2027 South Florida Fair – The Creation Station, Crafts & Specialty Arts

# FIBER ARTS COMPETITION HANDBOOK

**Adult/Youth**

***Knitting • Crochet • Needlework • Handspun Yarn • Rug Hooking • Felting, Weaving • Basket Weaving • Surface Design • Sewing • Quilting***

**For more information, contact**
**Lorie Stinson, CFE**
**Exhibits and Special Events Manager**
**Phone: (561) 790-5245**
**Email: lorie@southfloridafair.com**

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Online or Paper Entry Form deadline**
Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026

**Deliver items to Building 3 at the South Florida Fair (see Page 5)**

**Items exhibited**
Jan. 15 - 31, 2027

**Entry pick up**
Monday, Feb. 1, 2027
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

## COMPETITION OVERVIEW

**Entry Fee:** FREE

**General Rules** – Page 4
**How to Enter Online** – Page 5
**Paper Entry Form** - Page 7
**Exhibitors are encouraged to read this handbook in its entirety.**

## ELIGIBILITY

The Fiber Arts Adult Divisions are open to all Florida residents ages 18+ and youth First Grade and up.

# ENTRY RULES

- Due to space limitations, no more than eight (8) items per person in each division may be submitted for judging, however there is no limit to the number of pieces per class.
- Work must be of the artist exhibiting; no teacher assisted work.

### General Entry Rules

- Entries previously exhibited in the South Florida Fair are not permitted for entry.
- Entries must have been prepared/made/processed by the exhibitor in whose name they are entered.
- In keeping with the South Florida Fair's family orientation, nudes or items of an offensive, controversial or objectionable nature or subject matter will not be accepted.
- Entries completed by two (2) or more individuals are permitted, but will be counted as one (1) exhibitor (the individual who entered online).

# 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.

### Judging Criteria

- Originality – 40 percent
- Execution Quality – 40 percent
- General Appearance – 10 percent
- Degree of Difficulty – 10 percent

### Awards Information

- **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 awards will be chosen from the first-place winners in each division.***

# DIVISIONS AND CLASSES

## Division #1: Quilts and Quilted Items

**Class Description**

1. Single Person
2. Appliqued
3. Art Quilt
4. Embroidered
5. Quilted Household Items

## Division #2: Sewing

**Class Description**

1. Adult Apparel
2. Children's Apparel
3. Special Occasion Apparel
4. Home Décor and Accessories
5. Cosplay Apparel
6. Recycled Fashions

## Division #3: Needlework

*All needlework must be complete and in a finished state, i.e. wall hangings must be ready to hang and framed pieces of needlework must be wire-strung and ready for hanging. Glass can be used to protect your piece. This is a competition and the finishing and presentation of your work is as equally important as the work itself.*

**Class Description**

1. Handmade Lace
2. Embroidery
3. Counted Thread Embroidery
4. Needlepoint

**Materials**

**Acceptable Fibers:** Cotton, silk, rayon, wool, bamboo, metallics and blended fibers.

**Acceptable Fabrics:**

- Cotton (for example, Aida, Hardanger, Muslin, etc.)
- Evenweaves (for example Jobelan, Lugana, Tula, Jazlyn etc.)
- Linen (for example Cashel, Belfast, Dublin, Edinburgh, etc.)
- Custom or pre-made articles or garments (for example, doilies, banners, bibs, t-shirts, dish towels, table cloths etc.)

## Division #4 - Knitting and Crochet

**Class Description**

1. Knitting
2. Crochet

## Division #5 - Handspun Yarn

**Class Description**

1. Handspun Yarn
2. Items Made from Handspun Yarn

## Division #6 - Other Fiber Arts

**Class Description**

1. Traditional Rug Hooking with Wool Fabric
2. Felting
3. Weaving

## Division #7 - Basket Weaving

**Class Description**

1. Basket Weaving

# 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
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 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 may be made in still exhibits only in the same division of the original entry class of the original exhibitor, and may be made only if completed by the entry delivery date. Substitutions must be made at time of delivery check-in. The South Florida Fair or the judge may disqualify or transfer to the correct class any entry which is not a true representative of the division or class in which it is entered.

## Previously Entered Entry
Any entry that has been exhibited at a previous South Florida Fair is not eligible for entry in this year's South Florida Fair, excluding Horticulture and Creative Aquarium entries.

## 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 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 on or before Feb. 28 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.

## Design
The South Florida Fair assumes total design control over the presentation of the exhibits. Entries designed for hanging and not so equipped will be hung in a manner deemed appropriate by the Fair. No exhibit changes will be made once the entries have been displayed. Once an entry has been received by the South Florida Fair, no further handling of entry by exhibitor shall be permitted.

Relocation and final placement shall be accomplished by South Florida Fair personnel. Entries requiring assembly/disassembly must include detailed instructions and sketches for assembly/disassembly. Instructions should indicate lifting points, unsecured parts and any other information required for such handling. Where necessary, bank pins will be utilized to attach exhibits for display.

## HOW TO ENTER ONLINE

- Exhibitors are encouraged to enter online at **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 **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 Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026.

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

### Mail Entry Form to:

The Creation Station, Crafts & Specialty Arts – Fiber Arts (Adult/Youth)
South Florida Fair
P.O. Box 210367
West Palm Beach, FL 33421-0367

## DELIVERY ENTRIES

All entries must be delivered to the South Florida Fair on either:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***Saturday, Jan. 2*** | ***Sunday, Jan. 3*** | ***Monday, Jan. 4*** | ***Tuesday, Jan. 5*** |
| ***9 a.m. – 5 p.m.*** | ***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 3
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**.
- All entries not claimed by Feb. 28 of the same year will be recycled, disposed or donated.

## INDEX

- **Art Basket:** *any type of an original constructed vessel that may be sculptural and not necessarily functional.*
- **Art Yarn:** *defies everything we thought we knew about yarn. Art yarn wouldn't be suitable for normal patterns, even after making adjustments. It can be made from no more 50% of non-hand spun materials.*
- **Basket:** *functional container made of interwoven strips of pliable materials either natural or man made.*
- **Cellulose Fibers:** *cotton, linen, rayon, bamboo protein fibers: silk, wool.*
- **Coiling:** *baskets formed in a continuous spiral made of pine needles, grasses and cords.*
- **Commercial Dyes:** *consist of fiber reactive dyes, acid dyes and disperse dyes*
- **Dark Solid:** *medium fawn, dark fawn, light brown, medium brown, dark brown, bay black, true black.*
- **Discharge:** *the removal of dye from fabric.*
- **Double Coat:** *must have two discernible fiber types and textures.*
- **Flat reed (includes Flat and Flat Oval):** *predominately made from commercially processed reed from the Rattan vine. Oak handles, wood bases can be used, but the majority of the basket is flat or flat oval reed.*
- **Florida Naturals:** *made from barks, vines (grape, kudzu, honeysuckle, etc), roots, grasses, inflorescence, philodendron, pine needles, roots, seed pods, etc. - anything grown and gathered in Florida. Must have at least 80% Florida natural fibers.*
- **Handspun Yarn and Garment:** *must be the sole work of the exhibitor. All items constructed using hand spun yarn must include a minimum of 6" sample of fiber or roving.*
- **Hardwood Splint:** *made from white oak, black ash, hickory, maple, cedar and chestnut. The weaving materials are the raw wood that has been manually processed to obtain or make the weavers, staves and handles.*
- **Kits and Patterns:** *baskets that are constructed from materials in a purchased project kit or woven from any materials based on another person's pattern or design. They would not be considered "original" work as the weaver is following instructions and using supplies or materials provided or selected by the basket pattern's designer. This includes projects completed in a workshop environment.*
- **Light Solid:** *white, beige and light fawn. Fiber color should be checked mid-side closest to the skin. If the animal's color falls be between two color swatches, the animal should be placed in the darker color. Fiber samples should be taken mid-side and close to the skin.*
- **Miniature:** *style of basket that is 4" or less.*
- **Mixed Color:** *all grays and multicolored, fancy and variegated*
- **Mixed Media:** *combination of reed, splint, wire, waxed linen, gourds, leather, fabric, paper, vines, beads, etc.,*
- **Mixed Methods:** *combining a variety of techniques used to create your piece.*
- **Mold Woven:** *nantucket and shaker baskets that are woven over a mold to create a uniform shape and size. Many have wood bottoms and staves are usually flat or flat oval reed, cane, ash or cedar.*
- **Natural Dyes:** *consists of cellulose and protein fibers.*
- **Non-Animal Fiber:** *includes silk, flax/linen, hemp, etc.*
- **Resist:** *blocks the application of dye, paint, or discharge chemicals.*
- **Ribbed:** *woven baskets (flat reed, round reed, naturals) around one round rim or two hoops and ribs made of reed spokes.*
- **Shibori:** *Japanese manual dyeing resistance technique, which produces patterns on fabric.*
- **Single Coat:** *no discernible differences in fiber types and textures*
- **Suri Coat:** *non-crimping fibers with distinct locks, cool and slick handle .*
- **Synthetic Fibers:** *polyester, nylon, acrylic, acetate.*
- **Surface Design:** *encompasses the coloring, patterning, and structuring of fiber and fabric. Involves creative exploration of processes such as dyeing, painting, printing, stitching, embellishing, quilting, weaving, knitting, felting, and paper making.*
- **Synthetic Handspun Yarns:** *are spun from man-made or manufactured fibers.*
- **Thickened dye:** *dye solution which has been thickened into a paste with the help of something like sodium alginate. When ab sorbed into the fibers, and the excess dye and print paste is washed away, the fabric is just as soft as before.*
- **Wicker:** *baskets made from round reed or natural willow.*
- **Wire or Textile:** *basket made from woven wire, waxed linen, waxed cotton, fabric, paper, rope, sisal, raffia, sea grass, leather, etc.*

2027 South Florida Fair

**Competition Division:**

☐ Adult (ages 18+) ☐ Youth

# FIBER ARTS COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

**Entry Forms must be postmarked by Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026.**

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

**Please print legibly**

Exhibitor's Name (First, Last) | If Youth wins prize money, who should the check be made payable to?

Mailing Address | County

City | State | Zip Code

Phone | Email

**Exhibitors may enter up to eight (8) entries per division for judging.**

| | DIVISION# | CLASS# | TITLE OF PROJECT AND / OR DESCRIPTION OF CRAFT |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
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| 6 | | | |
| 7 | | | |
| 8 | | | |

***I hereby certify that I have read the South Florida Fair General Rules for The Creation Station, Crafts & Specialty Arts Program (Page 4) 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 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) | Print name of parent/guardian | Date

**Mail Entry Form to:**

The Creation Station, Crafts & Specialty Arts – Fiber Arts (Adult/Youth)
South Florida Fair
P.O. Box 210367
West Palm Beach, FL 33421-0367