

Department 3: Photography

Entry fee (per entry item): \$5

Entry limit: Unlimited class entry, three (3) entries per exhibitor per class unless noted in Division

Ribbons & Awards: Each contest entry will be awarded (if merited): Excellent, Very Good, Good, or Honorable Mention.

One Best of Division will be awarded per age classification per division.

PHOTOGRAPHY - CONTEST RULES

- All entries in this contest MUST adhere to the rules below.
- Any entry in violation will not be accepted for judging.

Contest description:

This contest features works in all forms of photography

Entry completion date: All entered items must be **exposures made since July 1, 2025.**

Entry requirements

- All photos must be submitted digitally via online entry at <https://TheBigE.fairwire.com>.
- Exhibitor names, initials, or watermarks of any kind should not appear on the photograph.
- The maximum file size for any photo is 8 MB. The image must be a JPEG (.jpg), GIF (.gif), PNG (.png) or BMP (.bmp) file type.
- If notified that entry is accepted, follow rules for printing and mounting photo.

Size requirement for accepted entries

- Photo Size: **Minimum photograph size is 8" x 10". Maximum photograph size is 9" x 12".**
- All photos must be mounted on 11" x 14" foam core that is at least 1/8" thick using double sided mounting tape. Any color foam core may be used. **No matting, frames or hangers are allowed.**
- If an actual object does not "match" the digital image which has been accepted, (i.e., if the digital image has been manipulated for appearance), then the actual object will not be accepted for exhibition.
- No cardboard** or items taped to the front will be allowed.
- Please be advised that hook and loop fasteners will be affixed to the back of each photo for display purposes.
- Any exhibit not complying with these specifications will not be accepted.

Prohibited entries

Entries will not be accepted if they are:

items of an offensive, controversial, political or objectionable nature or subject matter

Judging Criteria

Entries may be evaluated (but not limited to) in the following criteria:

Focus	Creativity
Exposure	Overall Impression
Composition	

PHOTOGRAPHY - DIVISIONS

General Photography

- *Must be a print from a single or multiple, original exposure.*
- *Architecture can include but is not limited to: bridges, cityscapes, monuments, and buildings rural or urban, etc.*
- *Landscape can include but is not limited to landscapes, cityscapes, seascapes, nightscapes, and waterscapes.*
- *People can include but is not limited to: action, children, documentary, events, family, fashion, festivals, group, portraits, self-portraits, travel, vacation, etc.*
- *Nature can include but is not limited to animals of any kind, insects, flora, macro images, etc.*
- *Any other can include but is not limited to any subject matter that does not fit into any of the preceding divisions.*

- 001 Color Architecture
- 002 Color Landscape
- 003 Color People
- 004 Color Nature
- 005 Color Any Other

- 006 Monochrome Architecture
- 007 Monochrome Landscape
- 008 Monochrome People
- 009 Monochrome Nature
- 010 Monochrome Any Other

Massachusetts Agricultural Fairs Association (MAFA) Photography

The Massachusetts Agricultural Fair Association (MAFA) is hosting a statewide photography contest this year. The Best of Department will be judged at the Annual MAFA Convention in November. The winning photos will be featured in MAFA and Massachusetts Department of Agriculture Resources (MDAR) publications. The winning photographers will receive special recognition and passes to Massachusetts fairs.

- 1. The photography must be exhibited in a MAFA member's 2026 fair by a non-professional adult and/or youth exhibitor. Only one (1) entry allowed per exhibitor.*
- 2. The subject of the photograph must be agricultural in nature and/or depicting the agricultural aspects of a Massachusetts fair.*
- 3. The photograph must be exhibited and judged to be the best overall photograph that meets the subject criteria for this contest at the originating member Fair.*
- 4. To be displayed during The Big E, photos must be mounted as described in the rules of the Photography departments. An 8x10 unmatted and unframed photo must be provided at the time of entry pick-up in order to be judged at the Annual MAFA Convention.*

001 Color

002 Black & White