

PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISION

ENTRY DEADLINE – January 15, 2024

ENTRY FEE - \$20 per entry

DELIVERY OF PHOTOS – 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., Saturday, March 2, 2024

AUCTION FOR QUALIFYING PHOTOS – 10:00 a.m., Saturday, March 16, 2024

SPECIAL RULES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISION

1. All participants must be enrolled in elementary, secondary, or home school and be at least 5 years old and under 20 years of age as of September 1, 2023. All participants must reside in Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, or Willacy counties.
2. The exhibitor will enter in the division according to his/her grade as of September 1, 2023:
 - a. Sub Junior Division – Grades K – 2nd
 - b. Junior Division – Grades 3rd – 5th
 - c. Intermediate Division – Grades 6th – 8th
 - d. Senior Division – Grades 9th – 12th
3. All photographs must have been taken between March 1, 2023, and January 1, 2024. Photographs must be original to the exhibitor. The Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show will not be responsible for damaged photographs. Entries must be suitable for all groups. Inappropriate subject matter will be disqualified. The photography committee reserves the right to reject material considered inappropriate. No photos of alcoholic beverages are allowed. Settlements of any disputes or discrepancies that may arise are at the sole discretion of the Photography Committee. All decisions of the judges are final. All photos must have been taken by the person entering the photo. Photography of copyrighted material is strictly prohibited. Professionals will not be allowed to enter. A professional is defined herein as one who is involved in photography as a livelihood.
4. Exhibitors may enter only one photo for judging. Entries must be submitted through the online entry system. Classification will be completed upon delivery.
5. Photos must be 8"x10" and must be matted with black, white, or black with white. Mats must be 11"x14" with an 8"x10" opening. Foam backing of matted photo is permissible but not required. The maximum dimension of the entry is 11"x14". No framed pieces will be accepted.
6. All photos must have a release waiver attached to the back of the photo.
7. Exhibitors should NOT attach hanging tabs to mats. RGVLS standard hanging tabs will be attached by committee after judging.
8. All entries must be checked in at the Event Center at the Rio Grande Valley Livestock Showgrounds on Saturday, March 2, 2024, between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. This will be a drive-thru check-in. All proper paperwork must be in place prior to drop off. Forms and supplies will not be provided. If a photography piece is not properly matted with forms in place it will not be accepted.
9. Judging will be based on the following criteria:
 - a. Composition
 - b. Originality
 - c. Quality of Print

10. Categories are as follows for each age division:

- A. **Black and White** – Photos can be of any subject as long as they are printed in black and white. Black and white photos are not permitted in any other category. Images may not be printed in Sepia (brown tones), only black and white. Sepia images do not qualify in any category.
- B. **People** – Photos focus on a person or people from all walks of life – parenting and family, children, babies, models/fashion, sports, and couples.
- C. **Animals & Birds** – Photos focus on all types of animals or birds, wild or domestic. Photos in this category may also include all types of bugs, insects, and fish.
- D. **Still Life** – Photos of one or more inanimate (not living) objects in a composition, where the photographer has clearly given thought to the arrangement of objects and to their lighting, focus and background. The subject in the photo must be ones which could be moved and rearranged, not part of the landscape or the fixtures of a building. Lighting can be either natural or artificial.
- E. **Landscape & Scenery** – Photos focus on the beauty of nature. Photos in this category would include sunsets, sunrises, urban landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, farms, nature, and other outdoor scenes.
- F. **Action Photography** – Photos of subjects in motion. Subjects can be playing sports, running, etc. as long as the focal point of the photo is in motion.
- G. **Plants & Flora** – Photos of interesting, unique, and beautiful flowers and flora. Photography can take place outdoors or indoors. Photo subject should be that of a single flower, plant, bush, tree, etc. Large collections of plants/flora should be considered for entry into the Nature & Landscape category.
- H. **Current Livestock Show Theme** – Photos that express or exhibit the current theme of the Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show. The 2024 theme is **“A Legacy of Youth and Agriculture”**.
- I. **Food** – This category is a still life specialization of photography aimed at producing attractive photographs of food for use in such items of advertisements, packaging, menus and/or cookbooks.
- J. **Elements of Design** – Photos showcasing elements of design such as lines, shapes, patterns, forms, textures, perspectives, etc. Photos consist of any subject matter as long as focus is clearly on an element of design.

11. All photographs entered and delivered to RGVLS become the property of the show. RGVLS reserves the right to photograph, record video and utilize submitted photographs for development education, promotion, and/or marketing purposes for the show or its entities. Waiver must be signed.

12. PENDING: RGVLS has not finalized an avenue to include certain divisions in either an auction or add-on program. The following may be necessary for this division to be included in those efforts.

After judging, certain projects may be tagged for sale/ add-on program.

General Rules, Regulations and Procedures on page 23 also apply.

AWARDS

Overall Grand Champion – Buckle

Overall Reserve Grand Champion – Buckle

Division Champion – Rosette

Reserve Division Champion - Rosette

1st -10th places – Ribbon

Champion winners in each division will compete for Overall Grand Champion Award. Reserve Champion winner in division that produced the Grand Champion will compete with the remaining Champions for the Overall Reserve Grand Champion Award. The Overall Grand Champion and Overall Reserve Grand Champion projects will be eligible to participate in the Sale of Champions on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. This is a premium auction only; the actual projects will not be sold to the buyers.