2021 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

SOUTH PLAINS DISTRICT 2

Participant Guide

Please note this contest will be electronic for 2021.
No hard copy photographs will be accepted.
Senior 4-Hers will also be allowed to submit photos for District Judging.

Senior participation DOES not affect state participation

OBJECTIVES:
- ~ To develop life skills in composition, light, story line, posing, and awareness.
- ~ To encourage 4-H members to use photography as a meaningful communication tool in their lives.
- ~ To provide photography project showcase opportunity for 4-H members.
- ~ To continue to share the message of 4-H.
- ~ To utilize photographs to promote and strengthen the 4-H program.

THINGS TO REMEMBER/TIPS:
- Photos are uploaded to FlickR for judging. Each judge will view on their personal computer screen. Photo quality is important. If at 100% the photo is tiny on the screen or pixelated, the photo will probably not do well.

- Always take the photo in the largest format and highest resolution. It makes cropping and editing easier.

- Utilize the Explore Guide and other resources https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/

- Photos are judged by volunteers who are photographers. Photography is subjective.

- Judges have the right to DQ a photo they feel is entered in the wrong category.

- Enter photos in the state contest too!

PHOTOS MUST BE TAKEN BETWEEN JANUARY 1, 2020 AND ENTRY DEADLINE

2021 Contest Rules

~ **Membership** - the contestant must be enrolled and actively participating as a 4-H member. The 4-H member must also be actively participating in a 4-H Photography Program. To participate in the District 2 4-H Photography Contest, a participant must place first at his or her county level Photography Contest and/or be certified by his or her county Extension agent. Only one entry per age level and class category per county may advance to the District 2 4-H Photography Contest.

~ **Participation Age** is based on the 2020/2021 4-H year:
   - **Junior** – Grades 3rd, 4th and 5th
   - **Intermediate** – Grades 6th, 7th and 8th
   - **Senior** – Grades 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th

~ **All photos to be judged** must have been taken during participation in a 4-H photography project between January 1, 2020 and contest entry. Photos may be submitted **only one time** and in only one category in the district photography contest.

~ **Text Usage:** Photography **MUST NOT** contain camera or user placed text. This includes things such as date stamps, comments or titles. Text or wording that is part of the photograph (i.e. photo of a street sign, etc) is acceptable.

~ **Digital Entry:** All pictures must be submitted electronically in 4-H Connect in either a .jpeg, .jpg, or .gif file format.
   - ❀ Photo must be a minimum of 300 dpi quality resolution.
   - ❀ Size: Must be 3:2 (4"X6") or 5:4 (8"x10") ratio (either landscape or portrait).
   - ❀ Size: Photo may not be larger than 5120KB (5MB).

~ If you need assistance in resizing photos, you can use: http://webresizer.com/ , or a program of your choice.

~ **Negatives:** Entrants must be able to provide original transparencies, negative, disk or print if requested.

~ **Refusal Rights**: The District 2 Photography Committee reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.

~ **Judges:** Judges will determine the placing. Their decision on all entries is final.

~ **Entry Fees:** $10.00 for first picture entered and $3.00 for each picture thereafter – per member.

~ **Registration on 4-H Connect:**
Photos will be uploaded to 4-H Connect during registration, the same processes as are used for the State Contest.

~ **Awards:** 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Ribbons will be given. Additionally, $50.00 gift card to Best of Show in each age group.

~ **Announcement of Results:** Results will be e-mailed to counties & placed on the District 2 website as soon as possible

~ **Release of Liability:** The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation and/or its employees/agents involved in the contest will not be held liable for missing, mislabeled, damaged, or non-displayed photographs. By entry, the 4-H member accepts this release.

~ **Display and Future Use Rights:** By submitting an entry to the contest, the 4-H member grants permission to the District 2 4-H Photography Committee, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation, and any other public or private agency authorized by the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, the use, and rights associated to the use of the photographic likeness, in promotional publications, and other media, without compensation. By entry, the 4-H member accepts these conditions of display and future use.

District 2 4-H Specialist – Wendy Scott

2021 D-2 Photography Committee
- Caitlin Jackson, Chair
- Cristen Brooks, Vice Chair
- Nicole Singleton

D 2 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST
2020-2021 CATEGORIES

It is extremely important that 4-H members, project leaders, parents, and County Extension Agents review the descriptions of each category very carefully. Do not enter photographs into categories that are duplicates from other categories or ones that do not clearly meet the category description. Photographs that do not meet the description of the category will be disqualified.

ANIMALS - DOMESTIC
Photos focusing on the various animals that have been tamed and made fit for a human environment. To be considered domesticated, the animal must have their behavior, life cycle, or physiology systemically altered as a result of being under human control for many generations.
Examples: Chickens, cows, dogs, cats, hamsters, horses, pigs, sheep, goats, etc. All waterfowl (ducks and geese) should be entered in Animals - Wildlife.

ANIMALS - WILDLIFE
Category focuses on animals not typically tamed or domesticated and commonly found in the wilderness or bodies of water throughout the country and world. Photos can be of wildlife in nature, zoos, and/or petting zoos.
Examples: Birds, deer, elephants, snakes, whales, etc.

CATCH-ALL (Revised)
Photos that do not fit into one of the other categories.
Not allowed: A duplicate photo also entered in another category.

DETAILS & MACRO
Getting in close is the name of the game for this category. The goal is to zoom in close on an object to see its finer details or to make small objects appear life-sized or larger that we do not normally get to see with the naked eye.
Examples: Insect eyes, veins on a leaf, a reflection in a water droplet, etc.

ELEMENTS OF DESIGN
Images use of graphic elements of design. Photos that showcase line, shape, pattern, form, texture, perspective, etc. Photo can consist of any subject matter.
Examples: Line, pattern, perspective, shape, etc.
Not allowed: Digital creations or graphic designs made in software such as Photoshop, InDesign or Illustrator.

ENHANCED
A single photo that has been technically manipulated to be an abstract, panoramic, stitched or composite image. Others variations are allowed as well.
Examples: Software edited composites and creations, images greatly manipulated with a variety of filters, photos with artistic borders, photos stitched into a panoramic, etc.

FOOD
A still life specialization of photography, aimed at producing attractive photographs of food for use in such items of advertisements, packaging, menus and/or cookbooks.
Examples: Cakes/pies, Easter eggs, fruits and place settings, ingredients, sandwiches, Thanksgiving dinner, etc.
Not allowed: A photo of alcohol beverages.

LANDSCAPE & NATURE (NON-ANIMAL)
The focus of this category includes landscapes, outdoor scenics, nature images, sunsets, urban landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, and farms. Images focus on the beauty of the outdoors.
Examples: Gardens/landscapes, outdoors, scenics, etc.
Not allowed: Primary subject is a person or wildlife.

LEADING LINE (New)
This image composition technique features lines that draw the viewer's eye from point A to point B, which is the primary subject.
Example: A river that begins in the foreground and draws your attention to a photogenic bridge in the background.

LONG EXPOSURE (New)
Also known as time-exposure or slow-shutter, this technique involves using a long-duration shutter speed. It can be used to sharply capture stationary elements of an image while blurring, smearing, or obsuring the moving elements. It is also used in low-light conditions.
Examples: fireworks, moving water, light trails, Milky Way, light painting, night or low-light conditions, etc.

MOTION/ACTION
The capture of movement within a single photo. The subject appears stopped or "frozen".
Examples: Ferris wheel spinning, sporting events, horse running across a field, etc.

PEOPLE
Photos focus from all walks of life, parenting and family, children, babies, models/fashion, sports, and couples. All individuals in the photos must have provided consent and permission as a subject. If requested, a release will be needed from the photographer and subject.
Examples: Babies, families, kids, portraits, models/fashion, etc.

PLANT/FLORA
Photos of interesting, unique, and beautiful flowers and flora. Photography can occur outdoors or indoors. Photo subject should be that of a single flower, plant, bush, tree, etc. Large collections of plant/flora should be considered for entry into the Landscape & Nature category.
Examples: A rose, an upward shot of a tree, etc.

SHADOW/SILHOUETTE
A silhouette is an outline that appears dark (typically a single color) with little or no details/features against a brighter background. Recording patterns of light and shade for a desired effect or emphasis is the definition of a shadow. The silhouette or shadow must be the primary subject and focus of the image.
Examples: shadows/silhouettes of people, plants, animals, structures, architectures, or natural structures.
Not allowed: reflections

THEME (New)
The 2020-2021 theme is "Forced Perspective". This is a fun technique which uses an optical illusion to make an object appear farther away, closer, larger or smaller than it actually is. The effect is accomplished by camera and subject matter positioning.
Examples: toy figurine that appears life-sized, person "leaning" against a tower, etc.
Not allowed: photos manipulated by software.

Texas 4-H Photography Contest
Score Sheet

Name: _____   County: _____

Category: _____

You are competing against standards of excellence outlined below, not against your peers. Before preparing your entry for submission please carefully review the judging criteria. Based on total points awarded for each photograph, the participant will be awarded either a blue, red, white, or a participation ribbon.

JUDGES, PLEASE INDICATE POINTS AWARDED IN FAR RIGHT COLUMN:

CATEGORY	JUDGING ELEMENT	POINT RANGE	POINTS AWARDED
Impact (Max Points: 15)	Impact is the sense one gets upon viewing an image for the first time. Compelling images evoke laughter, sadness, anger, pride, wonder or another intense emotion. There can be impact in any of the judging elements.	**0-15**	
Creativity (Max Points: 15)	Creativity is the original, fresh, and external expression of the imagination of the maker by using the medium to convey an idea, message or thought.	**0-15**	
Technical (Max Points: 25)	Technical is the quality of the image itself as it is presented for viewing, which includes the following aspects: • allowable amounts of retouching and adjustments (removal of red eye, cropping, minor straightening) • sharpness and correct color balance. • lighting, which includes the use and control of light. The use of lighting whether natural or man-made and its proper use to enhance the image. • posing and capturing of the image.	**0-25**	
Composition (Max Points: 20)	Composition is important to the design of an image, bringing all of the visual elements together in concert to express the purpose of the image. Proper composition holds the viewer in the image and prompts the viewer to look where the creator intends. Effective composition can be pleasing or disturbing, depending on the intent of the image maker.	**0-20**	
Subject Matter (Max Points: 15)	Subject Matter should always be appropriate to the story being told (i.e. category the photo is entered into) in an image. Subject matter also includes the center of interest for the photograph or where the maker wants the viewer to stop and they view the image.	**0-15**	
Story Telling (Max Points: 10)	Story Telling refers to the image's ability to evoke imagination. One beautiful thing about art is that each viewer might collect his own message or read her own story in an image.	**0-10**	
	TOTAL POINTS AWARDED		

AWARD (circle one)	Blue Award (100 points to 81 pts)	Red Award (80 to 51 pts)	White Award (50 to 31 pts)	Participant Award (30 to 0 pots)

JUDGES COMMENTS: