

Photography

Superintendent – Patrick Kelly
Assistant Superintendent – Patricia Gladstone
(805) 648-3376 ext. 122 / photography@venturacountyfair.org

ALL EXHIBITS MUST BE PRE-ENTERED ONLINE

HOW TO ENTER:

May 22-July 10, 2024

www.venturacountyfair.org

We will only be accepting online registration for entries. If you require assistance to complete the online registration entries process, please call the fair office at 805-648-3376 and we will assist you with computer entries.

(Online registration closes 11:59 pm on July 10, 2024).

WHO CAN ENTER:

This is an Adult Competition. The Competition is open to residents of Ventura County, Agoura and Westlake Village who are 18 years of age and older. *Youth photographers (under 18 years of age) must enter in the Youth Expo*

To create a well-rounded and just Competition for all photography submissions, the entries are categorized by the photographer's level.

Please Note Our Guidelines:

1. **Amateur** – one who engages in photography for their own pleasure and has basic limited knowledge or skill set. Exhibitor **MUST NOT** have their photographs listed "For Sale" on any "**Social Media**" (i.e., websites, Facebook, Twitter, etc.).

2023 Best in Show winners in this Division must enter as Advanced Amateur in 2024.

2. **Advanced Amateur** – one who engages in photography, has taken various workshops or classes, and has a higher skill set. Photographers in this category may have received passive compensation for their work.
3. **Professional** – one who makes a living from, sells photography, or has their photographs printed in newsprint or other publications on a continual basis.

EXHIBIT DROP OFF DATES:

Friday, July 19, Saturday, July 20, and Sunday, July 21, 2024

12:00 PM to 7:00 PM

PICK-UP DAY:

Monday, August 12, 2024 - 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM

All photographs not claimed become the property of the Fair and will be discarded unless prior arrangements have been made with Superintendent.

AWARDS

Sweepstakes Amateur Plaque & Rosette; Sweepstakes Advanced Amateur Plaque & Rosette
Best of Show Color - \$50, Plaque & Rosette; Best of Show Black & White - \$50, Plaque & Rosette Professional Best of Show - \$100,
Plaque & Rosette; Best of Division – \$25 & Rosette
Superintendent's Favorite - \$25 & Rosette
Staff Favorite - \$25 & Rosette

We will only be accepting online registration for entries. If you require assistance to complete the online registration entry process, please call the fair office at 805-648-3376 and we will assist you with computer entries.

All State and local rules apply. [2024 State Rules for California Fairs](#)

Entry: Late entries will not be received. Entry fees are nonrefundable. NO EXCEPTIONS

Pick-Up of Entries: Any exhibit not picked up by August 12, 2024, at 7PM will be disposed of by the Fair. All checks will be distributed at the time of exhibits pick up. Checks not picked up will NOT BE MAILED. Checks that are not claimed by the Exhibitor will be deemed a donation and will be returned to the department. Items must be collected on the stated day. The Ventura County Fair is not liable for exhibits and will not be responsible for items left. Items will not be stored.

Vouchers will be issued for Premium winnings of less than \$20 and are redeemed on Monday, August 12, 2024, between 12:00 PM and 5:00 PM at the Fair Administration Office Ticket Window. **Vouchers and checks expire on October 25, 2024, and will not be redeemed after this date.**

DEPARTMENT RULES

1. **The following MUST be on the back of each print: An arrow at the center top of the mounting board indicating the direction of the photograph, Division, Class, title, where taken, Exhibitor's name, city, and telephone number (same as presented on entry form). Name of the Exhibitor must not appear on the front of the print, but in the top middle on the back.**
2. Photos must be firmly mounted on a black or white foam core (1/4 inch thick or less).
3. No frames, wood, metal, or glass are permitted.
4. All borderless photos must be mounted flush to the edges of the board. Colored borders, color mats, double matting or color mount boards are not allowed in any class.
5. All photos must have been taken by the Exhibitor between July 2022 and July 2024.
6. No reproductions are allowed.
7. No photos exhibited in previous Ventura County Fair Competitions will be allowed.
8. No photos exhibited in any type of publication will be allowed.
9. Any photographs downloaded from the internet will be disqualified.
10. A maximum of 8 photographs per Exhibitor with a limit of two (2) photographs per Class.
11. No image may be entered in more than one Division and/or Class (i.e., Color Print as a Black and White Print).
12. **No image may change Division or be substituted after 11:59 PM on July 10, 2024 (entry deadline)-per CFSA State Rules.**
13. The Ventura County Fair reserves the right to exclude any photograph for objectionable content.
14. Judges or Superintendent may transfer any photograph to another Class if they feel photograph is entered in the incorrect Class.
15. Judging is closed to the public. Decision of the Judges is final.
16. 2023 First Place Sweepstakes Winners are ineligible for 2024 Sweepstakes Awards.
17. Ventura County Fair assumes all submissions are the sole creation of the photographer. Ventura County Fair and their affiliates shall be held harmless in the event of copyright infringement. Any copyright infringement will immediately disqualify work.
18. All possible care will be exercised in the handling of photographs. However, the Ventura County Fair is not responsible for loss or damaged submissions.

PRINT AND PRESENTATION SPECIFICATIONS:

1. Prints may be from any camera type, film, or digital capture. The image may be a traditional photographic print or high-quality digital print. See individual Division specification for additional information.
2. Print Size: Prints may be 8" x 10" up to 16" x 20" inches (full bleed).
3. Presentation: Prints may be either vertical or horizontal.
4. Display Format: Do not use picture frames, glass, or hanging devices.
All photos must be mounted flush to the edges of the foam core. Front matte boards are not allowed. Colored borders or colored mount boards are not allowed in any Class.
5. Use a quality black or white foam core or gator-board for all photos. (This is the board you mount your photo on.) No wood or metal allowed.
6. Place a 3/4-inch square of non-commercial weight Velcro (such as Scotch Fasteners RF7-020X multi-purpose) on the back top corners of the foam core board (hook-side up).

7. No names or signatures should show on the front of photographs.
8. Prints may fade and change color with exposure to light and humidity at the Fairgrounds. To maintain color quality, we recommend you select high-quality archival photo papers and inks.
9. Mounting: Dry mount or use acid free two-sided artist tape. Do not use masking tape or transparent adhesive that does not work well in humidity. Make sure that prints are firmly attached to the board.

Premiums Offered per Class

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| \$20 | \$15 | \$10 |

PRESENTATION RULES FOR DIVISIONS 701-702-703

Please see Print and Presentation Specifications

1. The borderless photographic picture image shall not be smaller than 8" X 10" inches or more than 16" X 20" inches.
2. Overall size of presentation including foam core shall not exceed 16 inches by 20 inches.
3. Photos must be firmly mounted on a black or white foam core (1/4 inch or less).
4. Place a 3/4-inch square of self-sticking non-commercial weight Velcro (such as Scotch Fasteners RF7-020X multipurpose) on the back two (2) top corners of the foam core (hook side up).
5. Photo Story is limited to a series of four (4) 5"x5" photos that tell a story of any subject mounted together horizontally on a 5"x21" foam core.

DIVISION 701 – AMATEUR/ADVANCED AMATEUR, BLACK & WHITE PRINTS, ANY MEDIA

Class

1. Action/Sports
2. Agriculture/Ranching
3. Architecture
4. Birds
5. Botanicals/Flowers/Plants
6. Creative Processes/Digital Art/Special Effects/ Creative Patterns/Abstract
7. Domestic Animals/Pets
8. Fair Theme
9. Family/Group
10. Historic/Patriotic
11. Humor
12. Insects/Reptiles
13. Inspirational
14. Landscape
15. Natural Disaster/Photojournalism/Documentary
16. Photo Story
17. Portrait, Adult
18. Portrait, Child
19. Reflections
20. Scenic/Travel
21. Still Life
22. Sunrise/Sunset
23. Underwater
24. Wildlife
25. Transportation
26. Drone

DIVISION 702 – AMATEUR COLOR PRINTS, ANY MEDIA

Class

1. Action/Sports
2. Agriculture/Ranching
3. Architecture
4. Birds
5. Botanicals/Flowers/Plants
6. Creative Processes/Digital Art/Special Effects/ Creative Patterns/Abstract
7. Domestic Animals/Pets
8. Fair Theme
9. Family/Group
10. Historic/Patriotic
11. Humor
12. Insects/Reptiles
13. Inspirational
14. Landscape
15. Natural Disaster/Photojournalism/Documentary
16. Photo Story
17. Portrait, Adult
18. Portrait, Child
19. Reflections
20. Scenic/Travel
21. Still Life
22. Sunrise/Sunset
23. Underwater
24. Wildlife
25. Transportation
26. Drone

DIVISION 703 – ADVANCED AMATEUR COLOR PRINTS, ANY MEDIA

Class

1. Action/Sports
2. Agriculture/Ranching
3. Architecture
4. Birds
5. Botanicals/Flowers/Plants
6. Creative Processes/Digital Art/Special Effects/ Creative Patterns/Abstract
7. Domestic Animals/Pets
8. Fair Theme
9. Family/Group
10. Historical/Patriotic
11. Humor
12. Insect/Reptiles
13. Inspirational
14. Landscape
15. Natural Disaster/Photojournalism/Documentary
16. Photo Story
17. Portrait, Adult
18. Portrait, Child
19. Reflections
20. Scenic/Travel
21. Still Life

22. Sunrise/Sunset
23. Underwater
24. Wildlife
25. Transportation
26. Drone

DIVISION 704 – PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Entry Fee: \$20 per entry (non-refundable)
Professional Best of Show - \$100 & Rosette

Premiums Offered per Class

| 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| \$50 | \$30 | \$20 |

PRESENTATION RULES FOR DIVISION 704

1. Professional is one who makes a living from or sells photography.
2. Limit – one (1) photograph per Class not to exceed a total of 6 photographs per Exhibitor.
3. Business cards or signage is prohibited on the front of the submissions. All professional submissions should include the photographer's website/URL, business card or any promotional information affixed to the back in the middle of the mounting.
4. Minimum size of print is 16 x 20 inches and no larger than 24 x 30 inches.
5. All prints must be flush mounted on photography foam core with 1 inch square (self-sticking) hook-side up of non-commercial weight Velcro (such as Scotch Fasteners RF7-020X multi-purpose) on the back top corners of the foam core.

Class

1. Animals/Pets
2. Fashion
3. Nature – Botanicals/Flowers/Landscapes/Waterscapes
4. Portraiture
5. Travel
6. Wedding
7. Drone
8. Underwater

Judging Criteria for Photography

Impact - Effect on the viewer, strong, emphasis on subject, readability, creativity of vision (35%)

Composition - Coherent design or engaging arrangement of elements (35%)

Technical Quality - Detail in highlights and shadows; sharpness; use of shutter speeds, depth of field; color balance; tonal values; mastery of techniques (30%)

Total 100%

