

School Arts

Art Director

Ramona Vigil-Eastwood

(505) 222-9738

New Mexico State Fair

September 10 - 20, 2026

Art Preview Night & Award Ceremony

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Secretary of Education

Mariana Padilla

Humanities Specialist

Erica Wheeler

(505) 551-2179

Erica.wheeler@ped.nm.gov

ART DISPLAY LOCATION

School Arts Building

Installation Date:

Friday, August 21, 11:00am – 4:00pm

Saturday, August 22, 9:00am – 4:00pm

(Installation must be completed by 4:00pm)

Removal Date:

Tuesday, September 22, 2026, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Special Rules

1. Art teachers, classroom teachers, principals and superintendents who bring Pre-K-12 student artwork to the NM Student Art

Exhibit must:

- Exhibit original, cultural & creative work that is matted and/or framed.
- Meet the New Mexico Core Arts Standards.
- Label each piece of artwork with student's name, grade, teacher name, school district or charter school. Schools planning to participate must submit the [2026 NM State Fair School Arts Exhibition Participation Form](#) by August 1, so a space can be reserved for your school. If you have trouble accessing the form, please contact Erica Wheeler above.
- Teachers:** Please collect art to be exhibited before the end of the school year.

e. Be sure to bring supplies needed for displaying the artwork, such as tape, markers, scissors, paper, labels, school signage, clips, s-hooks used for hanging artwork, etc.

- Mileage: The New Mexico State Fair will pay **two round trips** of mileage to one coordinator delivering and installing artwork from their school if located 56 miles outside Albuquerque surrounding city limits. Mileage along with the coordinator's complete name, address, phone number, completed W-9 and school being represented **must** be given to Ramona Vigil-Eastwood by **September 25, 2026**, or **mileage will not be paid.**
- Important Volunteers will be needed:** Due to the location change, School Arts display area will need at least four people, (2 per shift, 9:00am – 4:00pm & 4:00pm – 9:00pm), to answer questions from fairgoers each day of the fair. In addition, someone should be available during Preview Night from 4:00pm – 8:00pm. NM State Fair will provide parking, and gate passes to these individuals. If interested in volunteering please contact Erica Wheeler 505-551-2179 or Ramona Vigil-Eastwood, NMSF Art/Entry Director at 505-222-9738, Ramona.veastwood@expo.nm.gov
- Eligible School Systems: All systems, public, private, parochial, home school, federal Pre-K-12 (Gifted, AP, and Dual Credit) or other programs approved by the Public Education Department are eligible to participate in the exhibit.
- Classification: Exhibits are to be on display as a school system Pre-K-12. **All ribbons provided by the New Mexico State Fair must be displayed with the artwork throughout the Fair.**
- Installation and Removal: To be coordinated with Erica Wheeler.
- For additional artwork not on display, consider creating a virtual exhibit on your site: Bring signage-directing patrons to the virtual site.

8. PED and Artists recognize that marketing of the Fair and its grounds requires the use of photography and videography. PED and Artists hereby grant to the Fair the irrevocable, assignable right and license to take, use and publish Artist images and artwork without the need for any other approval. Artist images and artwork will not be used for profit.
9. 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, volunteers or the Public Education Department be held liable for the loss or damages to any entry while in the Fair's possession.
10. Artwork removal from the School Arts Building **Tuesday, September 22, 2026, from 9:00am – 4:00pm**. The New Mexico State Fair and the Public Education Department personnel cannot assume responsibility for artwork left at the fairgrounds after this date. Any artwork/items remaining on the Fairgrounds after 4:00pm will be considered abandoned and shall become the property of the New Mexico State Fair to be disposed of at its discretion.