



PRAIRIE VIEW  
A&M UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
AND HUMAN SCIENCES

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION



**2019 Cass County 4-H  
Photography Contest  
Rules & Guidelines**

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## MEMORANDUM

January 8, 2019

TO: Cass County 4-H members & leaders  
FROM: The Extension Office  
SUBJECT: 2019 Cass County 4-H Photography Contest

Attached is the 2019 Cass County Photography Contest Information packet. You may submit your photo entries to the Cass County Extension Office on or before 5 PM, March 7, 2019.

Photography resources and training is available upon request, and project leaders may contact the Extension Office if they have needs. Also included is a survey in the packet that participants are expected to complete and turned in, when they turn in their entries.

For your convenience, the county rules follow the state rules <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/> Only senior level 4-H members (Grades 9 – 12) will compete on to the state level which is a digital contest. Entries for the contest are usually completed through 4-H CONNECT <https://texas.4honline.com/Login.aspx?403D4079444C6D387A6E595A2F6F3D> from the time period of April 1, 2019 to April 15, 2019. Entry fee is \$10.00 per photograph.

### Resources:

**4-H Photography Curriculum:** [http://tx4-h.tamu.edu/explore/Explore\\_Photography.pdf](http://tx4-h.tamu.edu/explore/Explore_Photography.pdf)  
<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/>  
<http://www.betterphoto.com/allAbout.asp>



### READ BELOW FOR FEATURED CONTESTANTS:

Kendall Baker - 2018 Best of Show Winner  
Marcie Whatley - Top Score - Adult Category  
Isabella Lockhart - Top Score - Senior Category  
Kylie Epps - Top Score - Intermediate Category  
Kendall Baker - Top Score - Junior Category  
Rowdy Haley - Top Score - Clover Category

## 2019 Cass County 4-H Photography Contest

Location: Entries – Cass County Extension Office

Entry Deadline – Thursday, March 7, 2019.

All photos must be turned in by 5:00 PM for

judging to be completed the 2nd week after submission.

Participation: Note: only ONE photo per category per individual (maximum of 15 entries). **There are No FEES for county photography contest.**

Photos can be entered in Black & White or Color – these are no longer separate divisions. They will be judged against one another within each category. Each photo must have an entry label (labels are included in this packet)

Age Divisions: 4-H Adult Volunteers

Clover Kids – Grades K – 2 (county level only)

Junior – Grades 3 – 5

Intermediate – Grades 6 – 8

Senior – Grade 9 – 12

Awards: All participants will receive a ribbon based on quality.

Note: This event is used as a selection process for the seniors - the only category moving to the state level photography contest.

Eligibility: All entrants must be current 4-H members. All photos must have been taken by the 4-H member between the dates of **January 1, 2018 and the time of entry**. No previously submitted photos are eligible to be entered. Carefully follow the guidelines for mounting your photographs – see instructions below.

### For state contest:

Photo Entry

Submit this via 4-H CONNECT:

[https://texas.4honline.com/Login.aspx?](https://texas.4honline.com/Login.aspx?403D4079444C6D387A6E595A2F6F3D)

[403D4079444C6D387A6E595A2F6F3D](https://texas.4honline.com/Login.aspx?403D4079444C6D387A6E595A2F6F3D) between April 1 –15, 2019.

## **The categories for 2018-2019 are:**

1. **Animals – Domestic**
2. **Wildlife** (this category will now include aquatic and marine animals)
3. **Catch-All** (this category should not be used to enter photos that clearly align to another one of the categories). It is designed for miscellaneous photos which do not clearly fit into another category.
4. **Details & Macro**
5. **Dominant Color**
6. **Elements of Design**
7. **Enhanced (NEW)** – formally the Digital Darkroom category
8. **Food**
9. **Landscape & Nature**
10. **Motion/Action (NEW)** – photo capturing movement within a single photo
11. **People**
12. **Plant/Flora**
13. **Sports** – photo that captures individual or team sports.
14. **Theme – For 2018-2019 the theme is “Promote 4-H”**. This category should contain photos that promote 4-H overall, activities, events, etc. Photos can include photos of leaders, mentors, family, friends, and aspects of 4-H encompassing head, heart, hands and health.
15. **Travel & Place (NEW)** - category includes images that express the joys and adventures of travel photography, showcasing place as an important part of the photo.

## **TIPS**

### **General comments from judges:**

1. Get your subject in focus.
2. Read and follow the rules of the competition you are entering. Each photography contest will have different rules and classes.
3. Be careful when enlarging pictures; the photo can lose its sharpness and effect.
4. Use a sharp utility knife when cutting the foam or mat board. Jagged edges are taken into consideration as part of the quality of your entry.  
Have adult supervision and assistance when cutting your foam or mat

board.

5. Cut the board AFTER the photograph is attached to it so the size of the mat and photo are exactly the same.
6. Take shots from different angles so you can see the difference when published and decide which shot is best.
7. Remember to look at the background of your shot - it is part of the photograph too. It can make or break a photo.
8. Don't forget the lighting.
9. Remove dates from the photo if possible. (turn feature off before taking photos)

### **DESCRIPTION OF CATEGORIES**

It is extremely important that 4-H members, project leaders, parents, and county Extension agents review the descriptions of each category very carefully. Please 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.

### **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

1. **Quality Awards:** Blue, Red, and White quality awards will be given to entries based on the scoring criteria. An honorable mention will also be selected from each age division.
2. **Best of Show Awards:** One overall Best of Show Award will be presented.  
category.
3. **Special Award(s):** For the **most entries** in the overall competition.

### **THE COUNTY PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST – DISPLAY**

Photo Entries – are usually displayed at the County Office after judging is completed and sometimes during the Wildflower Trails Festival.

- **Best of Show Display:** Best of Show Photos may also be displayed on the 4-H Blog and or the Extension Website.

# 2019 Cass County 4-H Photography Contest Score Sheet



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Club/County: \_\_\_\_\_

Category: \_\_\_\_\_

You are competing against previously determined standards of excellence, 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, and an additional award for "Best of show"

JUDGES, PLEASE INDICATE POINTS AWARDED IN FAR RIGHT COLUMN:

CATEGORY	MinimumPoints	MaximumPoints	POINTS AWARDED
Focus	0	15	
Standard	0	5	
Exposure	0	15	
Lighting	0	15	
Print Quality	0	10	
Subject Matter	0	5	
Composition	0	10	
Impact	0	10	
Uniqueness	0	10	
Mechanical	0	5	
TOTAL POINTS AWARDED			

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

**Content:** Photos that are deemed obscene, vulgar, hateful, threatening, violate any laws or otherwise distasteful will be prohibited. All photos should be based on a 4-H member's original photograph taken by the 4-H member. Cass County 4-H reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.

**Model & Property Release:** any 4-H member submitting a photograph acknowledges that they have sufficient permission of any recognizable locations or people appearing in their photograph(s). This permission is granted to both the photographer and the Texas 4-H program to publish and use as needed. Documentation should be retained by the 4-H member and may be requested by Cass County 4-H staff as needed. The staff and volunteers involved in the contest will not be held liable for missing, mislabeled, or non-displayed photographs. By entry the 4-H member accepts this release.

**Mounting Requirements:**

- ✿ All prints must be permanently mounted on PHOTOGRAPHIC MOUNT BOARD OR A BOARD OF LIKE THICKNESS (foam board is acceptable), nothing larger or smaller than 8"x10", suitable for hanging without additional framing.
- ✿ Photos must completely cover foam or mount board backing.
- ✿ Masonite, photo folders, corrugated cardboard or poster board is **not** acceptable.
- ✿ Entrants should be aware that double faced tape, glue, or rubber cement will not hold up when the photo is displayed under high heat or in humid conditions (use dry mounting, if possible).
- ✿ Matting of any kind is not allowed and will result in disqualification.
- ✿ Do not attach Velcro grip to the back of your photo.

**Photo size:**

- ✿ Photos are to be 8"x10". They should not fall below or above these parameters.  
Panoramic shots DO NOT meet this requirement. 8 ½ x 11 DOES NOT meet this requirement.  
Both will be disqualified.

**Proper Photo Identification:**

Use photo label included in packet.

**Judging Criteria:** Participants should use viewing distance and the following criteria as guidelines

### **Standards of Excellence & Judging Definitions**

- Focus:** Definition: Adjustment of the distance setting on a lens to appropriately defines the subject.  
Standard: The focus is appropriate to the theme/mood and/or photographic class.
- Exposure:** Definition: The quantity of light allowed to act on a photographic material; a project of the intensity and the duration of light striking the film or paper.  
Standard: The exposure compliments the composition and gives the picture a smooth feeling or a particular effect.
- Lighting:** Definition: The illumination of a subject.  
Standard: Use of light to produce the desired mood or effect.
- Print Quality:** Definition: The photo exhibits quality consistent with display.  
Standard: The absence of blemishes, scratches, overly enlarged (graininess) and pixilation. This also includes the quality of mounting.
- Subject:** Definition: The photo uses the subject to deliver a message in a creative way.  
Standard: The photo clearly communicates the subject and fits the chosen category.
- Composition:** Definition: Placement of the subject in the photo demonstrating artistic ability.  
Standard: A pleasing balance exists among all components of the composition.
- Impact:** Definition: The photo clearly captures the attention of the viewer.  
Standard: The composition conveys a strong message.
- Uniqueness:** Definition: Use of originality, camera angle, lighting, character studies, and/or creativity.  
Standard: The photographer exhibits creativity through the photo.
- Mechanical:** Definition: Use of recommended sizing and mounting guidelines.  
Standard: The photographer utilized the contest sizing and mounting instructions.

**\*\*Entries are judged according to the standards of excellence established for this project contest. You are competing against previously determined standards of excellence, not against your peers for ribbon selection.** Before preparing your entry for submission, please carefully review the judging definitions and standards of excellence sheet.



CASS COUNTY 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST ENTRY LOG

(Bring this form to the Cass County Office along with photographs, and surveys.)

CLUB \_\_\_\_\_

PARTICIPANT	Division Clover JR or INT SR or AD																Total # of Pics
		People	Animal- Domestic	Wildlife	Landscape & Nature	Plant/ Flora	Elements of Design	Sports	Details & Macro	Enhanced	Theme	Motion/ Action	Food	Dom Color	Catch All	Travel & Place	
1																	
2																	
3																	
4																	
5																	
6																	
7																	
8																	
9																	
10																	

Total # of Photographs: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Club Manager/Project Leader or Parent \_\_\_\_\_

## PHOTOGRAPHY LABEL

<b>Name (First Last):</b>		✓	<b>Select Category</b>
			Animals-Domestic
<b>Age Division:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Clover Kid		Wildlife
	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (grade 3, 4, or 5)		Catch-All
	<input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate (grade 6, 7, or 8)		Details & Macro
<b>County:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (grade 9, 10, 11, or 12)		Dominant Color
	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult		Elements of Design
			Enhanced
			Food
Did you use any special effects? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			Landscape & Nature
If yes, briefly describe in the space below:			Motion/Action
			People
			Plant/Flora
			Sports
			Theme
			Travel & Place

<b>JUDGING RUBRIC (for judge's use only)</b>				
<b>Category</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
Focus				
Standard				
Exposure				
Lighting				
Print Quality				
Subject Matter				
Composition				
Impact				
Uniqueness				
Mechanical				

Comments:



MARKING INSTRUCTIONS

CORRECT: ● INCORRECT: ✗ ⊗ ⊖ ⊕

4-H Explore  
Project Book Evaluation - Photography

1. Please read the statement in the left column of the table below. Bubble in the circles that describe your level of understanding **BEFORE** completing this program. In the section on the far right, bubble in the circles that describe your level of understanding **AFTER** completing this program. You will have two bubbles per row.

LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING: 1 = Poor, 2 = Average, 3 = Good, 4 = Excellent	BEFORE				AFTER			
As a result of participating in the Photography project lessons and activities...	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
I understand the basic type of cameras and which best fits with my photography goals.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I understand the basic operation of a camera and how to adjust settings based on needs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I understand composition and how it can affect the impact of a photograph.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I understand the importance of lighting in photography and how it affects a photograph.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I understand the various ways of saving and protecting my photos for storage.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I understand the various photograph file formats.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. For each statement below, fill in the bubble that best describes you.

INTENTIONS TO ADOPT:	Yes	No	Unsure
As a result of participating in the Photography Project lessons and activities...			
I can make the necessary setting adjustments to my camera based on the desired shot.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I will explore various photography techniques when taking photographs such as composition and lighting.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I plan to use the techniques I have learned to enter at least one photograph in the 4-H Photography Contest as a Senior or another photography contest.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. For each statement below, fill in the bubble that best describes your level of agreement with the following statements.

BEHAVIOR CHANGES:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
As a result of participating in the Photography Project lessons and activities...				
I am more comfortable working in a team.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am more willing to listen to others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am more comfortable speaking with others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am more confident in my abilities as a leader.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am more comfortable talking to someone about photography.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



**MARKING INSTRUCTIONS**

CORRECT: ● INCORRECT: ✗ ⊗ ☐ ☑

4. What is the most significant thing you learned in the Photography project?

Please tell us about yourself.

**Gender:**       Female     Male

**I consider myself to be:**     African American                       White  
    Asian American                               Other  
    Native American

**I consider myself to be:**     Hispanic     Non-Hispanic

**Grade:**     3rd     5th     7th     9th     11th     Adult  
                  4th     6th     8th     10th     12th

**Most of the time, you live . . .**

<input type="radio"/> Farm or ranch	<input type="radio"/> Suburb of city between 50,000
<input type="radio"/> Town less than 10,000	<input type="radio"/> Central city/urban center with more than 50,000
<input type="radio"/> City between 10,000 - 50,000	

Please provide any additional comments below.

