

Creative Arts Division 13

Minerals-Fossils & Lapidary

**New Mexico State Fair
September 10 – 20, 2026**

Art Director

**Ramona Vigil-Eastwood
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Superintendent

Thresa Montoya

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**Sponsored by
The Albuquerque Gem
& Mineral Club, Inc.
<http://www.agmc.info>**

Entry Dates

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2026
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2026**

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**ENTRY FEE: \$5.00
Fees are Non-Refundable**

The Following Rules Apply to All Sections

1. Precautions are taken for the safety of all entries, but in no case, will the New Mexico State Fair, the state of New Mexico, employees, contractors or volunteers be held liable for the loss or damages to any entry while in the Fair's possession. Participants are encouraged to carry their own insurance.
2. Participant recognizes that marketing of the Fair and its grounds requires use of photography and video. Participant hereby expressly grants to the Fair the irrevocable, assignable right and license to take, use and publish participant images and work without the need for any other approval. Images and work will not be used for profit.
3. Participants are responsible for picking up their own work or providing written authorization for pick-up by another individual.
4. **NEW:** Work must be picked up Tuesday, September 22, 2026, from 9:00am – 4:00pm. Any work remaining on the Fairgrounds after this date will be considered abandoned and shall become the property of the NM State Fair to be disposed of at its discretion.

Minerals & Fossils

Special Rules

1. All entries must be clean, securely mounted on an appropriate base if less than 2" in diameter, correctly labeled with scientific identification, location found, and neatly displayed.
2. Specimens may be solitary or in a collection and must fit inside the cases provided.

3. Collections are limited to 10 individual specimens or one 8" x 10" frame display case with each specimen in the collection correctly labeled.
4. Judging will be based on presentation of the specimen or collection, accuracy of labeling, and quality.

Lapidary Special Rules

1. All entries must be exhibitor's own work.
2. The exhibitor must have cut, carved, polished, or faceted all stones.
3. All work less than 5" in diameter must be securely mounted on an appropriate base.
4. Judging will be based on workmanship, quality of materials, and originality of design.

Sections 459 – 464

Section 459:

Junior, 6 years & under

Section 460:

Youth, 7-12 years of age

Section 461:

Senior, 13-17 years of age

Section 462:

General, 18 years of age and older

Section 463:

Youth or Adults, with Disabilities/Special Needs

Section 464:

Professional, More than 5 years' experience

Minerals & Fossils

Class 1-6

1. **Collections** – Collections must present a theme, for example, variations of color in a specific mineral or minerals from the same location.
2. **Fossil Collections** – Collections must present a theme, for example, variations of class in fossil species or variation in fossils for the same location.
3. **Multiple Fossil Specimens** – Two or more fossils displayed as part of the base rock in which they are found, each fossil on the specimen must be identified.
4. **Multiple Mineral Specimens** – Two or more minerals displayed as part of the base rock in which they are found, each mineral on the specimen must be identified.
5. **Single Fossil Specimens** – One fossil entry displayed separately or with the base rock in which it was found.
6. **Single Mineral Specimens** – One mineral entry displayed separately or with the base rock in which it was found.

Lapidary

Class 7-8

7. **Carved Stone** – Any carved stone not covered by Class 8.
8. **General Lapidary** – Cut, carved, polished or faceted gemstones.

Ribbon Awards

1st Place 2nd Place 3rd Place
Best of Show – Rosette

Note: Best of Show will be awarded only in classes where there are three (3) or more entries.