

THURSTON COUNTY FAIR EXHIBITOR'S GUIDE

OPEN CLASS PHOTOGRAPHY

2023

Superintendents:

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How to Enter a Print

1. Obtain an entry form for the 'Open Class Photography Exhibit', available from July 1 through July 19 at Beard's Framing, Fred Meyer Shopping Center, Lacey; Olympia Framemakers, 1822 Harrison Avenue on Olympia's Westside; the Olympia Camera Club website or at The Thurston County Fair website or office. Fill out the form completely following the detailed instructions on the back of the entry form as shown in 2 and 3 below. Entry forms will also be available on both Friday, July 21 4pm to 7 pm and Saturday, July 22, 10 am to 4 pm, at the Photo Entry Desk in the Hobbies/Craft Building, Thurston County Fairgrounds.
2. Exhibitor number is the first letter of your last name plus the last 4 numbers of your phone number.
3. Enter the following in the upper left corner on the back of EACH PRINT mount. (Prints will become separated from the entry form.) This information is essential:
 - Title of your print
 - Your exhibitor number (see #2 above)
 - Your full name
 - Your complete address
 - Your phone number
 - Lot and class
 - Print number (taken from the line on the entry form)

RULES

1. The exhibitor of the picture must be the original maker of the image.
2. Prints will be accepted only as specified in #1 above.
3. Prints entered MUST be identified with the information specified in #3 above.
4. Any print with words or logo that identify the maker will be disqualified.
5. All exhibits must be mounted and/or matted. If matted, the backs of the matted print should be completely covered. Foam core mounts and/ or matte board style

is preferred. Framed prints, metal prints, and prints mounted with wood, glass or acrylic will not be accepted.

6. No hooks or wires are to be placed on the back of the print mounts.
7. A maximum of 8 prints will be accepted from each exhibitor. A maximum of 5 prints may be entered in any one "Lot"
8. The minimum entry size is 8" x 10" and the maximum entry size is 16" x 24". Entry sizes will be measured, including matte (if applicable). Odd sized entries are acceptable so long as the shortest side is no longer than 16" and the longest side is no more than 24". Panorama images are an exception to this rule but may not exceed a 12" x 36" measurement.
9. An entry may contain multiple images on one mat or mount so long as dimensions in rule #8 are not exceeded. Multiple image entries will be judged as a single entry.
10. Hand colored black and white prints are acceptable in the Black and White category, so long as there is only one color in addition to black and white. Any entry with two or more additional colors will be considered a color print.
11. An exhibitor may not make multiple copies of an image and enter them into different lots.
12. Any print previously entered in the Thurston County Fair Division E - Open Class Photography may not again be entered.
13. Following acceptance of prints, the prints will be judged the following day, Sunday, July 23 at 10am. Exhibitors may attend the judging so long as exhibitors in no way interfere with the judging process. Judges are encouraged to talk about the images and give feedback to the audience as time allows.
14. Admission tickets to the Fair are not provided to exhibitors.
15. Ribbons will be awarded to winners. All ribbons will be hung with the print in the exhibit.
16. Exhibits must be picked up at the Photo Exhibit desk in the Hobbies/Crafts building, Thurston County Fairgrounds on SUNDAY July 30, the closing day of the Fair, between the hours of 8pm and 8:30pm or on Monday following the Fair closing between 4 and 7pm. Entries will NOT be mailed to exhibitors. Entries will NOT be returned to the frame shops. Following the Monday after the fair's closing, prints must be picked up at the main office of the Thurston County Fairgrounds.
17. All precautions possible will be taken with entries. The Fair or its volunteers cannot be held responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged exhibits.

18. As this is an exhibit for all age groups consideration should be given as to the content of an image; the Superintendent reserves the right to disqualify and withhold from display any photograph they deem inappropriate for a family fair.

SECTIONS, CLASSES, LOTS.

SECTIONS are:

A - Adult

J – Junior (12 years old or younger as of January 1, present year)

T – Teen (between the age of 13 and 18 as of January 1, present year)

ADULT SECTION

Class 1 - Color Prints

Class 2 - Monochrome Prints (black and white images)

LOT:

- A. People (General people pictures)
- B. Portraits (Posed people pictures)
- C. Domestic Animals (livestock and pets)
- D. Wild Animals (includes wild and those in captivity)
- E. Nature Scenics (Images of land, sky, water etc. There should be very little to no evidence of man meaning no people, buildings, bridges or anything man made.
- F. Man-Made Scenery. Scenics and vista's that INCLUDE some form of man-made object, i.e., building, bridge, architecture, people etc.
- G. Plants and Flowers (Indoor, outdoor, arrangements, etc.)
- H. Still-life and Table Top Photos (static arrangements)
- I. Creative Imagery (Images heavily manipulated with a computer. The final result must be all the photographer's own work, including the original image(s).)
- J. Abstract (Images with no readily defined subject: patterns, textures, intentional camera movement, etc.)
- K. Best use of the Thurston County Fair Theme "Are you Kidding Me? Come to the Thurston County Fair!" Mascot is Billy Goat.
- L. Macro Photography (May include true macro or very close up images.)
- M. Miscellaneous (Photos that don't fit in other lots)

JUNIOR SECTION

Class 3 - Junior/Teen ONE CLASS ONLY - Color and Black & White will be judged together.

LOT:

- N. People (Includes candid, portrait, human interest)
- O. Scenic (Landscapes, waterscapes, etc.)
- P. Animals (Birds, insects, animals, etc.)
- Q. Plants and flowers (Flowers, plants, leaves, etc.)
- R. Miscellaneous (All others)
- S. Best use of the Thurston County Fair Theme "Are you Kidding Me? Come to the Thurston County Fair!" Mascot is Billy Goat.

JUDGING PROCEDURE:

Prints will be judged on the following criteria:

- Impact of picture
- Composition and subject matter
- Technical merit
- Quality of presentation

Three judges will collaborate to judge each lot and will award ribbons within the lot using a modified "Danish" system. They will be permitted to award as many of each ribbon as they feel is merited by the photographs in the lot. The judges will award a "Best of Lot" ribbon to the print selected as the best in each lot and they will award a "Best of Class" ribbon to one entry from each class. Finally, the judges will collaborate to choose one print as "Best of Show" for the Adult section and one "Best of Show" for the "Junior/Teen" sections. In addition, each judge will award a "Judge's Choice" ribbon to a print of their individual choosing. There will also be a "People's Choice" ribbon awarded for each day of the fair. Each print may earn only one "People's Choice" ribbon.

NOTE: Any LOT with insufficient monochrome entries will be combined with Color entries for judging. Any single LOT with less than five entries total will be judged with the Miscellaneous LOT of appropriate Class.

PREMIUM POINTS:

Premium points will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners only. Honorable Mention winners will be awarded a ribbon, but no points.

PREMIUM POINTS

- BLUE (1st place) - 50
- RED (2nd place) - 30
- WHITE (3rd place) - 15

Best of Lot, Best of Class, Best of Show and Judge's Choice Awards will be ribbons only.

NOTE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT: As the world of photography changes, we have to update some of the rules that go along with this competition. Digital photography is now more prominent than film photography. We encourage everyone to do what they feel is necessary to correct colors, improve sharpness, and make their entries the best they can before the fair. However, if you are creating an image from multiple photos to create a whole new image, please remember to use LOT I so that your creativity can be judged on the same level as other images that are equally creative. We want to encourage everyone to feel their work is accepted and judged fairly here at the Thurston County Fair.