

# Creative Aquariums Competition Handbook

For more information, contact  
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## IMPORTANT DATES

### Online or Paper Entry Form Deadline

Friday, December 31, 2021

### Deliver items to Building 5 at the South Florida Fair (see Page 4)

Sunday, January 2	Monday, January 3	Tuesday, January 4
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### Items exhibited

January 14-30, 2022

### Entry pick up

Monday, January 31, 2022  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

## Competition Overview

Entry Fee: FREE

How to enter online - Page 4

General Rules - Page 5

Paper entry form - Page 6

**Exhibitors are encouraged to read this handbook in its entirety.**

## Eligibility and Guidelines

- The Amateur Adult and Professional Adult Divisions are open to all Florida residents ages 18 and up.
- The Amateur Youth Divisions are open to Florida residents in grades 1 – 12.
- All entered items must be on display for the entire duration of the Fair.
- Exhibitors may enter as many classes as they like.
- Tank dimensions must be included in registration due to space restrictions. There is no upper or lower limit on the size of the entered item, but due to space limitations, tanks over 55 gallons will need approval. Entered items will be assigned space on a first-come, first-served basis. If space is unavailable for all entered items, the Fair will notify those affected.
- Each exhibitor will provide a tank complete with all accessories to include light, filter, and a drop cord with three-way plug. Only one electrical outlet will be provided for each tank. Electricity, water, and display space will be provided.
- The Fair will provide care of all entered items during the Fair, but assumes no responsibility, either actual or implied for any mishaps, which may occur.
- No late entered items will be permitted. Claim receipts will be issued at the time of display setup.

## Adult & Youth



## Judging and Awards

The Fair ensures that the judges are knowledgeable in the division in which they are judging and will be impartial. Judges reserve the right to reassign entries to a more appropriate division or class. Judging will be done using a scorecard to assist in keeping decisions as objective as possible. **The decision of the judge(s) is final.**

If, at the judge's discretion, an entry does not merit a placing, the judge shall give no award under any circumstance. This rule applies whether there is one or more exhibits in the class.

*Final results and exhibit display will be revealed during the Fair.*

### Amateur Adult and Professional

**First Place** – South Florida Fair Ribbon

**Second Place** – South Florida Fair Ribbon

**Third Place** – South Florida Fair Ribbon

**Best of Show** – South Florida Fair Ribbon and Premium Payment

*Best of Show award will be chosen from the first-place winners in each Division.*

### Amateur Youth

**First Place** – South Florida Fair Ribbon

**Second Place** – South Florida Fair Ribbon

**Third Place** – South Florida Fair Ribbon

**Best of Show** – South Florida Fair Ribbon and Premium Payment

*Best of Show award will be chosen from the first-place winners in each Division.*

## Definitions

**Nano tanks:** Natural freshwater tanks less than 10 gallons with the emphasis on small scale inhabitants. Plants should be chosen from the smaller species. They will be judged on their ability to be maintained long term in the Nano set up.

**Freshwater with live plants:** Any freshwater aquarium with live plants excluding artificial plants.

**Freshwater without live plants:** Any freshwater aquarium without live plants.

**Freshwater Biotype:** All plants and décor from the same geographic habitat.

**Novelty:** Any creative set up with artificial décor. Themed set ups usually place better than random set ups.

## Judging Criteria

The following awards are determined on the tank appearance.

**Tank Judging:** lighting (especially when live plants are used), water, clarity and overall appearance

## Division Definitions

**Amateur Adult Division:** Adults (age 18 or older)

**Professional Division:** For those who are professionally involved in the sale or maintenance of aquariums, including wholesale and retail markets.

**Amateur Youth Division:** Youth must be a student in grades 1 – 12.

# Divisions and Classes

## **Aquarium - Amateur Adult - Division 1**

### **Class Description**

- 1 Nano Tank
- 2 Freshwater with live plants
- 3 Freshwater without live plants
- 4 Freshwater Biotype
- 5 Novelty



## **Aquarium - Professional - Division 2**

### **Class Description**

- 1 Nano Tank
- 2 Freshwater with live plants
- 3 Freshwater without live plants
- 4 Freshwater Biotype
- 5 Novelty



## **Aquarium - Youth (age 6-10) - Division 3**

### **Class Description**

- 1 Nano Tank
- 2 Freshwater with live plants
- 3 Freshwater without live plants
- 4 Freshwater Biotype
- 5 Novelty



## **Aquarium - Youth (age 11-13) - Division 4**

### **Class Description**

- 1 Nano Tank
- 2 Freshwater with live plants
- 3 Freshwater without live plants
- 4 Freshwater Biotype
- 5 Novelty

## **Aquarium - Youth (age 14-18) - Division 5**

### **Class Description**

- 1 Nano Tank
- 2 Freshwater with live plants
- 3 Freshwater without live plants
- 4 Freshwater Biotype
- 5 Novelty



## How to Enter Online

Exhibitors are encouraged to enter online at [www.southfloridafair.com/TheCreationStation](http://www.southfloridafair.com/TheCreationStation).

- Review this Competition Handbook to see which division and class your entry is eligible to compete in. Follow the easy steps listed below to enter.
- To enter online, go to [www.southfloridafair.com/TheCreationStation](http://www.southfloridafair.com/TheCreationStation) and complete the form. Click the submit button and make sure you are brought to the thank you for registering page.
- Everyone must register as a new exhibitor each year.
- When registering, please verify all information is correct. Please pay special attention to capitalization, full names of cities/counties and use proper spelling (no abbreviations).

## Mailing Paper Entry Forms

Entry Forms must be postmarked by Friday, December 31, 2021.

*Failure to complete any portion of entry form may result in disqualification.*

### Mail Entry Form to:

The Creation Station, Crafts & Specialty Arts – Creative Aquariums  
South Florida Fair  
P.O. Box 210367  
West Palm Beach, FL 33421-0367

## Delivery and Setup of Entries

All entries must be delivered to the South Florida Fair and setup their aquariums on either:

Sunday, January 2	Monday, January 3	Tuesday, January 4
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### Deliver entries to:

South Florida Fair  
Building 5  
Attn: Lorie Stinson

*Enter Gate 10 off Fairgrounds Road.*

**Entries arriving at the Fairgrounds after delivery deadline may be disqualified.**

## Retrieving Entries

- See the calendar for pick up dates, times and locations (Page 1)
- Entries not picked up on designated dates can be arranged for special pick up appointment by emailing [lorie@southfloridafair.com](mailto:lorie@southfloridafair.com)
- Entries not claimed after February of the current year will be donated.

# General Rules

## Disclaimer

All competitive exhibits are entered at the exhibitor's risk. The South Florida Fair does not insure and is not responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of entries, even if the loss, damage, or theft occurs as the result of the handling of the exhibit by staff, volunteers, contractors and/or visitors. If the exhibitor desires insurance coverage, this coverage should be secured from a personal insurance agent prior to entry and the policy written to cover the period of exhibition and transportation. Reasonable care will be taken to prevent loss or damage to exhibits. Unauthorized persons are not permitted in the building after closing hours.

## Division/Class Cancellation

The South Florida Fair reserves the right to return entries and cancel any division or class in which, in its judgment, the entries are insufficient to secure adequate competition.

## Entry Errors

The South Florida Fair is not responsible for finding errors in entries. Exhibitors are responsible for any and all errors which were submitted online or on entry and summary forms. No exhibitor shall be entitled to an award which has been disallowed as the result of his own error. The South Florida Fair management shall withhold the payment of awards for exhibits that are ineligible and may recover awards that have been paid for ineligible entries that are disclosed during post audits of Fair records. However, exhibitors with cause are entitled to question the validity of any disallowance. Such exhibitors should inform the South Florida Fair immediately, in writing, giving their name, address, complete description of the entry and the reason for requesting reconsideration. Requests will not be considered later than 90 days after receiving notice of disallowance.

## Premium Payments

Premium awards will be paid to the Best of Show. Best of Show awards will be chosen from the first-place winners in each Division. Amounts vary depending on Division.

## Substitution

Substitutions changes if necessary, must be within the same department by the original exhibitor. Substitutions must be completed the last day of the entry delivery period. The South Florida Fair or its judges may disqualify entries, or reclassify an entry to the correct class if it is not a true representative of the division or class in which it is entered. You cannot transfer your entry to another exhibitor.

## Verification

Exhibitors wishing to verify that the South Florida Fair has received submitted entry forms must include a self-addressed/stamped envelope when submitting entry forms. Online submissions will receive a confirmation once entries are submitted.

## Responsibility

The South Florida Fair shall not be responsible for exhibits remaining on the fairgrounds after designated release times. All still exhibits or display elements remaining on the Fairgrounds after the designated release time will be treated as abandoned property and will be disposed of after February of the current year.

## Removal of Entries

Exhibitors may not remove their entry from the South Florida Fair once it has been accepted. Entries must be on exhibit at the official opening of the Fair or at any other time specified in the Competition Handbook and shall not be removed from the Fairgrounds prior to the release date printed in the handbook, except (at the discretion of the South Florida Fair) in cases of evidence of sickness, accident and/or death, or other circumstances that are in the best interests of the Fair.

# Creative Aquariums Entry Form

Entry Forms must be postmarked by Friday, December 31, 2021.  
Failure to complete any portion of entry form may result in disqualification.

## OFFICE USE ONLY

Exhibitor # \_\_\_\_\_

Please print legibly

Exhibitors Name (First, Last)		If youth exhibitor, who should the premium check be written to:	
Mailing Address		County	
City	State	Zip Code	
Phone		Email	

Please indicate Age Group:

☐ Amateur Adult (18+)
 ☐ Youth (age 6-10)
 ☐ Youth (age 11-13)
 ☐ Youth (age 14-17)
 ☐ Professional (18+)

Exhibitors may enter as many classes as desired.

	Division#	Class#	Tank Size and Length of Tank
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

I hereby certify that I have read the South Florida Fair General Rules for the The Creation Station, Crafts & Specialty Arts Program (Page 5) and the above item(s) is/are entered for exhibition strictly in accordance with these rules, by which I agree to be governed. I also agree that the South Florida Fair may use my name, likeness, or photograph (including, but not limited to photographs of my entry), in any manner relating to my participation in the The Creation Station, Crafts & Specialty Arts Program, free of charge and without further notice or consultation.

Signature of exhibitor

Date

Signature of parent/guardian (Youth ONLY)

Date

**Mail Entry Form to:**

The Creation Station, Crafts & Specialty Arts – Creative Aquariums  
South Florida Fair  
P.O. Box 210367  
West Palm Beach, FL 33421-0367