DISTRICT 8 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Rules & Guidelines

PURPOSE
The 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 gain knowledge about cameras, camera settings, photography dimensions and resolution.
- To encourage 4-H members to use photography as a meaningful communication tool in their lives.
- To provide photography project showcase opportunity for 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
- An extensive list of resources can be found on the Texas 4-H Photography Project page:
- http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/

IMPORTANT DATES

County Entry Deadline: Contact your County Extension Agent. Deadlines vary by county.

District Entry Deadline: ***Photos entered at District must qualify at the county level first!***
Contact your County Extension Agent. Deadlines vary by county.
4-H Connect: https://texas.4honline.com

Display: Saturday, May 5, 2018
District 8 4-H Roundup
Riesel High School (McLennan County)
600 E. Frederick
Riesel, TX 76682

Entry Fee: $5 per photo

If a payment is declined via credit card, then that payment must be resubmitted in order for the District to have access to the photo for judging. We cannot download or view photos that have incomplete payments.

Late Entries: Late entries will be permitted with an additional $20 late fee per 4-H member up to 48 hours after the regular contest deadline. No additional entries will be accepted after the late entry deadline.

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 Youth Development Program and actively participating in the Photography project.

2. **Age Divisions**. Age divisions are determined by a participant's grade as of <u>August 31, 2017</u> as follows:

Division	Grades	
Junior	3*, 4, or 5	*Must be at least 8 years old
Intermediate	6, 7, or 8	
Senior	9, 10, 11, or 12*	*Must not be older than 18 years old

3. **Eligibility of Photos**. All photographs must have been taken by the 4-H members between the dates of <u>last year's contest</u> and time of entry. <u>Photos may be submitted only one time and in only one category</u>.

   Important Note. This District 8 4-H Photography Contest is for all age divisions. It is NOT the qualifying contest for the Texas 4-H Photography Contest that is for Senior 4-H members with a deadline of April 15, 2018. This contest is <u>in addition to</u> the state Senior contest and Senior 4-H 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 45 entries per county. *Photos entered at District must qualify at the county level first!*

5. **Entry Deadline & Fee**. All entries for the District contest must be electronically submitted through 4-H Connect by the deadline. Deadlines vary by county, so you will need to contact your County Extension Agent. Each photo will have a $5 entry fee. *Photos entered at District must qualify at the county level first!*

6. **Alteration of Photos.** Although slight computer enhanced photos are allowed, such as crop, trimming, adjusting lighting, and red eye reduction; substantially altered photography, such as changing colors or applying design styles, using computer graphics will disqualify an entry. Any other alteration, manipulation, edits to a photo would require the photo to be entered into the Enhanced category.

7. **Text on Photographs**. 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.

8. **Format of Photograph**. Photographs must be in a .jpeg, .jpg, or .gif format.

9. **Size of Photographs**. One of most important aspects of the photography project is learning about camera settings, photography ratios, and photo resolution. Volunteer leaders and 4-H members are encouraged to include a lesson on this topic in their project experiences.
   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).

   If you need assistance in resizing photos, you can use: http://webresizer.com, or a program of your choice.

10. **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 regards to the Consequences of Misbehavior and Code of Conduct signed by the 4-H member.

11. **Content**. Photos that are deemed obscene, vulgar, sexually oriented, hateful, threatening, or otherwise violate any laws are strictly prohibited. The Texas 4-H Youth Development in District 8 reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.

12. **Copyright**. The Texas 4-H Youth Development Program in District 8 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.

13. **Display and Future Rights Use Rights.** By submitting an entry to the contest, the 4-H member grants permission to the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation, and any other public or private agency authorized by the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program, the use, and rights associated to the use of the photographic likeness, in promotional publications, and other media, without compensation. Certain photos maybe used for 4-H program and marketing uses.

14. **Release of Liability**. The Texas 4-H Youth Development Program, Texas A&M 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 or non-displayed photographs. By entry the 4-H member accepts this release.

15. **Model and Property Releases.** It is required that each participant have sufficient permission granted to both the photographer and the Texas 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.

16. **Disqualification of an Entry**. An entry that does not follow the rules or category guidelines will automatically be disqualified. Disqualifications forfeit all entry fees. A general notice specifying reason(s) for disqualification will be returned to the county. Reasons for disqualification:
    o   Broken content rule. This includes inappropriate or unsuitable content.
    o   Broken copyright rule. Photo is not the work of the 4-H member.
    o   Broken display and future rights usage rule.
    o   Broken model and property release rule.
    o   Does not meet category criteria, rules or guidelines. (see category descriptions)
    o   Multiple county entries into a category.
    o   One photo entered into multiple categories.
    o   County did not select/certify photograph to represent county by the deadline.
    o   Entry fee not paid or only partial fee paid.
    o   Extremely poor quality (resolution).
    o   Manipulation of photo beyond what is allowed.
    o   Photograph does not meet the minimum resolution of 300 dpi or minimum size of 3:2 (4"X6").
    o   Photography was not entered into 4-H Connect.

17. **Judging & Awards.** Each photograph will be judged against a set of judging criteria. Based on total points awarded for each photograph, the participant will be awarded either a blue, red, or a white ribbon. See Contest Judging Criteria. Judges will determine the point values and all decisions are final.

The photo with the highest point value in each category in each age division will be awarded as the Champion of their respective category. The photo with the second highest point value in each category in each age division will be awarded as the Reserve Champion of their respective category.

Best of Show awards will be given to one photo in each age division. The Champion photo from each category will be considered for the Best of Show award.

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. These are things to keep in mind for this award:

- The 4-H Motto is "To Make the Best Better."
- The 4-H Pledge is "I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living, for my club, my community, my country and my world."
- Other words people use when describing 4-H members are words such as: service, teamwork, learning, fun, dedication, leadership, character, and integrity.
- Many times, people use the following phrase to describe 4-H, "4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills."

18. **Announcement of Results**. Results will be emailed after the judging to County Extension Agents and county offices. Results will also be available after District 8 4-H Roundup concludes and will be posted on the District 8 4-H website.

Description of Categories

It is extremely important that 4-H members, project leaders, parents, and county Extension agents review the descriptions of each category very carefully. Please 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.

Category Description	What is NOT Allowed	Examples
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.		• Dogs/Cats • Sheep/Goats • Pig • Cow • Chicken • Hamsters • Horse • Goose/Ducks (domestic use)
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.	Photos taken through glass.	• Deer • Snakes • Birds • Elephants • Whales
CATCH-ALL Category for photos that DO NOT CLEARLY FIT into one of the other categories.	Do not submit a photo in this category which can clearly be submitted in another photography category. Catch-all is not intended for counties to use to eliminate duplicate photos from multiple 4-H members.	• Polaroid image & emulsion transfers • Still-life • Long exposure zoomed images • Painting with light
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 (although a macro image of a flower might equally go into the Flowers category).		• Insects • Coins • Clocks • Stamps • Ice crystals
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. Black & White photos, duotones, are excluded from this category.		• Bowl of lemons, in a yellow bowl, on top of a yellow table covering, with a bright yellow tone sunlighting on it.

Category Description	What is NOT Allowed	Examples
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. Category is not for graphic illustrations made in commercial programs (i.e. Adobe Illustrator®) nor for extreme digital creations.	Graphic design illustrations made in a program such as Adobe Photoshop or Illustrator. Digital creations DO NOT qualify in this category.	• Perspective • Line • Pattern • Shape
ENHANCED A single photo that has been technically manipulated to be an abstract, panoramic, stitched or composite images. Other variations are allowed as well.		• Photoshop composites and creations • Images greatly manipulated with a variety of filters • Photos with artistic borders • Photos stitched into a panoramic
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.	Photos of alcoholic beverages.	• Thanksgiving dinner, cakes/pies, fruits and place settings, Easter eggs, sandwiches, ingredients, etc.
LANDSCAPE & NATURE 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.	Photos which primary subject is wildlife or person	• Landscapes/Gardens • Scenics • Outdoors
MOTION / ACTION The capture of movement within a single photo.	Photos which would clearly fit into another category, such as sports.	• Horse running across field/pasture • Ferris wheel spinning
PEOPLE Photos focus from all walks of life, parenting and family, children, babies, models/ fashion, sports, and couples.	**NOTE:** All individuals in the photos mush have provided consent and permission as a subject. If requested, a release will be needed from the photographer and the subject.	• Babies • Kids • Families • Models/Fashion

Category Description	What is NOT Allowed	Examples
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 Nature & Landscape category.		• Rose • An upward shot of a tree • A flower bouquet
SPORTS Photo that captures individual or team sports. Can be either professional or amateur (human) and the focus could be on the sportsperson, the sport environment, the effort expended, or the conflict/rewards. Must reflect a strong message.		• Gymnast • Football player or team • Swimming • Rodeo contestant
THEME Theme photo focuses on a subject announced and outlined in the contest rules and guidelines. For 2017-2018 the theme is "BACKYARD". This creative category will feature photos what one would see when stepping out your back door.	Photos should not be a ranch rangeland, but focus on immediate outside area of one's house.	• Kids swinging • Swimming pool • Person mowing the yard • Garden/Flower beds
TRAVEL & PLACE This category includes images that express the joys and adventures of travel photography, showcasing place as an important part of the photo. This category can include historic building, ruins, islands, any subject you might encounter while traveling, as long as the photo expresses a sense of PLACE.	Photos in the travel and place category cannot be entered in to other categories (landscape & nature), but may be similar; however, photos in this category must depict traveling and experiencing other parts of the world.	• Disney World/Land • Roman Ruins • Great Wall of China

2017-2018 CATEGORY CHANGES

Updated categories:	New categories:	Removed categories:
• Digital Darkroom became "Enhanced" • New theme announced: "BACKYARD"	• Motion/Action • Sports • Travel/Place	• Marine/Aquatic • Night Photography • Storyboard

Judging Criteria

Each photograph will be judged against the following set of judging criteria. Based on total points awarded for each photograph, the participant will be awarded a blue, red, white, or a participation ribbon. The elements for judging the photographs will be:

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: - 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.

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Score Sheet

NEW! For the District 8 4-H Photography Contest, you are competing against previously determined standards of excellence. *The photo with the highest point value in each category in each age division will be awarded as the Champion of their respective category. The photo with the second highest point value in each category in each age division will be awarded as the Reserve Champion of their respective category.* Before preparing your entry for submission please carefully review the judging criteria.

Name: _____   **County:** _____

Check one in each of the following:

Age Division: _____ Junior   _____ Intermediate   _____ Senior

Category:
_____ Animals- Domestic	_____ Details & Macros	_____ Enhanced	_____ Motion/Action	_____ Sports
_____ Animals-Wildlife	_____ Dominant Color	_____ Food	_____ People	_____ Theme
_____ Catch-All	_____ Elements of Design	_____ Landscape & Nature	_____ Plant/Flora	_____ Travel & Place

CRITERIA	POINTS AWARDED *(circle one number on each row)*																								
Impact	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15										
Creativity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15										
Technical	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Composition	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20					
Subject Matter	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15										
Story Telling	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10															
TOTAL POINTS																									

AWARD *(circle one)*	Blue Award *(71-100 points)*	Red Award *(31-70 points)*	White Award *(0-30 points)*

JUDGES COMMENTS