

August 25, 2012

SUBJECT: 2012 DISTRICT 8 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Enclosed you will find the 2012 Bell County 4-H Photography Contest information.

Entry Deadline: **Friday, September 17, 2012**
Jump Drive or Thumb Drive
Bring Entry Form and Photos to CEO by 5pm this day

Display: October 5-13, 2012
Heart O' Texas Fair, Waco, Texas
Creative Arts/Exhibit Building

Please note a few highlights and changes from previous years:

- Please remember that the categories changed last year. We will continue to follow the new category listing. There are no longer Black & White and Color Divisions.



DISTRICT 8 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

PURPOSE

The Texas 4-H Photography Contest encourages self-expression and allows youth to demonstrate skills learned in the area of photography, including the use of photographic equipment and process of photographs.

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 senior 4-H members.
- To continue to share the message of 4-H.
- To utilize photographs which can promote and strengthen the 4-H program.

RESOURCES

Adventures with Your Camera – A (Grades 3 to 5) Available from National 4-H Council Supply

Adventures with Your Camera – B (Grades 6 to 9) Available from National 4-H Council Supply

4-H Guide to Digital Photography by Daniel Johnson. (Available from Amazon.com)

Texas 4-H and Youth Development Photography Project Resource Page:

http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/photography_contest

Any reference to a product or company is not to endorse or support them and their causes. Links to companies are provided for their educational resources only.

IMPORTANT DATES

Entry Deadline: Monday, September 17, 2012 on CD or thumb drive

Display: October 5-13, 2012

Heart O' Texas Fair, Waco, Texas

Creative Arts/Exhibit Building

CONTEST RULES AND GUIDELINES

PLEASE READ ALL RULES AND GUIDELINES. PHOTOS NOT ADHERING TO GUIDELINES WILL NOT BE JUDGED!!

1. Eligibility. Participants must be 4-H members currently enrolled and have an "active" status on 4-H Connect with the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program and actively participating in the Photography project.
2. Age Divisions. Age divisions are determined by a participant's age as of August 31, 2012 as follows:

<u>Division</u>	<u>Ages</u>	<u>Birth date between:</u>
Junior	8 years old and in 3rd grade or 9 - 10 years	Sept 1, 2001 – Aug 31, 2004
Intermediate	11-13 years of age	Sept 1, 1998 – Aug 31, 2001
Senior	14 - 18 years of age	Sept 1, 1993 – Aug 31, 1998

3. Eligibility of Photos. All photographs must have been taken by the 4-H members between the dates of October 1, 2011 and time of entry. Photos may be submitted only one time in one category.
Please note: This is NOT the qualifying contest for the state senior contest that will be held in spring 2013. This contest is in addition to the state senior contest and senior members wishing to enter the state contest should contact their County Extension Agent for details.
4. Number of Entries per County. A county may have only one entry per category in each age division for a total of 42 entries per county.
5. Entry Deadline & Fee. All entries must be submitted with a CD or thumb drive by September 17, 2012.
6. Copyright and Content. Photos that are deemed obscene, vulgar, sexually oriented, hateful, threatening, or otherwise violate any laws are strictly prohibited. The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program in District 8 respects the rights related to copyright laws and intellectual property. All photos should be based on a 4-H member's original photograph taken by the 4-H member. Use of a photo from other sources/people without permission is not allowed and will lead to disqualification of the photo and possibility all entries by the 4-H member. The Texas 4-H and Youth Development in District 8 reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.
7. Model and Property Releases. Any 4-H member submitting a photograph acknowledges that they have sufficient written permission of any recognizable locations or people appearing in their photograph(s). This permission is hereby granted to both the photographer and the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program in District 8 to publish and use as needed. Written documentation should be retained by the 4-H member and will be requested by the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program in District 8 if needed.
8. Disqualification of an Entry. An entry that does not follow the rules or category guidelines will automatically be disqualified. A general form email specifying reason(s) for disqualification will be returned to the county. Reasons for disqualification:
 - Incorrect size.
 - Photo does not meet category criteria or entered in incorrect category.
 - Photograph file not labeled correctly to ensure identification.
 - Same photo entered into multiple categories.
 - Inappropriate or unsuitable photograph.
 - Entry fee not paid or only partial fee paid.
 - County did not select/certify photo to represent county.
 - Photo was NOT entered into the 4-H CONNECT system.
 - Fees not received.
 - More than one entry in a category from a county.
9. Release of Liability. The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, Texas AgriLife Extension, the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation and/or its employees/agents 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.
10. Retention of Photos. All photographs will be retained by the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program in District 8 for which they may be used in marketing and program promotion.

11. Awards. Blue, Red and White quality awards will be given to entries based on the score sheet criteria. This system is known as the Danish system, and photos will not be judged against each other, but against the set criteria/standards instead.

Best of Show awards will be given to one photo in each age division.

A Spirit of 4-H Award will be giving for the photograph that best demonstrates the spirit of 4-H. This award can be awarded to any age division and category. Only one award will be given for the entire contest.

12. Announcement of Results. Results will be announced on the Photography Website for Bell County 4-H.



PROCESS OF SUBMITTING PHOTOGRAPHS

All entries for the 2012 District 8 Photography Contest will be completed using a thumb drive or CD. Please read these submission rules very careful to prevent disqualification of entries!

PLEASE READ THESE RULES VERY CAREFULLY AND FOLLOW EVERY STEP CORRECTLY!!!

1. Formatting the Photograph. Each photograph must be formatted in a jpg file to where it can be printed at a 3 inch X 5 inch size. File must not be over 1.5 MB in size to upload.
2. Labeling/Naming the Photograph. Each photograph will need to be clearly labeled with the Age Division, Category, County, 4-H member’s first and last name and the name of the category (see below for label name).

For example: Junior 4-H member John Smith from Bell County entering the Animals-Wildlife category would upload a file labeled: Junior_Wildlife_Bell_County_John_Smith.jpg

Please use the following labels for the categories:

CATEGORY	FILE LABEL NAME
PEOPLE	People
ANIMALS - WILDLIFE	Wildlife
ANIMALS - DOMESTIC	Domestic
MARINE/AQUATICS	Marine
ELEMENTS OF DESIGN	Elements
NATURE/LANDSCAPE	Nature
PLANT/FLORA	Plant

CATEGORY	FILE LABEL NAME
DETAILS & MACROS	Details
DIGITAL DARKROOM	Darkroom
THEME	Theme
NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY	Night
FOOD	Food
DOMINANT COLOR	Dominant
CATCH ALL	All

3. Submitting the Entry. Photo submission will be on 4-H Connect between September 1, 2012 and September 17, 2012.



DISTRICT 8 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY JUDGING

Descriptions of Categories

ANIMALS - DOMESTIC	<p>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.</p> <p>Examples include: Dog, Sheep, Pig, Goat, Cow, Cat, Chicken, Horse, Camel, Goose, Duck, Hamsters</p>
ANIMALS - WILDLIFE	<p>Category focuses on animals not tamed or domesticated and commonly found in the wild throughout the country and world. Photos can be of wildlife in nature, zoos, and/or petting zoos.</p> <p>Examples include: Deer, snakes, insects, rodents, elephants, etc.</p>
CATCH-ALL	<p>Category for photos that do not fit into one of the other categories. This includes such photos as still-life, motion-blur, Polaroid transfers, SX-70 images, hand-colored photos.</p> <p>Examples include: Polaroid image & emulsion transfers, still-life, long exposure zoomed images, and painting with light.</p>
DETAILS & MACRO	<p>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 (although a macro image of a flower might equally go into the Flowers category).</p> <p>Examples include: detail of a knot, a lock, or an abstract close-up - anything as long as it is a tight composition of a detail. Macro examples include flowers, insects, stamps, ice crystals, etc.</p>
DIGITAL DARKROOM	<p>Photos are for digital art - images created or drastically altered in software like Adobe Photoshop®. Although digitally manipulated images are also allowed in the other categories, this is a category exclusively showcasing such art. If the digital darkroom work is the main attraction of the photo, or plays a big part, enter it here.</p> <p>Examples include: Photoshop® composites and creations, images greatly manipulated with a variety of filters, photos with artistic borders, photos stitched into a panoramic.</p>
DOMINANT COLOR	<p>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.</p> <p>Black & White photos, duotones, are excluded from this category</p>
ELEMENTS OF DESIGN	<p>Images use of graphic elements of design. Photos that showcase line, shape, pattern, form, texture, perspective, etc. Photo can consist of any subject matter.</p> <p>Category is not for graphic illustrations made in commercial programs (i.e. Adobe Illustrator®) nor for extreme digital creations.</p> <p>Examples include: Perspective, Line, Pattern</p>
FOOD	<p>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. NO PHOTOS OF ALCOHOL BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED</p> <p>Examples: Thanksgiving dinner, cakes/pies, fruits and place settings, Easter eggs, sandwiches, ingredients, etc.</p>
MARINE/AQUATIC	<p>Photos of any living organism in bodies of either fresh or ocean (salt) water.</p> <p>Examples include: Fish, stingrays, shipwrecks, whales, starfish, etc.</p>
NATURE & LANDSCAPE	<p>The focus of this category includes landscapes, outdoor scenes, nature images, sunsets, urban landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, and farms. Images focus on the beauty of the outdoors.</p> <p>Examples include: Landscapes, Scenic, Outdoors</p>
NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY	<p>Photos taken outdoors between dusk and dawn but does not include dusk and dawn. Generally these photos are achieved by using artificial light or using a long exposure. This category can include any subject as the focus should be on the skill and technique used to acquire the photograph.</p> <p>Examples include: buildings/structures, animals, plant/flora, people, etc.</p>
PEOPLE	<p>Photos focus from all walks of life, parenting and family, children, babies, models/fashion, sports, and couples. See Rule #8.</p> <p>Examples include: Kids & Family, Models/Fashion, Sports</p>
PLANT/FLORA	<p>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 Nature & Landscape category.</p> <p>Examples include: a rose, an upward shot of a tree, a flower bouquet, etc</p>
THEME	<p>The 2012 D8 4-H Photography Contest theme will be "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles." Photos entered in this category could include automobiles, boats, or any mode of transportation that capture the spirit of the theme.</p>

Certain description terminology used from betterphoto.com photo contest category page.

<http://www.betterphoto.com/contest/categories.asp>



DISTRICT 8 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY JUDGING

Judging Criteria and Point Value

The principles of “12 Elements of a Merit Image” will be used as the judging criteria for the photography contest. As outlined by Bob Hawkins, these twelve elements have been defined as necessary for the success of an art piece or image. Any image, art piece or photograph will reveal some measure of all twelve elements, while a visually superior example will reveal consideration of each one.

The twelve elements for judging the photographs will be:

IMPACT (Max Points: 8)	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 these twelve elements.
CREATIVITY (Max Points: 10)	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.
TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE (Max Points: 6)	Technical excellence is the print quality of the image itself as it is presented for viewing. Retouching, manipulation, sharpness, exposure, printing, mounting, and correct color are some items that speak to the qualities of the physical print.
COMPOSITION (Max Points: 8)	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.
LIGHTING (Max Points: 8)	Lighting - the use and control of light - refers to how dimension, shape and roundness are defined in an image. Whether the light applied to an image is manmade or natural, proper use of it should enhance an image.
STYLE (Max Points: 8)	Style is defined in a number of ways as it applies to a creative image. It might be defined by a specific genre or simply be recognizable as the characteristics of how a specific artist applies light to a subject. It can impact an image in a positive manner when the subject matter and the style are appropriate for each other, or it can have a negative effect when they are at odds.
PRESENTATION (Max Points: 6)	Presentation affects an image by giving it a finished look. If mats and/or borders used, do they support and enhance the image, not distract from it. Any filters or finishes applied to photos should be enhancing to the photo’s presentation.
CENTER OF INTEREST (Max Points: 6)	Center of Interest is the point or points on the image where the maker wants the viewer to stop as they view the image. There can be primary and secondary centers of interest. Occasionally there will be no specific center of interest, when the entire scene collectively serves as the center of interest.
SUBJECT MATTER (Max Points: 12)	Subject Matter should always be appropriate to the story being told in an image.
COLOR BALANCE (Max Points: 10)	Color Balance supplies harmony to an image. An image in which the tones work together, effectively supporting the image, can enhance its emotional appeal. Color balance is not always harmonious and can be used to evoke diverse feelings for effect.
TECHNIQUE (Max Points: 10)	Technique is the approach used to create the image. Printing, lighting, posing, capture, presentation media, and more are part of the technique applied to an image.
STORY TELLING (Max Points: 8)	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.



DISTRICT 8 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Judging Form

Name _____ County _____

Check one in each of the following:

Age: _____ Junior _____ Intermediate _____ Senior
 Category: _____ Animals-Domestic _____ Dominant Color _____ Nature/Landscape _____ Theme
 _____ Animals-Wildlife _____ Elements of Design _____ Night Photography _____ Catch-All
 _____ Details & Macros _____ Food _____ People
 _____ Digital Darkroom _____ Marine/Aquatics _____ Plant/Flora

CRITERIA	POINTS AWARDED <i>(circle one number on each row)</i>											
Impact	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
Creativity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Technical Excellence	1	2	3	4	5	6						
Composition	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
Lighting	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
Style	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
Presentation	1	2	3	4	5	6						
Center of Interest	1	2	3	4	5	6						
Subject Matter	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Color Balance	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Technique	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Story Telling	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
TOTAL POINTS												
Award <i>(circle one)</i>	Blue Award 71-100				Red Award 31-70				White Award 0-30			

JUDGES COMMENTS