2026 State Fair of Virginia Supreme Overall Showman

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John Borer, Swine Committee Representative
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Supreme Overall Showman
Eligibility: All youth who participate in their respective species showmanship competition are eligible.

Selection of each species' Master Showman and Reserve:

• A Master Showman and Reserve (as well as third and fourth overall) from each species will be selected by the respective species judge from the Champion and Reserve Champion age division winners in that species (Novice, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior in Beef, Meat Goats, Sheep, and Swine).

• Selection as Master Showman for one species does not prohibit an exhibitor from participating in their other species showmanship divisions or being selected as Master Showman for another species. However, if an exhibitor is named Master Showman in more than one species, he/she will represent the first species for which they were selected in the Supreme Overall Showman Competition. An exhibitor may NOT choose which species they will represent if they win multiple Master Showman titles.

• If an exhibitor is named Master Showman for their species, but has already been selected Master Showman for a previously shown species, the Reserve Master Showman will represent that species in the Supreme Overall Showman Competition (representation will progress to the third and fourth overall in that species if necessary)

• Should an exhibitor choose not to compete in the Overall Showman competition, the next individual from that species' top 4 master showmen will be given the opportunity to represent that species.

• Future Eligibility – Participation in and/or selection as a Master Showman OR Supreme Showman Overall will not negate future eligibility of any participants.

Competition Details:

• The Supreme Overall Showman Competition Committee, or their designees, will select six animals from each species, to be used in the Supreme Overall Showman drives – four to be used and two as back-ups. None of the animals selected will be owned by any of the four Supreme Showman participants.

• Animals will be identified 1 – 4 and exhibitors will be identified 1 – 4 as determined by a random draw prior to the start of the competition.

• The four Master Showmen will show beef, meat goats, sheep, and swine in a standard format class for each species.

• Species order of show will be announced prior to the first class.

• Show sticks, show halters, whips, and any other equipment needed will be provided by the committee. Each contestant will only need to arrive with an exhibitor harness or number holder dressed for showmanship.

Selection of the Supreme Overall Showman:

• The judge will rank/place each class 1st – 4th with no comments or placings announced. Additionally, the judge will assign a point value (1 -10) based on assessment of each individual's performance in that respective species division. Low Score from the rankings will win with the points totals used as the first tiebreak if needed. The Youth Livestock Show Superintendents, in consultation with the judge, reserve the right to determine further tie-breaks if necessary.

• All four contestants will be ranked 1 – 4 for the final announcement of the Supreme Overall Showman.

Premiums and Special Awards (Total Payouts $4,200.00 Scholarships & $2,100.00 cash premiums – Total: $6,300.00 plus class premiums)

(Scholarships and Premiums are cumulative for Showmanship)
Supreme Showman - $500.00 Scholarship, $250.00 cash Premium, Trophy Buckle & Banner
Reserve Supreme Showman - $400.00 Scholarship, $200.00 Cash Premium & Banner
2nd runner up - $300.00 Scholarship, $150.00 Cash Premium & Banner
3rd runner up - $200.00 Scholarship, $100.00 Cash Premium & Banner

Species Winners (Beef, Hog, Lamb & Goat winners)
Champion Showman - $250.00 Scholarship, $125.00 Cash Premium & Banner
Reserve Champion Showman - $200.00 Scholarship, $100.00 Cash Premium & Banner
2nd runner up - $150.00 Scholarship, $75.00 Cash Premium & Banner
3rd runner up - $100.00 Scholarship, $50.00 Cash Premium & Banner

Payout Example:

Class winner - $75.00 Cash Payment
Champion Showman (Species) - $250.00 Scholarship & $125.00 Premium
Supreme Showman - $500.00 Scholarship & $250.00 Premium

Total winnings - $750.00 scholarships & $450.00 Cash Premiums