

# 2026 Leather Artistry Department

**SUPERINTENDENT:** Donna Routh

**Assist. Superintendent:** Gregg Routh

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** June 25, 2026.

**On-line entry is available through our website [www.ozarkempirefair.com](http://www.ozarkempirefair.com).**

Registration forms to mail in are available at [www.ozarkempirefair.com](http://www.ozarkempirefair.com) or at the Ozark Empire Fair Office.

Exhibitor tags will be mailed in July to the name and address on the online registration or registration form.

Receive one (1) FREE admission ticket if you enter 15 or more items (all departments combined).

---

***ADULTS: \$2.00 per entry***

***YOUTH and CHALLENGED: \$1.00 per entry***

(Maximum fee for any **adult** exhibitor = \$50 all departments combined. Maximum fee for any **youth** exhibitor = \$25 all departments combined. **IF** you mail or walk-in a PAPER Registration Form. **Total number of entries for mail or walk-in entries shall be limited to a total of 75.** If you register **online**, EVERY entry will be charged \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for youth with no upper limit.)

---

**CHECK-IN:** Saturday, July 18, 2026

Exhibits will be checked in on Saturday, July 18, 2026, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Check-in procedure will be sent with exhibitor tags in July. Exhibitor tags must be securely attached to exhibits before arriving at the Fairgrounds.

**CHECK-OUT:** Sunday, August 9, 2026.

Exhibits will be checked out after the Fair on Sunday, August 9, 2026, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. **No exhibit will be released prior to this time.** A claim check (bottom of exhibitor tag) is required to check out each exhibit. Any exhibit not claimed by August 14 will be considered abandoned and will become the property of the Ozark Empire Fair to be disposed of as necessary.

## **REGULATIONS:**

1. All entries are governed by the Life & Arts Rules and Regulations and the rules for this department.
2. Adult exhibitors only (19 years and over). Youth work, see Youth Department.
3. **NUMBER OF EXHIBITS:** Exhibitor is limited to **ONE (1)** exhibit in a class.
4. Exhibits must be the original work of the exhibitor, done within the past two years and not previously shown in any class at the Ozark Empire Fair. No copies will be accepted.
5. Exhibitor tags should be attached to exhibits with string (whenever possible) so that the tag is clearly visible.
6. Prize money will be paid to the number of places indicated for each class, if quality merits. Judges may occasionally award additional places but no prize money will be paid for these additional ribbons.
7. The exhibitor and the public are prohibited from touching or handling exhibits in any manner or from helping remove exhibits on release day.
8. Exhibit building will not be open to the public during judging.  
In order to have this exhibit of as high quality as possible, the right is reserved to reject all unsuitable exhibits, to determine that all rules and regulations have been followed and that no identification of the exhibitor in any form is displayed during judging.
9. **Judging guidelines: see Judging Guidelines link.**

### GENERAL LEATHER CRAFT RULES:

- a) All rules at the beginning of the department apply.
- b) Exhibit must be at least 90% leather and cannot show signs of wear or use.
- c) If your piece is made to hold something specific (cigars, paper towels, etc.), you can include that with your exhibit so the piece will be functionally complete. However, if your piece is made to hold something you do not want to bring to the Fair (jewelry, knife, etc.), you can write the intended use on the exhibitor tag and/or attach a photo of the item in actual use.
- d) The exhibitor is responsible for entering the item in the correct category and class. An item entered incorrectly will be accepted for display only and will not be judged.

### LEATHER CRAFT DEFINITIONS:

- a. **Beginner Leather Crafters** are those who have less than two (2) years of experience in leather craft. An exhibitor who has accumulated a total of six (6) blue ribbons as a Beginner must move up to Intermediate level regardless of years of experience.
- b. **Intermediate Leather Crafters** are those with two (2) or more years of experience in leather craft but who have not yet reached advanced skills.
- c. **Advanced Leather Crafters** are those whose work consistently displays outstanding workmanship and creativity.
- d. **Master Class Leather Crafters** are those whose work displays outstanding workmanship and creativity. This may include, but is not limited to, professionals and teachers of leather craft.

**Springfield Leather Company of Springfield, MO** will award a \$50 gift certificate to Sponsor's Choice. All classes competing.

### DIVISION 1701 – YOUTH BEGINNER

**Champion: Ribbon**

**Prize money: \$3 - \$2 - \$1**

#### Additional information:

- a. Exhibitor is limited to one (1) exhibit per class.
- b. Exhibit must be at least 90% leather and cannot show signs of wear or use.
- c. If your piece is made to hold something specific (pencils, paper towels, etc.), you can include that with your exhibit so the piece will be functionally complete. However, if your piece is made to hold something you do not want to bring to the Fair (jewelry, knife, etc.), you can write the intended use on the exhibitor tag and/or attach a photo of the item in use.

On-the-Spot Leather Challenge – open to any youth ages 9 - 15 on Saturday, August 1 @ 3 p.m. and Saturday, August 8 @ 3 p.m.
--

#### Class

- 1 Book (book covers, scrapbooks, notebooks, etc.)
- 2 Picture – any style
- 3 Household article, anything normally used in the home or office other than books or pictures. (Examples: jewelry box, tissue, pencil case, etc.)
- 4 Personal item (purse, clutch purse, handbag, shoulder bag, fanny pack, belt, accessory item, wearing apparel, carrying case)
- 5 Pocket item (billfold, wallet, checkbook cover, pocket secretary, card case, key case, shear case, eyeglass case, or any other item, which can be carried in a pocket)
- 6 Belt accessory – item that can be attached to or worn on a belt (cell phone case, knife sheath, holster, etc.)
- 7 Miscellaneous – any leather item not listed in this division.

## DIVISION 1702 – YOUTH INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED

**Champion: Ribbon**

**Prize money: \$3 - \$2 - \$1**

### **Additional information:**

- a. Exhibitor is limited to one (1) exhibit per class.
- b. Exhibit must be at least 90% leather and cannot show signs of wear or use.
- c. If your piece is made to hold something specific (pencils, paper towels, etc.), you can include that with your exhibit so the piece will be functionally complete. However, if your piece is made to hold something you do not want to bring to the Fair (jewelry, knife, etc.), you can write the intended use on the exhibitor tag and/or attach a photo of the item in actual use.

On-the-Spot Leather Challenge –  
open to any youth ages 9 - 15 on  
Saturday, August 1 @ 3 p.m. and  
Saturday, August 8 @ 3 p.m.

### **Class**

- 1 Book (book covers, scrapbooks, notebooks, etc.)
- 2 Picture – any style
- 3 Household article, anything normally used in the home or office other than books or pictures. (Examples: jewelry box, tissue, pencil case, etc.)
- 4 Personal item (purse, clutch purse, handbag, shoulder bag, fanny pack, belt, accessory item, wearing apparel, carrying case)
- 5 Pocket item (billfold, wallet, checkbook cover, pocket secretary, card case, key case, shear case, eyeglass case, or any other item which can be carried in a pocket)
- 6 Belt accessory – item which can be attached to or worn on a belt (cell phone case, knife sheath, holster, etc.)
- 7 Miscellaneous – any leather item not listed in this division

## DIVISION 1703 – CHALLENGED

**Champion: Ribbons (one for youth and one for adult)**

**Prize money: \$3 - \$2 - \$1**

### **Additional information:**

- a. Exhibits in this class are for youth and adults with physical and developmental challenges.
- b. Exhibitor is limited to one (1) exhibit per class.
- c. Exhibit must be at least 90% leather and cannot show signs of wear or use.
- d. If your piece is made to hold something specific (pencils, paper towels, etc.), you can include that with your exhibit so the piece will be functionally complete. However, if your piece is made to hold something you do not want to bring to the Fair (jewelry, knife, etc.), you can write the intended use on the exhibitor tag and/or attach a photo of the item in actual use.

On-the-Spot Leather Challenge –  
open to any youth ages 9 - 15 on  
Saturday, August 1 @ 3 p.m. and  
Saturday, August 8 @ 3 p.m.

### **Youth Classes:**

- 1 Book (book covers, scrapbooks, notebooks, etc.)
- 2 Picture – any style
- 3 Household article, anything normally used in the home or office other than books or pictures. (Examples: jewelry box, tissue, pencil case, etc.)
- 4 Personal item (purse, clutch purse, handbag, shoulder bag, fanny pack, belt, accessory item, wearing apparel, carrying case)
- 5 Pocket item (billfold, wallet, checkbook cover, pocket secretary, card case, key case, shear case, eyeglass case, or any other item which can be carried in a pocket)

- 6 Belt accessory – item which can be attached to or worn on a belt (cell phone case, knife sheath, holster, etc.)
- 7 Miscellaneous – any leather item not listed in this division.

**Adult Classes:**

- 8 Book (book covers, scrapbooks, notebooks, etc.)
- 9 Picture – any style
- 10 Household article, anything normally used in the home or office other than books or pictures. (Examples: jewelry box, tissue, pencil case, etc.)
- 11 Personal item (purse, clutch purse, handbag, shoulder bag, fanny pack, belt, accessory item, wearing apparel, carrying case)
- 12 Pocket item (billfold, wallet, checkbook cover, pocket secretary, card case, key case, shear case, eyeglass case, or any other item which can be carried in a pocket)
- 13 Belt accessory – item which can be attached to or worn on a belt (cell phone case, knife sheath, holster, etc.)
- 14 Miscellaneous – any leather item not listed in this division.

**DIVISION 1704 - SPECIAL CONTESTS -**

Ribbons only - no prize money

**Class 1: THEME CONTEST – SUMMER’S BIGGEST PARTY, 90 Years of a Grand Ole Fair!**

Any leather item, which embraces the fair theme of Summer’s Biggest Party, 90 Years of a Grand Ole Fair! May use any leather technique. May be decorative or functional. Exhibitor is limited to one (1) item.

**Class 2: FIRST TIME EXHIBITOR IN LEATHER ARTISTRY DEPARTMENT:** Any leather item made by a First Time Exhibitor in the Leather Artistry Department and *exhibitor must be in their first or second year of doing leather artistry.* May use any leather technique. May be decorative or functional. May be any leather item. Exhibitor is limited to one (1) item.

**DIVISION 1705 – Open**

**Best of Show: Ribbon**

**Prize money: \$5 - \$3 - \$2**

**Additional information:**

- a. Exhibitor may be any skill level. Exhibitors acknowledge by entering this class, s/he may be exhibiting against more skilled leather workers.
- b. Exhibitor is limited to one (1) exhibit per class.
- c. Exhibit must be at least 90% leather and cannot show signs of wear or use.
- d. If your piece is made to hold something specific (pencils, paper towels, etc.), you can include that with your exhibit so the piece will be functionally complete. However, if your piece is made to hold something you do not want to bring to the Fair (jewelry, knife, etc.), you can write the intended use on the exhibitor tag and/or attach a photo of the item in actual use.

**Class**

- 1 Book (book covers, scrapbooks, notebooks, etc.)
- 2 Picture – any style
- 3 Household article, anything normally used in the home or office other than books or pictures. Examples: jewelry box, cigar box, humidor, etc.

- 4 Personal item (purse, clutch purse, handbag, shoulder bag, fanny pack, belt, accessory item, wearing apparel, carrying case)
- 5 Pocket item (billfold, wallet, checkbook cover, pocket secretary, card case, key case, shear case, eyeglass case, or any other item which can be carried in a pocket)
- 6 Horse accessory or gear (saddle, bridle, breast collar, harness, hobbles, whip, reins, saddle bag, etc. Anything to control a horse or anything that can be used with a horse)
- 7 Belt accessory – item which can be attached to or worn on a belt (cell phone case, knife sheath, holster, tobacco pouch, etc.)
- 8 Miscellaneous – any leather item not listed in this division

### **DIVISION 1706 – ADULT – BEGINNER**

**Best of Show: Ribbon**

**Prize money: \$5 - \$3 - \$2**

**Additional information:**

- a. **Beginner Leather Crafters** are those who have less than two (2) years' experience in leather craft. An exhibitor who has accumulated a total of six (6) blue ribbons as a Beginner must move up to Intermediate level regardless of years of experience.
- b. Exhibitor is limited to one (1) exhibit per class.
- c. Youth leather: see Divisions 1701-1702

**Class**

- 1 Book (book covers, scrapbooks, notebooks, etc.)
- 2 Picture – any style
- 3 Household article, anything normally used in the home or office other than books or pictures. Examples: jewelry box, cigar box, humidior, etc.
- 4 Personal item (purse, clutch purse, handbag, shoulder bag, fanny pack, belt, accessory item, wearing apparel, carrying case)
- 5 Pocket item (billfold, wallet, checkbook cover, pocket secretary, card case, key case, shear case, eyeglass case, or any other item which can be carried in a pocket)
- 6 Horse accessory or gear (saddle, bridle, breast collar, harness, hobbles, whip, reins, saddle bag, etc. Anything to control a horse or anything that can be used with a horse)
- 7 Belt accessory – item which can be attached to or worn on a belt (cell phone case, knife sheath, holster, tobacco pouch, etc.)
- 8 Miscellaneous – any leather item not listed in this division

### **DIVISION 1707 - ADULT – INTERMEDIATE**

**Best of Show: Ribbon**

**Prize money: \$5 - \$3 - \$2**

**Additional information:**

- a. **Intermediate Leather Crafters** are those with two (2) or more years' experience in leather craft but who have not yet reached Advanced skills.
- b. Exhibitor is limited to one (1) exhibit per class.
- c. Youth leather: see Divisions 1701-1702

**Class**

- 1 Book (book covers, scrapbooks, notebooks, etc.)
- 2 Picture – any style
- 3 Household article, anything normally used in the home or office other than books or pictures. Examples: jewelry box, cigar box, humidior, etc.

- 4 Personal item (purse, clutch purse, handbag, shoulder bag, fanny pack, belt, accessory item, wearing apparel, carrying case)
- 5 Pocket item (billfold, wallet, checkbook cover, pocket secretary, card case, key case, shear case, eyeglass case, or any other item, which can be carried in a pocket)
- 6 Horse accessory or gear (saddle, bridle, breast collar, harness, hobbles, whip, reins, saddle bag, etc. Anything to control a horse or anything that can be used with a horse)
- 7 Belt accessory – item which can be attached to or worn on a belt (cell phone case, knife sheath, holster, tobacco pouch, etc.)
- 8 Miscellaneous – any leather item not listed in this division

### **DIVISION 1708 - ADULT – ADVANCED**

**Best of Show: Ribbon**  
**Prize money: \$5 - \$3 - \$2**

**Additional information:**

- a. **Advanced Leather Crafters** are those whose work consistently displays outstanding workmanship and creativity.
- b. Exhibitor is limited to one (1) exhibit per class.
- c. Youth leather: see Divisions 1701-1702

**Class**

- 1 Book (book covers, scrapbooks, notebooks, etc.)
- 2 Picture – any style
- 3 Household article, anything normally used in the home or office other than books or pictures. Examples: jewelry box, cigar box, humidior, etc.
- 4 Personal item (purse, clutch purse, handbag, shoulder bag, fanny pack, belt, accessory item, wearing apparel, carrying case)
- 5 Pocket item (billfold, wallet, checkbook cover, pocket secretary, card case, key case, shear case, eyeglass case, or any other item which can be carried in a pocket)
- 6 Wearing apparel (chaps, skirt, jacket, vest, costume, etc.)
- 7 Horse accessory or gear (saddle, bridle, breast collar, harness, hobbles, whip, reins, saddle bag, etc. Anything to control a horse or anything that can be used with a horse)
- 8 Belt accessory – item which can be attached to or worn on a belt (cell phone case, knife sheath, holster, tobacco pouch, etc.)
- 9 Miscellaneous – any leather item not listed in this division.

### **DIVISION 1709 - ADULT – MASTER CLASS**

**Best of Show: Ribbon**  
**Prize money: \$5 - \$3 - \$2**

**Additional information:**

- a. **Advanced Leather Crafters** are those whose work consistently displays outstanding workmanship and creativity. This may include, but is not limited to, professionals and teachers of leather craft.
- d. Exhibitor is limited to one (1) exhibit per class.
- e. Youth leather: see Divisions 1701-1702

**Class**

- 1 Book (book covers, scrapbooks, notebooks, etc.)
- 2 Picture – any style
- 3 Household article, anything normally used in the home or office other than books or pictures. Examples: jewelry box, cigar box, humidior, etc.

- 4 Personal item (purse, clutch purse, handbag, shoulder bag, fanny pack, belt, accessory item, wearing apparel, carrying case)
- 5 Pocket item (billfold, wallet, checkbook cover, pocket secretary, card case, key case, shear case, eyeglass case, or any other item which can be carried in a pocket)
- 6 Wearing apparel (chaps, skirt, jacket, vest, costume, etc.)
- 7 Horse accessory or gear (saddle, bridle, breast collar, harness, hobbles, whip, reins, saddle bag, etc. Anything to control a horse or anything that can be used with a horse)
- 8 Belt accessory – item which can be attached to or worn on a belt (cell phone case, knife sheath, holster, tobacco pouch, etc.)
- 9 Miscellaneous – any leather item not listed in this division

