2')

L • Cooking Contests

Premiums Paid by Sponsors



Superintendents: Jessica Mollet and Abigail Pierce

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026, by 11:55pm, Online Entries Only, recipes due on contest day

Location: EXPO BUILDING

- Cooking Contest Exhibitors will be admitted with their dish free the day of their contest.
- Exhibitor will receive a Gate 1F (Expo Bldg) parking pass in the mail after the August 14th entry deadline.
- Exhibitors will park at Gate 1F (Expo Bldg) and enter through the fair entrance at this gate.
- Only the exhibitor will be admitted free.
- Each original recipe must be typed or legibly written on the Recipe Format Sheet (page 116) and presented with the dish. **NO** recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.
- The Mountain State Fair cooking contests are for amateurs only. Culinary professionals may not enter.
- All recipes become the property of the North Carolina Mountain State Fair and the sponsor of each contest, who have the right to publish or advertise the recipes and the names of the contestants without compensation.

• **Superintendents or their immediate family members are not eligible to compete in the department(s) they are overseeing; however, they may submit articles for Display Only.**

Location: Gate 1F, EXPO Building

Class	Class Description	Contest Date	Contest Time	Approx Time Winners Announced
L001	NC Tomato Growers Association	Friday, September 11	by 7:00pm	8:15pm
L002	Whole Hog Series Barbeque Cook-Off		Set-Up Friday, September 11 Cook-Off , Saturday, September 12	
L003	NC Sweetpotato Commission	Saturday, September 12	by 11:00am	12:30pm
L004	NC Cattlemen’s Beef Council	Sunday, September 13	by 4:00pm	5:15pm
L005	NC Pork Council	Monday, September 14	by 7:00pm	8:15pm
L006	NC Egg Association	Tuesday, September 15	by 7:00pm	8:15pm
L007	NC Aquaculture Association (Trout)	Wednesday, September 16	by 7:00pm	8:15pm
L008	NC Blueberry Council	Thursday, September 17	by 7:00pm	8:15pm
L009	NC Dairy Producers Association	Friday, September 18	by 7:00 pm	8:15pm
L010	NC Apple Growers Association	Saturday, September 19	by 11:00am	12:30pm
L011	NC Vegetable Growers Association	Sunday, September 20	by 3:00pm	4:30pm

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND TIME FOR SWEETPOTATO, TROUT, & SMALL VEGETABLE CONTESTS

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED

L • NORTH CAROLINA TOMATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

“North Carolina’s Fresh Tomatoes”



North Carolina
Tomato Growers Association

Superintendents; Jessica Mollet and Abigail Pierce

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026, by 11:55pm, Online Entries Only, recipes due on contest day

Date of Contest: Friday, September 11th

Time: by 7:00pm

Place: Gate 1F, EXPO Building

CASH PRIZES: 1st Place: \$200 2nd Place: \$150 3rd Place: \$100

*Use your imagination to show us how you can enjoy locally grown tomatoes of any variety.
Recipe must use at least one cup of locally grown tomatoes,
freshly sliced, diced, chopped, or stuffed!*

CONTEST RULES

- Each recipe must incorporate one cup of locally grown NC tomatoes of any type. Please indicate source of tomatoes used on recipe form.
- Contestants may enter more than one recipe, but only one recipe may win.
- Taxes are the responsibility of the winners.
- Recipes will be judged on taste (40), creativity (20), appearance (20) and ease of preparation (20).
- The decision of the judges is final.
- All recipes become the property of the North Carolina Tomato Growers Association and the NC Mountain State Fair. These entities have the right to publish or advertise the recipes and the names of the contestants without compensation.
- Entries must be prepared at home and brought to the Fair, preferably in a disposable container. It is not the responsibility of the Fair to return any dishes.
- *Recipes* are to be brought with the dish.
- The contest is for amateur cooks only. Culinary professionals may not enter.

DAY OF CONTEST

- Entries will be received from 6:00 to 7:00pm in the Competitive Exhibits Area in the EXPO Building. No entries will be received after 7:00pm.
- Judging will begin at 7:00pm. Prizes will be awarded at approximately 8:15pm or when judging is completed.
- Contestants ONLY will be admitted free of charge WITH ENTRY on the day of the contest through the Gate 1F entrance.. Park in lot at Gate 1F.
- Contestants are asked to pick up their dishes and any belongings after the winners are announced.
- **Each original recipe must be typed or legibly written on Recipe Format sheet and presented with the dish. Information must contain the contestant’s telephone number, address, county and email address (if available).**
- **NO** recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED

L ● WHOLE HOG SERIES BARBEQUE COOK-OFF



This event is Certified by:



Superintendent: John Hammond, **NCDA&CS GOT TO BE NC**

Entry Deadline: Friday, September 4, 2026

Set-Up Date: Friday, September 11th

Date of Contest: Saturday, September 12th

Place: Gravel Parking Lot – Gate 1F (Adjacent to EXPO Center)

Entry Fee: \$125/Team



NOTE: BECAUSE OF LIMITED SPACE, THIS CONTEST HAS A STRICT MAXIMUM OF 12 TEAMS! Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis!

Cash Prizes:

1st Place: \$2,000

2nd Place: \$1,500

3rd Place: \$1,000

Checks for winners will be mailed from Raleigh on September 15th or September 22nd.

Contest Rules: For complete Rules and Regulations, go to website <https://wholehogbarbecue.com>, *Rules, Competition & Resources*. Since this is a sanctioned event, these rules and regulations will apply and must be adhered to.



Entry Form: To enter this competition, scan QR code below or go to the website <https://wholehogbarbecue.com>. Click on “Series Schedule” and scroll down to “2026 Mountain State Fair Cookoff.” Click on “Register.”

Direct Entry Link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe_FtJGBorU8HhoxEu0On-yVArWaBOKHJUktCMLhcHUomRvTg/viewform

No meat will be sold or given to the public for consumption at this event. **ALL MEAT WILL BE DONATED TO A CHARITABLE ENTITY AFTER JUDGING IS FINAL.**

Entry form with entry fee of \$125 must be post marked or electronically submitted NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH. If entry is submitted electronically, acceptance of entry is not guaranteed until entry fee is received by NC Mountain State Fair. Entry fees may be paid by credit card or check. Check should be payable to **NC Mountain State Fair, Attention: Entry Dept, 1301 Fanning Bridge Rd., Fletcher, NC 28732.**

L • NORTH CAROLINA SWEETPOTATO COMMISSION

QUICK Weeknight Meals or Snack Recipe

www.ncsweetpotatoes.com



Superintendents: Jessica Mollet and Abigail Pierce

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026, by 11:55pm, Online Entries Only, recipes due on contest day

Contest Date: Saturday, September 12th *****NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR THIS CONTEST*****

Time: by 11:00am

Place: Gate 1F, EXPO Building

CASH PRIZES: 1st Place: \$250.00 2nd Place: \$175.00 3rd Place: \$125.00 Honorable Mention: \$75.00

Bring us your best **“QUICK Weeknight Meals or Snack”** recipe using North Carolina Sweetpotatoes.

We know life is busy; it's our goal to help you save some time. Create a quick recipe using everyone's favorite root veggie – the North Carolina Sweetpotato! We all know sweetpotatoes are versatile, nutritious, and delicious. Now, show us how they are perfect for a quick time-saving meal or snack. The judges won't have a clock running but make sure to list the time in your recipe! Doesn't matter if it's breakfast, lunch, dinner or a snack, show us what you got! Ribbons await the most creative **savory** dishes.

These recipes must be savory. Bonus points for use of convenience appliances such as an instant pot, crockpot or air fryer.

CONTEST RULES

- Recipe must include at least **2 cups** of fresh sweetpotatoes. Entry needs to serve 4 to 6 judges.
- Entrants cannot be employees of the NCDA&CS or the NC Sweetpotato Commission; their immediate family or household members are not eligible to enter.
- Judging will be based on:
Taste (45), Creative Use of Sweetpotatoes (30), Preparation/Cooking Time (20), Presentation (5) .
- Directions for preparing the recipe must be clear. Measurements should be in level cups, tablespoons, teaspoons, or fractions thereof; also include pan size, cooking temperature, preparation time, cooking time and number of servings.
- Use ingredients that are readily available in grocery stores.
- This contest is open to all ages and for amateurs only. **Culinary professionals may not enter the contest.**
- Contestants may enter more than one recipe, but only the top scoring recipe will be eligible for a cash prize per participant.
- Entries must be prepared at home and presented at the Fair ready for judging. Insulated containers are encouraged for transportation to keep foods hot or cold.
- Upon submission, recipes become the property of the North Carolina Sweetpotato Commission and the North Carolina Mountain State Fair, which reserve the right to edit, adapt, copyright, publish and use for publicity, promotion, or advertising without compensation.

DAY OF CONTEST

- Entries must be received from 10:00am – 11:00am in the EXPO Building. NO ENTRIES ACCEPTED AFTER 11:00am.
- Judging will begin at 11:00am.
- **Prizes will be awarded at approximately 12:30pm or when judging is completed.**
- Contestants **ONLY** will be admitted free of charge **WITH ENTRY** through the Gate 1F Entrance. Park in lot at Gate 1F.
- Entries may be brought in any type of container (preferably disposable), but it will not be the responsibility of the Fair to return any dishes or containers.
- **NO** recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.
- **Each original recipe must be typed or legibly written on Recipe Format sheet and presented with the dish.**
Information must contain the contestant's name, telephone number, address, county and email address (if available).

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED

L • NORTH CAROLINA CATTLEMEN'S BEEF COUNCIL



Funded by the Beef Checkoff

Superintendents: Jessica Mollet and Abigail Pierce

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026, by 11:55pm, Online Entries Only, recipes due on contest day

Contest Date: Sunday, September 13th

Time: by 4:00pm

Place: Gate 1F, EXPO Building

Cash Prizes: 1st Prize \$200.00 2nd Prize \$150.00 3rd Prize \$100.00

Classic Comfort Food

Take comfort in all your favorite classic beef dishes, like meatloaf, stroganoff, meatballs,

Fill your house with the aroma of slowly cooked beef stew,

enjoy a hearty pot roast or braised beef dish that takes the chill out of the weather.

CONTEST RULES

- Each original recipe entry must have at least 3 ounces of beef per serving and needs to serve 3 – 4 judges.
- Recipe must use **ONLY BEEF** as the meat ingredient.
- Recipe directions must be clear and contain the following: name of recipe, number of servings, list of ingredients with specific quantities (standard U.S. measurements) in order of use, and complete preparation directions including pan size, cooking time and temperature.
- All recipes must be original and owned exclusively by the contestant. The contest is open only to amateur home cooks. Culinary professionals may not enter the contest.
- Recipes will be judged on the following criteria: **Taste 50** , **Creativity 30** , **Appearance 20** .
- All recipes become the property of the NC Cattlemen's Beef Council and the North Carolina Mountain State Fair. NCCBC and NCMSF have the right to publish or advertise the recipes and the names of the contestants without compensation. The NCCBC is not responsible for lost recipes.
- Taxes on prizes are the responsibility of the winner.
- Contestants may enter more than one recipe, but only one recipe may win.
- Each recipe must be typed or legibly written on Recipe Format sheet and brought to the fair along with the entry. Recipes must include a phone number or contestant will be disqualified. **NO** recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.
- No team entries: this contest is for individual competition.
- The cooking contest coordinator and/or contest sponsor reserve the right to make any changes or decisions prior to or during the contest as deemed necessary. Their decision will be final.

DAY OF CONTEST

- Entries must be received from 3:00 to 4:00pm in the Competitive Exhibits Area in the EXPO Building
- Judging will begin at 4:00pm. No entries will be received after 4:00pm.
- Prizes will be awarded at approximately 5:15pm or when judging is completed.
- Contestants only will be admitted into the Fair for free with prepared entry on the day of the contest through the fair entrance at Gate 1F. Park in lot at **Gate 1F**.
- Entries may be brought in any type of container (preferably disposable). It will not be the responsibility of the Fair to return any dishes or plates.
- Entries must be prepared at home and brought to the fair on the day and time of the contest, along with a completed Recipe Format sheet.
- **Each original recipe must be typed or legibly written on Recipe Format sheet and presented with the dish.**
- **Information must contain the contestant's telephone number, address, county and email address (if available).** **NO** recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED

L • NORTH CAROLINA PORK COUNCIL



PassPork to Flavor!

www.ncpork.org

Superintendents: Jessica Mollet and Abigail Pierce

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026, by 11:55pm, Online Entries Only, recipes due on contest day

Contest Date: Monday, September 14th

Time: by 7:00pm

Place: Gate 1F, EXPO Building

Cash Prizes: 1st Prize \$200.00 2nd Prize \$150.00 3rd Prize \$100.00

Grab your passpork and take the judges on a culinary adventure!

Pork is the number one protein consumed worldwide and lends itself to so many delicious flavor combinations.

Not only that, pork raised in North Carolina is exported around the world and helps increase the value of each pig!

CONTEST RULES

- Each entry must have at least **4 oz. pork per serving**. Each recipe must **serve between 4-6 people**.
- Directions for preparing the recipe must be clear; measurements should be in level cups, tablespoons, teaspoons or fractions thereof. Also include pan size, cooking temperature, number of servings and any other pertinent information.
- Judging will be based on **taste appeal (50)**, **appearance (20)**, **originality of recipe (10)**, **ease of preparation (20)**.
- Be creative and submit your best internationally inspired recipes using pork in a main course.
- All recipes become the property of the North Carolina Pork Council and the North Carolina Mountain State Fair. NCPC and NCMSF have the right to publish or advertise the recipes and the names of the contestants without compensation. NCPC is not responsible for lost recipes. Employees of the NCPC are not eligible to compete. Taxes on prizes are the responsibility of the winners.
- Contestants may enter more than one recipe but only one recipe may win.
- The contest is open to amateur cooks only. Culinary professionals may not enter this contest.

DAY OF CONTEST

- Entries will be received from 6:00 to 7:00pm in the Competitive Exhibits Area in the EXPO Building. **No entries will be received after 7:00pm.**
- Judging will begin at 7:00pm. **Prizes will be awarded at approximately 8:15pm or when judging is completed.**
- Contestants ONLY will be admitted free of charge WITH DISH through the Gate 1F entrance. Park in lot at Gate 1E.
- Entries should be brought in a disposable container. It will not be the responsibility of the Fair to return any dishes or plates.
- **Each original recipe must be typed or legibly written on Recipe Format sheet and presented with the dish. Information must contain the contestant's telephone number, address, county and email address (if available).**
NO recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.
- **Recipe must include phone number or contestant will be disqualified.**

<https://www.ncpork.org/pork/cooking-todays-pork/>

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED

L • North Carolina Egg Association



Visit NCEgg.org to find recipes, egg nutrition, educational resources, and meet NC Egg Farmers

Superintendents: Jessica Mollet and Abigail Pierson

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026. by 11:55pm, Online Entries Only, recipes due on contest day

Contest Date: Tuesday, September 15th

Time: by 7:00pm

Place: Gate 1F, EXPO Building

Cash Prizes: 1st Place \$200.00 2nd Place \$150.00 3rd Place \$100.00

Around the World with NC Eggs

Pack your bags (and your mixing bowls)! **Around the World with NC Eggs** celebrates the versatility of North Carolina eggs through global flavors and international inspiration. Participants are invited to create a dish inspired by a cuisine from anywhere in the world – using **Eggs** as a star ingredient.

Whether your recipe draws from bold spices, comforting classics, or modern global twists, this contest highlights how eggs can shine in dishes from every corner of the globe. Entries will be judged on creativity, flavor, presentation, and how well eggs are featured in the recipe. Get inspired, think globally, and crack open your culinary creativity – no passport required!

CONTEST RULES

- Recipe must include **at least SIX eggs, but more is better. Bring 4-6 servings.**
- Judging will be based on: **Creativity (40), Taste (40), How well eggs are featured (10), Appearance/Presentation (10).**
- Recipe directions must be clear and contain the following: name of recipe, number of servings, list of ingredients with specific quantities (standard U.S. measurements), and complete preparation directions including pan size, cooking temperature and time.
- Use ingredients that are readily available in grocery stores. **(No homemade ingredients which cannot be replicated - unless you include the recipe for that ingredient as well.)**
- **NO** recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.
- Contestants may enter more than one recipe, but only one recipe can win.
- This contest is open to all ages and for amateurs only. Culinary professionals may not enter. No team entries: this contest is for individual competition.
- Entries must be prepared at home and presented at the Fair ready for judging. Please bring enough to serve at least 4 judges. Insulated containers are encouraged for transportation to keep foods hot or cold.
- Upon submission, recipes become the property of the North Carolina Egg Association and the North Carolina Mountain State Fair, which reserve the right to edit, adapt, copyright, publish and use for publicity, promotion or advertising without compensation.
- The cooking contest coordinator and/or contest sponsor reserve the right to make any changes or decisions prior to or during the contest as deemed necessary. Their decision will be final.

DAY OF CONTEST

- Entries will be received from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the EXPO Building at the NC Mountain State Fair. Judging will begin at 7:00pm. **No entries will be accepted after 7:00pm.**
- **Prizes will be awarded at approximately 8:15pm or when judging is completed.**
- Contestants **ONLY** will be admitted into the fair free of charge with their prepared entry on the day of the contest through Gate 1F. One parking pass will be issued per contestant for Gate 1F parking.
- Entries should be brought in any type of container, but it will not be the responsibility of the Fair to return any dishes or containers.
- The entry must be prepared at home and brought to the fair on the day and time of the contest along with the completed Recipe Format sheet.
- **NO** recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.
- **Each original recipe must be typed or legibly written on Recipe Format sheet and presented with the dish. Information must contain the contestant's telephone number, address, county and email address (if available).**

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED
L • NORTH CAROLINA AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION
“NC Mountain Trout Cook-Off”



Superintendents: Jessica Mollet and Abigail Pierce

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026, by 11:55pm, Online Entries Only, recipes due on contest day

Date of Contest: Wednesday, September 16th *****NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR THIS CONTEST*****

Time: by 7:00pm

Place: Gate 1F, EXPO Building

Cash Prizes: 1st Prize \$200.00 2nd Prize \$150.00 3rd Prize \$100.00 Honorable Mention \$50.00

*Bring us your favorite NC Mountain **Trout recipe!**
It can be Baked, Fried, or Grilled!
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner or Snack!*

CONTEST RULES

- Each entry must have at least 4 oz. per serving. Each recipe must serve between 4-6 people.
- NC trout may be baked, fried, or grilled. Directions for preparing the recipe must be clear; measurements should be in level cups, tablespoons, teaspoons, or fractions thereof. Also include pan size, cooking temperature, number of servings and any other pertinent information.
- Judging will be based on taste appeal (50), appearance (20), originality of recipe (10), ease of preparation (20).
- Be creative and submit your best recipe using trout in any main dish, side dish, salad, or appetizer.
- All recipes become the property of the North Carolina Aquaculture Association and the North Carolina Mountain State Fair. Either have the right to publish or advertise the recipes and the names of the contestants without compensation. Taxes for prizes are the responsibility of the winners.
- Contestants may enter more than one recipe but only one recipe may win.
- Contest is open to amateurs only. Culinary professionals may not enter.

DAY OF CONTEST

- Entries will be received from 6:00pm – 7:00pm in the Competitive Exhibits Area in the EXPO Building. No entries will be received after 7:00pm.
- Judging will begin at 7:00pm.
- Prizes will be awarded at approximately 8:15pm or when judging is completed..
- Contestants ONLY will be admitted free of charge WITH DISH through the Gate 1F entrance. Park in lot at Gate 1F.
- Entries should be brought in a disposable container. It will not be the responsibility of the Fair to return any dishes or plates.
- **Recipes printed from the internet will not be accepted.**
- **Each original recipe must be typed or legibly written on Recipe Format sheet and presented with the dish. Information must contain the contestant's telephone number, address, county and email address (if available).**

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED

L • NORTH CAROLINA BLUEBERRY COUNCIL Blueberries “From Scratch” Recipes



Superintendents: Jessica Mollet and Abigail Pierson

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026, by 11:55pm, Online Entries Only, recipes due on contest day

Contest Date: Thursday, September 17th

Time: by 7:00pm

Place: Gate 1F, EXPO Building

Cash Prizes: 1st Prize \$200

2nd Prize \$150

3rd Prize \$100

CONTEST RULES

- Each entry must use at least **one cup of blueberries that are not processed or mix ingredients**, which have been grown in North Carolina (when available). With consideration to the health benefits of blueberries rather than as confection, additional added sugar to a recipe should not exceed 3/4 c which is 600 calories with no nutritional value. Health news about sugar is concerning and is in conflict with the health benefits marketing of North Carolina blueberries.
- Contestants may enter more than one recipe, but only one recipe may win. Recipes may be for a breakfast dish, appetizer, main dish, dessert, salad, or other category **as long as blueberries are a main ingredient.**
- Recipes will be judged on **health (50) , and ease of preparation (25) , taste (25) .**
- All recipes become the property of the North Carolina Blueberry Council, Inc. and the North Carolina Mountain State Fair
- Taxes are the responsibility of the winner.
- The North Carolina Blueberry Council and the N C Mountain State Fair have the right to publish or advertise the recipes and the names of contestants without compensation.
- Entries must be prepared at home and brought to the Fair.
- The contest is for amateur cooks only. Culinary professionals may not enter.

DAY OF CONTEST

- Entries will be received from 6:00 to 7:00pm in the Competitive Exhibits Area in the EXPO Building. **No entries will be received after 7:00pm.**
- Judging will begin at 7:00pm. **Prizes will be awarded at approximately 8:15pm or when judging is completed.**
- Contestants **ONLY** will be admitted into the Fair free of charge WITH ENTRY on the day of the contest through the Gate 1F entrance. Park in lot at Gate 1F
- Entries should be brought in a disposable container. It is not the responsibility of the Fair to return any dishes or plates.
- **NO** recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.
- **Each original recipe must be typed or legibly written on Recipe Format sheet and presented with the dish. Information must contain the contestant’s telephone number, address, county and email address (if available).**

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED

L • NORTH CAROLINA DAIRY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION “Amazing Dairy Appetizer”



Superintendents: Jessica Mollet and Abigail Pierce

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026, by 11:55pm, Online Entries Only, recipes due on contest day

Contest Date: Friday, September 18th

Time: by 7:00pm

Place: Gate 1F, EXPO Building

Cash Prizes: 1st Prize \$200.00 2nd Prize \$150.00 3rd Prize \$100.00 Honorable Mention \$50.00

We are looking for an “Amazing Dairy Appetizer” that has North Carolina dairy products as the main ingredients used in the recipe.

This could be from a dairy goat or dairy cow!

CONTEST RULES

- Each recipe must incorporate **NC dairy products (Goat or Cow)** as the main ingredients. Please indicate source of NC Dairy product used on recipe form.
- Contestants may enter more than one recipe, but only one recipe may win.
- Taxes are the responsibility of the winners.
- Recipes will be judged on **taste (40)**, **creativity (20)**, **appearance (20)** and **ease of preparation (20)**. Decision of the judges is final.
- All recipes become the property of the North Carolina Dairy Producers Association and the NC Mountain State Fair. These entities have the right to publish or advertise the recipes and the names of the contestants without compensation.
- Entries must be prepared at home and brought to the Fair, preferably in a disposable container. It is not the responsibility of the Fair to return any dishes.
- **Recipes** are to be brought with the dish.
- The contest is for amateur cooks only. Culinary professionals may not enter.

DAY OF CONTEST

- Entries will be received from 6:00 to 7:00pm in the Competitive Exhibits Area in the EXPO Building. **No entries will be received after 7:00pm.**
- Judging will begin at 7:00pm. **Prizes will be awarded at approximately 8:15pm or when judging is completed.**
- Contestants **ONLY** will be admitted free of charge **WITH ENTRY** on the day of the contest through the Gate 1F entrance. Park in lot at Gate 1F.
- Contestants are asked to pick up their dishes and any belongings after the winners are announced. It is not the responsibility of the fair to return any dishes or plates.
- **NO** recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.
- **Each original recipe must be typed or legibly written on Recipe Format sheet and presented with the dish. Information must contain the contestant’s telephone number, address, county and email address (if available).**

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED

L • THE NORTH CAROLINA APPLE GROWERS ASSOCIATION

“Apple Desserts”



Superintendents: Jessica Mollet and Abigail Pierce

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026, by 11:55pm, Online Entries Only, recipes due on contest day

Contest Date: Saturday, September 19th

Time: 11:00am

Place: Gate 1F, EXPO Building

Cash Prizes: 1st Prize \$200 2nd Prize \$150 3rd Prize \$100

CONTEST RULES

- Each entry must use at least two cups of apples, which have been grown in North Carolina.
- Contestants may enter more than one recipe, but only one recipe may win. Recipes should be a dessert.
- Recipes will be judged on **taste (40) , appearance (30) and creative use of apples in recipe (30)**.
- All recipes become the property of the North Carolina Apple Growers Association and the NC Mountain State Fair.
- Taxes are the responsibility of the winner.
- The North Carolina Apple Growers Association and the NC Mountain State Fair have the right to publish or advertise the recipe and the names of contestants without compensation.
- Entries must be prepared at home and brought to the Fair.
- The contest is for amateur cooks only. Culinary professionals may not enter.

DAY OF CONTEST

- Entries will be received from 10:00 to 11:00am in the Competitive Exhibits Area in the EXPO Building. **No entries will be accepted after 11:00am.**
- Judging will begin at 11:00am. Prizes will be awarded at approximately 12:30pm (or when judging is completed.)
- Contestants ONLY will be admitted free of charge WITH ENTRY through the Gate 1F entrance. Park in lot at Gate 1F.
- Entries should be brought in a disposable container. It is not the responsibility of the Fair to return any dishes or plates.
- Contestants are asked to pick up their dishes and any belongings after the winners are announced.
- **NO** recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.
- **Each original recipe must be typed or legibly written on Recipe Format sheet and presented with the dish. Information must contain the contestant’s telephone number, address, county and email address (if available).**

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED



North Carolina Vegetable Growers Association

SMALL VEGETABLE COOKING CONTEST

2026 FEATURED SMALL VEGETABLE: Cabbage

Superintendents: Jessica Mollet and Abigail Pierce

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026, by 11:55pm, Online Entries Only, recipes due on contest day

Contest Date: Sunday, September 20th *****NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR THIS CONTEST*****

Time: by 3:00pm

Place: Gate 1F, EXPO Building

CASH PRIZES: 1st Place: \$200.00 2nd Place: \$150.00 3rd Place: \$100.00

Because of its versatility and local availability, **cabbage** is the vegetable of choice for this year's "Small Vegetable Cooking Contest." Because it's packed with vitamins and minerals, high in fiber and low in calories, cabbage is considered in some food circles to be a "superfood." This vegetable is also budget friendly. Cabbage may be roasted, sautéed, fried, grilled, or used in soups or casseroles. (This contest is **not** for raw cabbage dishes.)

CONTEST RULES

- Recipes must use a cabbage variety as the **main ingredient**. Entry needs to serve 4 to 6 judges.
- Judging will be based on: **Taste (40)**, **Creativity (30)**, **Ease of Preparation (20)**, **Presentation (10)**. Decision of the judges is final.
- Directions for preparing the recipe must be clear. Measurements should be in level cups, tablespoons, teaspoons, or fractions thereof; also include pan size, cooking temperature, preparation time, cooking time and number of servings.
- Use ingredients that are readily available in grocery stores.
- This contest is open to all ages and for amateurs only. **Culinary professionals may not enter the contest.**
- Contestants may enter more than one recipe, but only one entry per participant will be eligible for a cash prize.
- Entries must be prepared at home and presented at the Fair ready for judging. Insulated containers are encouraged for transportation to keep foods hot or cold.
- Upon submission, recipes become the property of the NC Mountain State Fair and the NC Vegetable Growers Association, which reserve the right to edit, adapt, copyright, publish and use the recipe for publicity, promotion, or advertising without compensation.

DAY OF CONTEST

- Entries must be received no later than 3:00pm in the EXPO Building. **NO ENTRIES ACCEPTED AFTER 3:00pm.**
- Judging will begin at 3:00pm.
- **Prizes will be awarded at approximately 4:15pm or when judging is completed.**
- **Contestants ONLY** will be admitted free of charge **WITH ENTRY** through the Gate 1F Entrance. Park in lot at Gate 1F.
- Entries may be brought in any type of container (preferably disposable), **but it will not be the responsibility of the Fair to return any dishes or containers.**
- **NO** recipes printed from the internet will be accepted.
- **Cabbage variety must be specified on recipe sheet.**
- **Each original recipe must be typed or legibly written on Recipe Format sheet and presented with the dish. Information must contain the contestant's name, telephone number, address, county and email address (if available).**

DELIVERY TIME OF DISHES WILL BE ENFORCED
Recipe Format Sheet



Cooking Contest Name: _____

Contestant Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Street Address: _____

County: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Ingredients:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Directions:



DIVISION III
SONG & DANCE,
MISCELLANEOUS COMPETITIONS

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AA • GOSPEL SINGING COMPETITION

Junior, Youth, & Adult Solo Competition

Youth & Adult Group Competition

Superintendent: Connie Weeks

Entry Deadline: August 14, 2026, by 11:55pm, *ONLINE ENTRIES ONLY*

Contest Date: Saturday, September 19th

Check-in Time: Solos No later than 8:30 am

Groups No later than 11:00am

Performance Times: Solos - Promptly at 9:00am

Groups - Following lunch break

Location: Heritage Stage

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Competition is limited to residents of North Carolina.
- Solo competition will be limited to the first ten (10) entries in each class. Group competition will be limited to the first five (5) entries in each class.
- Contestants must check in by times listed above.
- Solos will begin promptly at 9:00am and will be performed in order by classes (AA001, AA002, AA003). Following solo competitions, there will be a break for lunch. Group performances will begin when lunch is over and after the 11:00am check-in. They will be performed in order by classes (AA004, AA005).
- Each performance will be allowed ten (10) minutes. Each performance is limited to 2 songs. Contestants going over the ten (10) minute time limit WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. We will not give you any type of time indication. It is suggested that you time yourself to be sure that you stay within the time limitations.
- Set up time begins when your name is called. Soloists have three (3) minutes to set up. Groups have up to eight (8) minutes for setup. Use your time wisely. Contestants exceeding the set-up time limit WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.
- It is suggested that your instruments be set up prior to the start of the competition. The stage will be open and available prior to start of the competition.
- No entries accepted after August 14th. In the event there are not enough in a class, Fair Management reserves the right to modify this date.
- Awards will be announced following the contest. The decision of the judges is final.
- A basic sound system will be provided for amplification of voices, and playback of CDs. We will provide 110-volt power at the stage. We do NOT provide musical instruments, instrument amplifiers and/or speakers or specialized playback equipment like MiniDisc or MP3 files. Individuals and groups will be completely responsible for providing and setting up extra equipment, and coordinating incorporation of equipment into the provided sound system including all patch cords, electrical extension cords, etc. If in doubt, bring back-up equipment.
- Age should be as of the day of the competition. Age stipulations for each class will be strictly enforced.
- An individual is allowed to sing as Soloist and in one group. If an individual sings in more than one group, both groups will be disqualified.
- NO entries nor changes in classes will be accepted on the day of competition. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Criteria for Judging:	Appearance	(1-25 points)
	Presentation/Quality	(1-25 points)
	Originality	(1-25 points)
	Professionalism	(1-25 points)
	Total Points	100

SOLO

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
AA001	Junior Solo (6 - 10 years of age)
AA002	Youth Solo (11-16 years of age)
AA003	Adult Solo (17 years of age and older)

SOLO AWARDS: 1st Place \$150.00 Trophy 2nd Place \$100.00 Trophy 3rd Place \$ 50.00 Trophy

GROUP (Group consists of 2 - 8 performers)

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
AA004	Youth Group (6-16 years of age)
AA005	Adult Group (17 years of age and older)

GROUP AWARDS: 1st Place \$300.00 Trophy 2nd Place \$200.00 Trophy 3rd Place \$100.00 Trophy

BB • CLOGGING CHAMPIONSHIP



Sanctioned by *America's Clogging Hall of Fame*

Show Secretary & Superintendent: Dianne Loftin

Competition Dates: September 11th, Friday 7:30 pm (Judges & Directors' meeting 7:15 pm)
September 12th, Saturday 10:00 am (Judges & Directors' meeting 9:45 am)

Location: Gate 6

Gate Admission ***GATE 7******* This gate is off Airport Road.

Governing Rules: America's Clogging Hall of Fame (<http://www.achf.us>) and the North Carolina Mountain State Fair

Entry Deadline & Fees: Postmark by August 21, 2026, **NO EXCEPTIONS**

Team:	\$15.00 per dance per dancer
Duo/Duet:	\$30.00 per couple
Choreographed Solo:	\$40.00 per dance
Short Duo/Duet & Acapella Duo/Duet:	\$30.00 per couple
Solos:	\$15.00 per dance

Registration

- All entry forms and fees **MUST be postmarked by August 21, 2026.**
- NC Substitute W-9 MUST be filled out and returned with an entry form to be paid prize money.
 - NC Substitute W-9 is required for the team competition as well as individuals dancing solo and duo / duet. The NC Substitute W-9 requires the individual Social Security Number. If W-9 is not submitted premiums will be forfeited. NC Mountain State Fair will not be responsible for obtaining W-9's.
- There will be no back-gate admission.
- There will be no tickets required for children 5 years of age and under.
- **NO TEAM OR DUO/DUET ENTRY WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER AUGUST 21st.**
- Solo entries will be accepted at the door - \$20.00 – Short Duo/Duet & Acapella Duo/Duet- \$40 per couple

Sanctioned Categories:

Country Hoedown	8 Max	Traditional Duo/Duet	3 Max
Southern App	8 Max	Contemporary Duo/Duet	3 Max
Smooth	8 Max	Show Duo/Duet	3 Max
Running Set Hoedown	8 Max	Choreographed Solos	2 Max
Running Set Precision	8 Max	Short Duo/Duet	48 Beats
4 Cpl Precision	8 Max	Traditional Solos	32 Beats
4 or More Cpl Open Hoedown	5 Max	Contemporary Solos	32 Beats
4 or More Cpl Open Precision	3 Max	FlatFoot Solos	Circle Up
Traditional Line	3 Max	Acapella Solos	20 Seconds
Traditional Line Formations	3 Max	Acapella Duo/Duet	20 Seconds
Line	3 Max		
Line Formations	3 Max		
Exhibition	3 Max		
Small Team Exhibition	3 Max		
Props Exhibition	3 Max		
Show	8 Max		
Acapella Team	3 Max		
Open Acapella Team	3 Max		

Hoedown Categories-Timing begins when last dancer starts dancing and ends when first dancer stops dancing.

Precision Categories-Timing begins when the first dancer starts dancing and/or uses body movements and ends

when the last dancer stops dancing and/or uses body movements. (knee bouncing doesn't signify the start of timing)

Age Divisions:

Team and Duo/Duet: Tiny Tot 6 and under, Pee Wee 7-9, Elementary 10-12, Junior 13-15, Senior 16-18, Young Adult 19-29, Adult 30-50, Senior Adult 51 & over.

Solo: 3 and under, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15, 16-19, 20-25, 26-31, 32-40, 41-50, 51 and over

Flatfoot & Acapella Solos : (Males & Females compete against each other.): 10 and under, 11-15, 16-30, 31 and over.

Team & Duo/Duet: age division is determined by AVERAGE age.

General Information:

Integrity Notice:

- No competitor can be associated with the host team to compete in freestyle solo, choreographed solo, or duo competition or can be a family member to a judge presiding over a competition. Dancers with the host team may dance with teams they are affiliated with outside the host team who are competing at the competition. Scorekeepers may be associated with competitors, or competitors themselves, at an event as there is a paper trail of scores that can be audited.
- Two levels of team competition - Challenge and Elite. Teams must be identified as "Challenge" or "Elite" by completing the team identification form in the directors portal prior to competing in their first qualifier of the year. Teams must remain in the same division during the current season and may not compete in both. Elite teams are those that have an advanced skill level or have won a national championship. Only 25% of the dancers in a challenge routine may be registered as elite dancers within another group - within their own team or with another team. Teams can dance in the challenge division for a maximum of two years or until they win a National Challenge title - whichever comes first. Teams having won a national title in any other clogging organization must register as "elite". Once a team competes as Elite, they can no longer go back down to compete as Challenge.
- Freestyle solo/duo competitors must register with ACHF at least two weeks prior to competing to receive an assigned solo number for the current season. Directors must submit one solo registration for your team. Non-affiliated dancers may contact ACHF to register as independent. Dancers will receive an official ACHF number that will be theirs for all entries throughout the season. Cost is \$15 per dancer, short duos are \$15 total - additional copies may be requested at initial registration for \$5 each. If they lose their number during the year, they will need to request a new number before competing again (\$10 per number). Only official ACHF numbers may be used during competition. Numbers will be bulk mailed to directors to distribute.
- Soloists can only compete in challenge OR elite during the season, not both. Once a dancer wins Grand Champion in challenge during the season, they must move up to Elite the following season. If they do not place in the elite category during the next season, they may move back down to challenge level at the completion of that season. There is only one category for Challenge level (former Novice), dancers do the style they are most comfortable with. Elite will be broken down into traditional and contemporary. Once a dancer wins Grand Champion in the Challenge division at Nationals they must remain in the Elite division indefinitely. Only Elite level solo grand champions at regional events will qualify for the male and female Opry dance-off at Nationals. Soloists having won a national title in any other organization must register as "elite".
- Music and Dress must be age appropriate in all categories (at discretion of judges on scoresheet). Think School Dress Code: No fannies or cleavage should be showing for any reason. No Ragged clothing.
- 5 judges are required (All must be ACHF certified) at all ACHF competitions. Highest and Lowest scores are dropped and the 3 middle scores are averaged. (Three judges may be used at the discretion of the Executive Board for small events)
- The same 5 judges must judge an entire dance category. Different judges shall not be used for different age divisions for the same category. A Rules "Rep" Official will be in attendance and will have the final say regarding any rule infractions.
- **Point Deductions:**
 - 1 point deduction for improper number of dancers in routine
 - 1 point deduction for every 15 seconds, or portion thereof, exceeding the time limits given
 - 1 point deduction for each dancer not dressed correctly (Male position dancer must wear slacks In Smooth, Female position dancer may wear skirt or dress (slacks preferred by only required in Smooth)
 - 1 point deduction for placing dancers on stage EXCEPTION: Tiny Tot age division
 - 1 point deduction for "directing" off stage EXCEPTION : Tiny Tot age division
 - 1 point deduction for not holding HOME position in Traditional Categories.
 - 1 point deduction for couples not becoming active, if required, to perform small circle figures
 - 1 point deduction for each required figure not performed and each corner/partner swing not performed when required in figure
 - 1 point deduction for improper progression.
- **Point Deductions on Rep Sheets for affected categories:**
 - 1-point deduction for improper number of dancers in routine.
 - 1-point deduction for every 15 seconds or portion thereof, exceeding the given time limits.
 - 1-point deduction for each dancer not dressed correctly (Male position dancer must wear slacks in Smooth; Female position dancers must wear skirt or dress. (slacks preferred but only required in Smooth)
 - 1-point deduction for placing dancers on stage. EXCEPTION: Tiny Tot age division.
 - 1-point deduction for "directing" off stage. EXCEPTION: Tiny Tot age division.
 - 1-point deduction for not holding HOME position in Traditional Categories
 - 1-point deduction for couples not becoming active to perform small circle figures.
 - 1-point deduction for each required figure not performed and each corner/partner swing not performed when required in figure.
 - 1-point deduction for improper progression.

• **DISQUALIFICATION:**

- Use of alcoholic beverages on premises or Unsportsmanlike or Obscene actions on premises of any ACHF Event !!!
- If a team dances in the wrong age division. Example: You register in adult age division and dance, when the average age of your dancers is Young Adult. You will be disqualified. Verified by birth certificates that the director is responsible to have in their possession.
- Freestyle dancers may be disqualified by leaving the line before their official count out by the emcee, by blatantly cutting off a fellow competitor or by displaying unsportsman like conduct
- When a team registers one count of dancers and then at the competition puts more than what was registered on the stage and competes without notifying the competition director, you will be disqualified.
- Registering and competing in the wrong level, or with the incorrect ratio of challenge or elite dancers, will result in disqualification.
- Throwing materials/liquids requiring cleanup or making the surface slick.

National Championships

Teams must place 1st, 2nd, or 3rd within each category and age division at two sanctioned competitions to qualify for the National Championships in October. Directors must register teams under the same name for every regional event throughout the year for qualification purposes. If you have two groups from your team competing in the same age division against each other, you must clearly identify each group either with a unique name or by denoting "1" or "2". Event directors must also list these properly in the competition lineup and compete the groups by name accordingly.

All Duo/Duet and Choreographed solo categories must compete at two sanctioned competitions (do not have to place) in order to compete at the National Championships. Each highest scoring regional Grand Champion Choreographed Solo and Duo/Duet will dance off for the National Duo/Duet of the year at Nationals. A competition may choose to give grand champion awards for all three duo categories but only the highest scoring duo/duet from the event will qualify for the national dance off.

All traditional and contemporary grand champion male and female soloists will compete for ONE OVERALL award at Nationals - the Opry Solo Award. There will be no individual category dance off's for traditional or contemporary solos.

Regional Grand Champion Flatfoot Soloist, Acapella Soloist, Acapella Duos, and Short Duos will compete in a dance off at Nationals to determine the champion of the year.

Directors are responsible for collecting birth certificates from their dancers and having copies on-hand at events in case there is any question about their age division. Registration will be verified at each regional competition with the dancer's birth date on the registration form.

Friday Dance Order

1. Traditional Duo
2. Buck & Wing Duet
3. Contemporary Duo/Duet
4. Show Duo/Duet
5. Acapella Duo/Duet
6. Short Duo/Duet
7. Solos Traditional
8. Solos Contemporary
9. Flat Foot
10. Acapella Solos
11. Choreographed Solos

Saturday Dance Order

1. Country Hoedown
2. 4 or More Couple Precision
3. Line
4. 4 or More Cpl Hoedown
5. Props Exhibition
6. Smooth
7. Acapella Team
8. 4 couple Precision
9. Line Formations
10. Southern App
11. Open Acapella Team
12. Traditional Line Formations
13. Solos Traditional
14. FlatFoot
15. Solos Contemporary
16. Acapella Solo
17. Running Set Hoedown
18. Novice Team
19. Exhibition
20. 6 or 8 Cpl Precision
21. Traditional Line
22. Running Set Precision
23. Small Team Exhibition
24. Show

Awards & Premiums

Premiums will be forfeited if NC Substitute W-9 is not provided for team and each solo dancer.

The 1st Place team in each division will receive \$50, 2nd and 3rd place trophies will be given in all divisions. Duo/Duets and Individuals (except Flatfoot) will receive trophies in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. Overall Team Grand Champion will receive \$200, Duos/Duets overall will receive \$100 each, Male and Female Solos for Traditional & Contemporary will receive \$100 for Grand Champion. Flatfoot will receive \$50.00 for Grand Champion. Short Duo/Duets will receive \$50 per dancer for Grand Champion. Acapella Solo and Choreographed Solo will receive \$50 for overall Champion. Allow up to 10 weeks for premium checks to be processed.

DEPARTMENT DE • ICE CREAM EATING CONTEST

Sponsored by **got to be NC AGRICULTURE**



Superintendent:

Entry Deadline: Tuesday, September 15th, 6:15pm

Contest Time: 6:30pm, Tuesday, September 15th

Place: EXPO Building

RULES and REGULATIONS:

•Categories for Competitors:

Ages 5 – 7-year-olds	Must consume 1 cup of ice cream	First 20 people to sign up by 6:15pm
	Parent or guardian must be present at sign-up and at the competition.	
Ages 8 – 12-year-olds	Must consume 2 cups of ice cream	First 20 people to sign up by 6:15pm
	Parent or guardian must be present at sign-up and at the competition.	
Ages 13 – 17-year-olds	Must consume 3 cups of ice cream	First 20 people to sign up by 6:15pm
	Parent or guardian must be present at sign-up and at the competition.	
Adults – Ages 18 & up	Must consume 1 pint of ice cream	First 20 people to sign up by 6:15pm
Celebrities (Preselected)	Must consume 1 pint of ice cream	This group of competitors is preselected

•Contest will begin promptly at 6:30pm. All contestants must be present with a completed waiver and checked in by 6:15pm. Failure to do so will result in disqualification of contestant.

•Contestants must open, complete and stack the empty cups in their space. (EXCEPTION: Cups will be opened for competitors in the 5-7 year old age group prior to the start of the contest.)

•Ice cream may not be touched or manipulated by contestants prior to start of the contest.

•Each cup must be fully eaten and stacked before the contestant proceeds to the next cup.

•Nothing may be added to the ice cream.

•Ice cream must be eaten with the supplied spoon (no hands).

•Any ice cream that enters the mouth must stay in the mouth.

•First contestant to complete required amount of ice cream in a category must show an empty mouth to the judges. If ice cream remains in the mouth, contestant will be disqualified.

•No water or other beverage may be consumed during the competition.

•If a contestant vomits or regurgitates at any point before the end of the competition, that contestant is disqualified.

•Failure to abide by the above rules will result in immediate disqualification of the contestant.

•**THE WINNER IS THE FIRST CONTESTANT TO FINISH THE REQUIRED AMOUNT OF ICE CREAM IN HIS/HER CATEGORY.** In case of a tie, there will be a 2nd round for the contestants in question.

•Judges will be on hand to assure adherence to the contest rules. Decisions of these judges are final.

•**The North Carolina Mountain State Fair will provide trophies to 1st place winners in each category and ribbons for 2nd and 3rd place winners.**

REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN TIMES WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED!



NC Mountain State Fair
1301 Fanning Bridge Road
Fletcher, NC 28732

EVENT PARTICIPANT WAIVER RELEASE, AND INDEMNIFICATION

I, (“Participant”), in consideration for being permitted to participate in the **Ice Cream Eating Contest** specified below (the “Event”) at the property listed below (the “Premises”) to the fullest extent permitted by law do hereby release, waive and forever discharge and covenant not to sue THE NORTH CAROLINA MOUNTAIN STATE FAIR and/or THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (the owners of the Premises), their affiliates, and any of their officers, directors, members, managers, employees and agents (each a “Released Party,” collectively, “Released Parties”) from any and all claims, demands, causes of loss, including, but not limited to, liability for property damage or loss, or bodily, personal or mental injury, including death, arising out of, or occurring in connection with Participant’s entry onto the Premises or related to Participant’s participation in the Ice Cream Eating Contest (each a “Claim”).

I recognize and acknowledge that my participation in the Event is **solely at my own choice and risk, and I have carefully and fully considered any risks, including, without limitation, dangers posed by the willful or negligent conduct of myself and others.** I understand that this Waiver and Release of Liability (this “Release”) is absolute as to any Claim which may arise because of my participation in the Event.

I agree to indemnify, defend and hold the Released Parties harmless from and against any and all loss, damage, claim, action, demand, cost and expense arising out of, relating to, or resulting from my entry onto the Premises and/or from any act or omission on my part while on the Premises, regardless of whether such loss, damage, claim, action, demand, cost and expense is caused in part by a party indemnified hereunder.

I further agree to abide by the rules and regulation of the Premises and agree that the Event may be canceled at any time without prior notice or warning. I agree to immediately cease participation in the Event upon request. I also authorize any photos or videos taken during the event to be used in Fair advertising including, but not limited to print, social internet sites and board case. I certify that I am at least eighteen years of age unless otherwise noted below.

I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS DOCUMENT AND VOLUNTARILY AND FREELY AGREE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH HEREIN.

Parent or guardian, by signing below, agree to the terms herein on behalf of any minors under the age of 18 in his/her custody at the Event.

Event: North Carolina Mountain State Fair **Ice Cream Eating Contest**
Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2026
Premises: EXPO Building, WNC Agriculture Center

Print Name and Signature of Participant (or Participant’s parent or legal guardian)

_____ Date _____

Minor's Name (if under 18 years of age) _____



ICE CREAM EATING CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Contestants please complete this form and present it ***no later than 6:15pm*** at the **EXPO Building** in order to participate in this contest! **CHECK-IN TIME WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED!**

There are a limited number of contestants for each category in this contest. Contestants must be present at the Davis Event Center **with this form and the Release Waiver** no later than 6:15pm prior to the contest.

Parent or Guardian must be present during check-in time as well as the complete duration of the contest if the contestant is under 18 years of age.

Participant's Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone: _____ Cell: _____

Email address: _____

DIVISION:

_____ Ages 5 – 7 years old (1 cup) Age _____ Birth Date _____

_____ Ages 8 - 12 years old (2 cups) Age _____ Birth Date _____

_____ Ages 13 - 17 years old (3 cups) Age _____ Birth Date _____

_____ Adult (Ages 18+ years old (1 pint) Age _____ Birth Date _____

_____ Celebrities (Preselected) (1 pint) Occupation _____

Participant's Signature (Age 18 or older) _____

Parent's / Guardian's Name (Participants under 18 years of age) _____

Parent's / Guardian's Signature _____

Volunteer Department Superintendent Job Description

VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENTS are an invaluable part of the NC Mountain State Fair. The position requires commitment to the responsibilities and involvement in the department from before the Fair opens until exhibits are picked up. This means investing hours of valuable time before, during, and after the Fair. We appreciate our superintendents and the hard work expended by each of them.

DESCRIPTION:

- The Department Volunteer Superintendent has a very important job as he/she works to ensure that exhibits are judged fairly and displayed appropriately. The Superintendent is responsible for the overall coordination of the department.
- The Fair needs volunteers to make the fair a successful event. Volunteers are the face of the Fair for youth, parents, community members and fairgoers.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Knowledge of the criteria for entries in the area he/she will be Superintending.
- Willingness and ability to work cooperatively with others.
- Provide leadership of the overall functions of the Department.
- Must possess ability to communicate effectively with the staff, exhibitors, and fairgoers.
- Be able to conduct themselves in a courteous and respectful manner to everyone.
- Individual needs to organize and attractively display the exhibits entered in the Expo Building

DUTIES:

- The Superintendent is to have a comprehensive understanding of Fair rules, regulations, and criteria.
- The Superintendent needs to submit a list of materials that will be needed in their area.
- The Superintendent will be available to answer questions concerning exhibits, classes, etc.
- Superintendents need to be available at check-in to answer questions, give guidance to exhibitors about their entries and help whenever needed.
- Being available at check-out and during the Fair is helpful.
- Responsible for setup and cleanup of the Department,
- Recruit qualified judges for the Department, and coordinate with the Entry Department, giving Judge's names to Expo Office at least one week prior to judging day.
- Prior to judging, check exhibits carefully to verify that they have been placed in the proper classes according to the catalog. This reduces confusion and the chance of missing exhibits at the time of judging.
- Superintendent is to be present and have conversation with judges prior to judging to prevent confusion and problems during the judging evaluation.
- Department Superintendents are responsible for the official record of judging results (being sure all placing is recorded), as well as having the judges sign the Judge's Information Sheet. (When using the iPad, Judge's Information Sheet still must be signed.)
- Superintendent is to check entry tags to be sure they correspond with the entries on the judge's sheet.
- Superintendent is to inform the judge the number of entries in each class. Superintendent is *NOT* to discuss entries with the judge but answer questions that the judge asks about each class. The superintendent is not the Judge.
- The Superintendent will assist with placing ribbons on the exhibits. Make sure the name of the exhibitor and the Class Number is on the back of the ribbon and attach ribbon *to exhibit* (not the entry tag).
- Department Superintendent is responsible for returning all supplies (Judges Books or iPad, ribbons, stapler, pens, etc.) to the Expo Office.
- After judging, see that all entries are neatly arranged, they can be seen, and are safe (place delicate exhibits far from reach of small or curious Fairgoers.) Treat all exhibits with respect.

Expo Building Volunteer Job Description

A FAIR VOLUNTEER is a person who freely gives time to the NC Mountain State Fair. We are looking for volunteers for a 2 ½ week period in September with a minimum of 4-hour increments. This position requires commitment.

DESCRIPTION:

- Volunteers will be expected to represent the fair in a positive way and demonstrate good customer service skills by being polite, patient, encouraging and engaging with the fairgoers.
- The Fair needs volunteers who are reliable and punctual with a non-judgmental approach.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Committed to and passionate about volunteering at the Fair.
- Trustworthy and pleasant to work with.
- Positive, friendly, energetic, approachable, and flexible with a desire to interact with fairgoers.
- Able to work well independently or in a group.
- Excellent verbal communication skills.
- Self-motivated but with the ability to follow instructions.
- Be familiar with the Expo Building and the exhibit locations.

DUTIES:

- Help keep Expo area clean, tidy with pipe and drapes neat and in order.
- Assist individuals with special needs.
- Sign in and out in Volunteer Book
- Aid in setup and breakdown if signed up for it.
- Entry day: aid with entry process and assist in placing entries in correct areas.
- Pickup day: aid in release of entries.
- Help with setup and tear down activities.
- Be physically able to stand and walk for extended periods of time.
- Provide a warm and welcoming presence to fairgoers.
- Provide administrative support when needed.
- Politely but assertively remind fairgoers of the 'no touch' policy,

BENEFITS:

- Qualified to participate in the Volunteer Incentive Program
- Able to enjoy the fair from a totally different perspective.
- Contributing to the community at large.

If you are looking for an exciting place to volunteer, contact the Entry Department by phone (828) 687-1414 Extension 208 or email emily.darnell@ncagr.gov.

VOLUNTEER WORK CALENDAR & CONTACT INFORMATION 2026 INFORMATION

Name _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, _____
 Zip: _____
 Telephone: Work #: _____ Cell # _____
 Email _____
 Address: _____
 Shirt Size _____
 Men's Size: _____

Are you able to perform the essential job function with or without reasonable accommodations: _____

If not, what accommodations do you require? _____

**Mark the day(s) on the calendar and write in the "TIME" that you will be available to volunteer.
 If you have any questions, please call 828-687-1414, ext. 208 or email Emily Darnell (emily.darnell@ncagr.gov)**

VOLUNTEERS MUST SIGN IN AND OUT EVERY DAY

SEPTEMBER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Anytime between 9:00 am-7:00pm	Anytime between 9:00 am-7:00pm	Anytime between 9:00 am-7:00pm	Anytime between 9:00 am-7:00pm	Anytime between 9:00 am-9:00pm	Anytime between 9:00 am-9:00pm
	Entry Receiving Day		Judging		FAIR OPENS	
	Start _____ Finish _____ -	Start _____ Finish _____ -	Start _____ Finish _____ -	Start _____ Finish _____ -	Start _____ Finish _____ -	Start _____ Finish _____ -
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Anytime between 9:00 am-9:00pm	Anytime between 3:00pm - 9:00pm	Anytime between 3:00pm-9:00pm	Anytime between 3:00 am-9:00pm	Anytime between 3:00 pm-9:00pm	Anytime between 9:00 am-9:00pm	Anytime between 9:00 am-9:00pm
Start _____ Finish _____ -	Start _____ Finish _____ -	Start _____ Finish _____ -	Start _____ Finish _____ -	Start _____ Finish _____ -	Start _____ Finish _____ -	Start _____ Finish _____ -

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Anytime between 9:00 am-9:00pm		Anytime between 9:00 am-7:00pm				
FAIR CLOSSES		Entry Pick-Up Day				

**BY FILLING OUT THIS FORM, YOU AGREE TO READ AND ABIDE BY THE VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION.
 VOLUNTEERS WILL MEET IN AUGUST TO DISCUSS DETAILS FOR THE FAIR.**