



2020 Ohio State Fair

July 29 – August 9

General Information & Guidelines

Fine Arts, Creative Arts, Youth Arts

This general information is for the Arts exhibitions/competitions at the Ohio State Fair. Specific information can be found in the division and department notes.

Fees

- Artist/Contestant fees and entry fees will not be refunded for cancelled/non-exhibiting entries.
- Overpayments of less than \$5 will not be refunded.
- Refer to Specific Arts' division notes for fee information.
- We encourage you to view all art areas that include Youth Arts, Creative Arts and Fine Arts (meeting age requirements). Please be aware that if you elect to enter the same item in different Departments and are accepted into two or more Departments, you will be required to select a Department of choice to display your work (Youth Arts, Creative Arts, Fine Arts). There will be no refunds of entry fees for the multiple entries.

Display Requirements

- Entry tags must accompany each entry and should be securely attached. If a single entry includes more than one piece, the exhibitor must label each piece in a set (example: 1 of 3, 2 of 3, 3 of 3, etc.).
- By entering the Arts, you are allowing the Ohio State Fair permission to use photographs of your work at the Fair's discretion, without compensation or further approval.
- Once an item has been accepted for judging, it must remain in the building for the duration of the Fair.
- To maintain a proper and fair judging process, artist's/contestant's name must not be visible on item(s).
- The name and address portion of the entry tag will be covered during judging.
- Artists/Contestants must not deface entry tags to mark them in a way that might be recognizable by a judge (i.e. rubber stamps, passes, unusual ink colors, staples, etc.).

Judging

- At the discretion of exhibition/entry organizers and/or judges, awards may not be given if the quality of an entry is not deemed deserving of an award. Judging is based on recognized standards of quality, skill and workmanship. Artists/Contestants who are honored with an award from the Ohio State Fair know that it is because their entry was judged as a quality entry by qualified and impartial judges.
- No person shall act as a judge in any division where a family member is competing. Volunteers or staff exhibiting may not work or assist judging in the division/class of entry.
- Judges decisions are final.
- Judging results will **NOT** be given over the phone.

Disqualification

- The director and the Ohio State Fair officials reserve the right to disqualify and remove entries deemed to be in poor taste.
- Disqualified items will not go on display. Artists/Contestants of disqualified items will be notified by e-mail or phone and a pick-up procedure will be determined. Items meeting the following criteria will be disqualified by Fair management:
 - Inappropriate and/or in poor taste (not family friendly)
 - Items not meeting specified size requirements or restrictions as indicated in specific divisions
 - Damaged and/or unclean entries
 - Items entered in previous years
 - Items deemed by judges to be misrepresented or substandard to class
- Artists/Contestants are not permitted to interfere with the judging process. Violators will be asked to leave immediately, and their entry disqualified.
- Artists/Contestants attempting to influence the judges will forfeit prize monies and be disqualified.

Delivery of Entries and Exhibits

- Entries and accepted artwork will only be accepted on the designated date and hours specified.
- Please have entry tag attached per department notes.
- Accepted artwork must be presented ready to display per division notes.

Pick Up of Entries and Exhibits

- All artwork/entries/exhibits not picked up by designated dates and times will be disposed of by Fair management.

Admission Tickets/Parking Passes

- Parking passes allow the artist/contestant to enter a specified gate and park in preferred parking spaces on a first-come basis. Vehicles entering the Ohio State Fairgrounds with a pre-paid parking permit may leave and re-enter at no additional parking charge. Vehicles without the pre-paid permit must pay \$5 each time entering the Ohio State Fair grounds and must park in the main parking lot for all Fair patrons.

Conduct

- While on the grounds of the Ohio Expo Center, artists/contestants shall conform to socially acceptable standards of conduct as determined by the Ohio Expositions Commission or the State Highway Patrol. The Ohio Expositions Commission and the State Highway Patrol reserve the right to remove any artist/contestant from the Ohio Expo Center for engaging in socially, unacceptable behavior, illegal activity, or any other conduct which might endanger the health, welfare or safety of any other person on the premises.

Awards/Premiums

- Awards are available through the generosity of many companies and individuals, which are listed within the divisions and departments. Please help us thank our sponsors through your patronage of their businesses.
- All monetary awards will be paid by check after the Fair.
- If a check is owed by the Ohio State Fair (i.e. premium dollars, etc.) and is not received by October 31st, you may call the entry department or send an e-mail inquiry to: b.prince@expo.ohio.gov
- All checks are void 90 days after they are issued and will be considered a forfeit of dollars if not cashed within 90 days.
- Artists/Contestants are responsible for all taxes owed to the IRS from their earnings (i.e. awards, sales). The IRS requires us to report earnings over \$499. Payment for earnings will not be processed until the necessary registration is completed online. Ohio now requires anyone receiving \$499 or more to register as a “new supplier” at www.supplier.obm.ohio.gov. This MUST be done before any payment will be processed. **Please be aware that you will be asked for banking information, as your payment will be processed as a direct deposit.**

If you have received earnings (i.e. award dollars or sold artwork) for \$499 or more in the past, you do not need to register again. However, you are responsible to make any address or name changes, by going to www.supplier.obm.gov and updating your information. If you need assistance with the online registration process, you may call the HELP DESK at 1.877.644.6771.

- Premium awards are subject to change without notification.

Policies and Procedures/Indemnification

- The Ohio State Fair management reserves the final and absolute right to interpret the rules and regulations and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions or differences in regard thereto or otherwise arising out or connected with any incident at the Ohio State Fair. It further reserves the right to determine unforeseen matters not covered by these rules, to amend or add to these rules as in its judgment it may determine, to withdraw premium offerings in all departments/divisions should any emergency exist, and circumstances demand it. The Arts staff will monitor and make every effort to protect displayed items; however, items will be displayed at the risk of the exhibitor. Upon submission of your entry to the Ohio State Fair’s Arts Exhibition/ Competitions, you agree to hold harmless and forever discharge the State of Ohio, Ohio Expositions Commission, its members, officers, employees, contractors and other authorized agents from any and all claims, actions, causes of actions, demands, costs, or damages that may arise from the loss, theft or other damage to your property during or related to its exhibition at the Ohio State Fair.

Protests and Appeals

- Protests must be made in writing and signed by party or parties making the protest. Protests shall be submitted to the General Manager no later than noon the day following the competition/issue. If the protest involves an issue on items judged prior to the opening of the Fair, the protest shall be submitted no later than 24 hours after the beginning of the Fair.
- Any party making a protest shall submit a fee of \$100 which will be retained by the Ohio Expo Commission if the protest is not sustained.
- The General Manager shall hold a meeting regarding the protest at which time the party making the protest may present evidence or argument in support of the protest.
- A written decision of the General Manager shall be final and shall be served by mail on the party making the protest within ten days of the date on which the protest was heard.

Rule Violations

- In the question of rule violation, the following due process will be used: Fair officials will question the Exhibitor/Contestant and/or parties involved. If a violation is believed to have occurred, Fair officials will make recommendations to the designated committee member(s) of the Ohio Expositions Commission.
- After the committee hears the case, and Fair officials have presented recommendations, they will decide if the case should be brought before the full Commission. In the decision of a case being brought before the Commission, all parties involved will be notified of a hearing date with all parties having the right to present their case. Upon hearing the case, the Ohio Expositions Commission will make a ruling.
- If/when the Ohio State Fair management has satisfactory evidence of a violation of rule(s), the artist/contestant and/or their family may be barred from showing in any future Ohio State Fair. There is a three-year waiting period before the Exhibitor is allowed the right of review. In the case that premium dollars have been awarded to an Exhibitor in violation of a rule, the Ohio State Fair management will require the exhibitor to refund all premiums trophies, awards and ribbons under such violation. Unless fraud and/or deception are involved, all placings stand.

Produced and Managed by:

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Entry Questions: Entry Dept. at 614-644-4052
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Quick Links

[Fine Arts](#)

[Creative Arts](#)

[Youth Arts](#)

[Culinary Arts](#)