



2020-2021 District 9 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.

CONTEST RULES

1. Participation Age: The District 9 4-H and Youth Development Photography contest is open to all 4-H members.

Age Division. This contest is open to all age divisions. There will be three age divisions: Junior, Intermediate and Senior. Age is determined as of August 31, 2020.

Division	Ages
Junior	(3 rd - 5 th grade)
Intermediate	(6 th - 8 th grade)
Senior	(9 th - 12 th grade)

2. Eligibility of Photos: All photographs must have been taken by 4-H members between the dates of January 1, 2020 and the time of entry. Photos may be submitted only one time to the District 9 4-H Photography Contest. A single photo cannot be entered in multiple divisions or classes (ie: the same original cannot be entered in multiple divisions).

3. Number of Entries: A 4-Her can enter up to 15 photographs (One picture per category). A photo can only be entered in the contest one time.

4. Entry Fee: A fee of \$5.00 per photograph must be paid for each entry.

5. Entry Deadline: By midnight on **Wednesday, March 24, 2021** all registrations must be submitted on 4-H CONNECT.

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 respects the rights related to copyright laws and intellectual property. All photos should be based on a 4-H members 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 a possibility all entries by the 4-H member. The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.

7. Disqualification of an Entry: An entry that does not follow the rules or category guidelines will automatically be disqualified. Disqualifications forfeit all entry fees. Reasons for disqualification:

- Photo does not meet category criteria or entered in incorrect category.
- Photograph incorrectly sized and file not labeled correctly to ensure identification.
- Same photo entered into multiple categories.
- Inappropriate or unsuitable photograph.
- Photo was NOT entered into the 4-H CONNECT system with payment.

8. 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.

9. Awards All pictures are judged on an individual basis of quality. The Danish system of ribbon awards is a quality award and not a placing award. Blue, Red, and White quality awards will be given to entries based on the score card criteria. A Best of Show/Best in Class will be awarded per category in each age division.

10. Judges: The judges will determine the placings. Their decision on all entries is final. Score sheets can be downloaded from <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/scoresheet1/>

11. Announcement of Results: Results will be posted during District 9 4-H Roundup, April 29-May 1 at **Lone Star College- Montgomery Campus, Conroe, TX**.

RESOURCES FOR THE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST:

- 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 & Video Project Resource Page located on the 4-H website under the project section. (<http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/>) *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.*

2021 DESCRIPTIONS OF CATEGORIES

TEXAS 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST 2020-2021 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, 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 (Revised)

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. Others 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 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.

LEADING LINE (New)

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.

LONG EXPOSURE (New)

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 (New)

The 2019-2020 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.

PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING PHOTOGRAPHS

All entries and photos for the 2021 District 9 4-H Photography Contest will be completed using the 4-H CONNECT system by midnight **Wednesday, March 24, 2020**. Please read these submission rules very carefully to prevent disqualification of entries!

ENTRY STEPS:

1. **Formatting your Photograph:** Each photo must be a minimum of 300 dpi quality resolution. Size: Must be 3:2 (4"x6") or 5:4 (8"x10") ratio (either landscape or portrait). Size: Photo may not be larger than 5120KB (5MB). **Photos will only be accepted as JPEG or PNG format.** If you need assistance in resizing photos, you can use: <http://webresizer.com/>, or a program of your choice.
2. **Labeling/Naming your Photograph:** Each photograph will need to be clearly labeled with the category (see category names below), county, age division, last name, and first name. File name should include a "_" between each of the items, category_county_age division_last_first.jpg. *Example: John Smith from Dallas County entering the Details & Macro category would upload a file labeled: "Details_Dallas_Senior_Smith_John.jpg"*

Please use the following labels for the categories:

CATEGORY	FILE LABEL NAME
ANIMALS-DOMESTIC	Domestic
ANIMALS – WILDLIFE	Wildlife
CATCH ALL	All
DETAILS & MACROS	Details
DOMINANT COLOR	Dominant
ELEMENTS OF DESIGN	Elements
ENHANCED	Enhanced
FOOD	Food
LANDSCAPE/NATURE	Nature
LEADING LINE	Leading
LONG EXPOSURE	Long
MOTION/ACTION	Motion
PEOPLE	People
PLANT/FLORA	Plant
SHADOW/SILHOUETTE	Shadow
SPORTS	Sports
THEME	Theme
TRAVEL	Travel

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 these twelve elements.
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.
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.
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.
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
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.

JUDGING CRITERIA AND POINT VALUE

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: