

2020-2021 FORT BEND 4-H COUNTY PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST GUIDELINES

PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES

The Fort Bend 4-H County 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.

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

ENTRIES

Participation Divisions (must have an *active* status in 4-H Connect)

- Clover Kid (grade K-2)
- Junior (grade 3-5)
- Intermediate (grade 6-8)
- Senior (grade 9-12)

New!

Entries Clovers, Juniors, Intermediate are limited to 5 entries out of the 15 categories.

Senior Participants may enter only one photo per category, for a total of 15 entries.

Photo Eligibility

Photo must be taken by participants between the dates of January 1, 2020 and the time of entry.

Photo Format & Name

Photo format must be .jpeg, .jpg, or .gif.

Photos must be renamed to fit following format: Division_Category_Name (ex. Junior_Food_JaneSmith)

Entry Method

Online Submittal form located at: <https://agrilife.org/ftbend4h/beyond-the-project/round-up/>

All entries will be submitted online using the FBC 4-H Website. No emailed submissions will be accepted.

Entry Fee

\$5.00 per 4-H youth for Junior, Intermediate & Senior Divisions. Free to youth in Clover Kid Division.

Please see "Payment Method" section for all payment options.

Entry & Payment Deadline

Entries & Payment(online/in-person) will not be accepted after 5:00 pm on Monday, March 15, 2021. If you plan to mail payment, it must be postmarked Monday, March 15, 2021.

PAYMENT METHODS

- Payments can be made one of three ways.
 - In person to the FBC Extension Office.
 - By Mail (must be postmarked by Mon, March 15)
 - Online using Venmo (payment link will be provide upon entry submittal)
 - Venmo site for payment: www.venmo.com/FortBendFourH-Program

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

An eligibility form is required for all participants. You can request an eligibility form from the 4-H website, <http://agrilife.org/ftbend4h/eligibility-form/> or by contacting the 4-H Department.

Eligibility Forms (No Pass, No Play) are the member's responsibility to complete for any competitive 4-H event regardless of the day of competition. Even if you are not missing school, you still need to turn in an eligibility form.

CLOVER KIDS

Clover kids will have to submit their entries online but are not required to pay the entry fee or provide an eligibility form as their photos are not being judged for competition. They will however receive feedback as to how they can make their entries better.

RESOLUTION & SIZE

- Photo must be print quality resolution (300dpi).
- Size: Must be 8"x10" (portrait) or 10"x8" (landscape).
- Size: Photo may not be larger than 5120KB (5MB).

ALTERATIONS & TEXT USAGE

Alterations: Slight enhancements are allowed, such as cropping, adjusting the lighting and reducing red eye, **other** alterations will disqualify an entry. Other types of alterations, manipulations, edits, such as changing colors, applying design styles, applying filters, or using computer graphics would require the photo to be entered into the Digital Darkroom category.

Text on Photographs: Beyond the storyboard and digital darkroom categories, photographs **MUST NOT** contain camera or user placed text. This includes such things 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.

ORIGINAL WORK OF 4-H MEMBER

Entry must be the original photographic work of the 4-H member and not a photo taken by family members, other 4-H members, or secured from any other printed/electronic source. Any photo proven to be found as not original work will result in disqualification of **ALL** the 4-H member's entries into the Photography Contest. Additionally, actions may be taken against the 4-H member in accordance with to the Consequences of Misbehavior and Code of Conduct signed by the 4-H member.

AWARDS, DISPLAY, AND JUDGING

Awards and Recognition: Top submissions will be rewarded by inclusion in a public photography exhibit. Blue, red, and white quality ribbons and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place rosettes will be awarded. Photos will be judged and scored according to the Texas 4-H Photography Contest. The first place photos in each Senior Division Category will be eligible for entry to the State 4-H Photography Contest.

Judging and Results: Each photograph will be judged against a set of judging criteria, and not against photographs of peers. Based on total points awarded for each photograph, the participant will be awarded either a blue, red, or white ribbon. See Contest Judging Criteria. Total of the scores will determine the placings and all decisions are final.

RELEASES

Content: Photos that are deemed obscene, vulgar, sexually-oriented, hateful, threatening, or otherwise violate any laws are strictly prohibited. The 4-H Youth Development Program reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.

Copyright: The 4-H Youth Development Program respects the rights related to copyright laws and intellectual property. All photos should be based on a participant's original photograph. Use of a photo from other sources/people without permission is not allowed.

Display and Future Usage Rights: Participant grants permission to the Fort Bend 4-H Youth Development Program and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, the use and rights associated to the use of the photographic likeness in promotional publications and other media, without compensation. Certain photos may be used for 4-H program and marketing uses.

Model and Property Releases: It is required that each participant have sufficient permission granted to both the photographer and the 4-H Youth Development Program to publish and use as needed any recognizable locations or people photographed. Documentation should be retained by the participant and be available upon request from the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program.

DISQUALIFICATION

Reasons for disqualification:

- Participant is not an active 4-H member.
- Participant did not submit entry/entries to county by the deadline.
- Entry fee not paid or only partial fee paid by deadline.
- Photograph was not entered in the proper procedure.
- Photograph too small in size to be evaluated.
- Extremely poor quality/resolution.
- Category: Does not meet category criteria, rules or guidelines. (see category descriptions)
- Category: Multiple entries into a category.
- Category: One photo entered into multiple categories.
- Manipulation of photo beyond what is allowed.
- Broken content rule. This includes inappropriate or unsuitable content.
- Broken copyright rule. Photo is not the work of the 4-H member.
- Broken display and future usage rights rule.
- Broken model and property release rule.

RESOURCE: Texas 4-H Website: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/>

CATEGORY DESCRIPTION

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

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 than 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. Other 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 as 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

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.

CATEGORY DESCRIPTION

LONG EXPOSURE

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 obscuring 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

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.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Each photograph will be judged against the following set of judging criteria, and not against photographs of your peers. Based on total points awarded for each photograph, the participant will be awarded either a blue, red, white, or a participation ribbon. The elements for judging the photographs will be:

<p>IMPACT (Max Points: 15)</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>CREATIVITY (Max Points: 15)</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>TECHNICAL (Max Points: 25)</p>	<p>Technical is the quality of the image itself as it is presented for viewing, which includes the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allowable amounts of retouching and adjustments (removal of red eye, cropping, minor straightening) • sharpness and 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
<p>COMPOSITION (Max Points: 20)</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>SUBJECT MATTER (Max Points: 15)</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>STORY TELLING (Max Points: 10)</p>	<p>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.</p>

2018 Texas 4-H Photography Contest

Score Sheet

Name: _____ 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.

JUDGES, PLEASE INDICATE POINTS AWARDED IN FAR RIGHT COLUMN:

CATEGORY	MINIMUM POINTS	MAXIMUM POINTS	POINTS AWARDED
Impact	0	15	
Creativity	0	15	
Technical	0	25	
Composition	0	20	
Subject Matter	0	15	
Story Telling	0	10	
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: