

TEXAS 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST 2019-2020 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, geese/ducks (domestic use), hamsters, horses, pigs, sheep, goats, etc.

ANIMALS - WILDLIFE

Category focuses on animals not tamed or domesticated and commonly found in the wilderness or the 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

Photos that do not fit into one of the other categories.

Examples: Long exposure zoomed images, painting with light, polaroid image & emulsion transfers, still-life, etc.

Not allowed: County's use of this category to eliminate duplicate photos from multiple 4-H members.

DETAILS & MACRO

Getting in close is the name of the game for this category. We welcome pictures of small details that suggest a larger story. This is also the place for macro photographs.

Examples: Clocks, coins, ice crystals, insects, stamps, etc.

DOMINANT COLOR

Photos with a dominant color. The dominant element in the image must be a specific color, such as red, yellow, blue, white, black, white, green, etc.

Example: Bowl of lemons, in a yellow bowl, on top of a yellow table covering, with a bright yellow tone sunlighting on it.

Not allowed: Black & White photos and duotones.

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: Photoshop composites and creations, images greatly manipulated with a variety of filters, photos with artistic borders, photos stitched into a panoramic, etc.

FOOD

Category is 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.

MOTION/ACTION

The capture of movement within a single photo.

Examples: Ferris wheel spinning, sporting events, horse running across field, etc.

NIGHT

Photos that capture objects in or against the night sky. Photos can include objects such as buildings, landscape features, people, light trails, etc. seen at night. Objects seen in the night sky such as stars and planets are also acceptable. The use of a telescope is permitted.

Examples: Milky Way, meteor shower, moon, cityscape at night

Not Allowed: Sunset and sunrise photos.

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 - THE ELEMENTS

The 2019-2020 theme is "The Elements". This category must contain one of the 4 elements: earth, air, water, or fire. Photos can include a combination of one or more elements, but the element(s) itself must be the focal point of the photo.

Examples: dust devil, river, steam, snow, campfire, water droplets, clouds, etc.

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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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)
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JUDGES COMMENTS: