

WYOMING  
*State Fair*  
SINCE 1905

WYOMING'S  
*Premier* —  
*Summer*  
**EVENT**

**PREMIUM BOOK | 2026**



# 2026 Changes

Check here for a quick guide to the changes that have happened since the 2025 Wyoming State Fair. We will include significant schedule changes, major policy or requirement changes, new divisions and classes, and any classes that have been taken out.

## SCHEDULE CHANGES

- The Youth Sheep barn will not open until 12:00 PM on Sunday, August 9 for set-up.
- Youth Horse entries are due at 6:00 PM on Friday along with all other youth livestock entries.
- Youth Horse: Monday Indoor area schedule will no longer run concurrently (split arena). Instead, show order will be FFA showmanship followed by 4-H showmanship followed by Halter Geldings and concluding with Halter Mares.
- The King Arthur Baking Contest will be held on Friday evening and not Saturday this year. See Culinary for details.

## YOUTH LIVESTOCK

- Health forms must be obtained from the vet within 14 days of the animal's arrival on grounds (previously 30 days). All animals for an exhibitor may be listed on the same form. Please have your health forms ready when you arrive on grounds as they will be checked before you are able to unload.
- All animals except poultry and rabbits need a health form. Poultry and rabbits will continue to have on-site health checks prior to their respective shows.
- Registration papers are no longer required for the Youth Breeding Sheep show. Youth Sheep exhibitors planning on entering the Open Sheep Show should have copies of registration papers or be prepared to enter into the commercial classes.
- Youth Breeding Sheep with still have fitted and slick shorn classes, however, there will only be one champion for each breed (fitted and slick shorn breed champions will compete against each other).
- Youth Market Sheep exhibitors who lose their classification card between classification and turning in for weight declaration will automatically be put into the Crossbreed class.
- Youth Meat Breeding Goat Does in the Junior age group (born Sep 1, 2025 to present) will be broken into classes by weight. Senior Meat Breeding Does will continue to break out by age. See page \_\_\_ for classes. Junior does will need to weigh with the Market Goats on Tuesday. See schedule for time.
- Youth Breeding Swine will no longer be split by age. Instead, they will be split by weight. Weight cards will be due at the same time as for Market Swine.

## OPEN LIVESTOCK

- The Performance Lamb contest will not be returning this year.

## YOUTH STATIC

- New classes have been added to FFA Ag Mechanics and Classroom. See pages 50-54 for details.

## OPEN STATIC

- Culinary classes have changed! Be sure to review each division so you know where your entries fit best. Check out the new spotlight classes that highlight fun flavor combos and challenges!
- NEW THIS YEAR: Best Crumbl-Inspired Cookie (Culinary), House Plant Collection (Gardening), ZZ Plant (Gardening), Propagation Station Yearlings (Gardening), America the Beautiful (Natural Fiber Arts), Red, White & Blue Hand-dyed Colorway (Natural Fiber Arts), Red, White & True (Theme Quilt, Needlework), Paint the Fair (Visual Arts), and America Unscripted (Visual Arts). See each department for more info.
- Crafted Arts has several combined/rearranged classes in gourd art, mosaics, paper crafting and garden decor. See page 77-80 for more info.
- The Little Rock Village class has updated guidelines for board size and village size.
- Wyoming State Fair Cookie Jar contest no longer requires the jar to be filled with cookies (Culinary). There are also classes for both adults and youth.
- Updated guidelines and age division for the Table Setting Contest (Culinary). The theme has also been removed, so use all your creativity!
- Several cut flower and potted plant varieties have had classes combined. Check your favorite to know the best class to enter your exhibit (Gardening).
- Natural Fiber Arts Garments have new class breakouts.
- Classes & Divisions we said goodbye to: Best Display (Culinary)--this is replaced by Best of Show awards throughout the department; Canned Meat (Culinary); Cut flowers: balsam, clarkia, dianthus (Gardening); Potted Pepper Plants (Gardening)
- Update to the Overall Premier Exhibitor contest: this contest can only be won once every three(3) years. See page 76 for more details.

## SPECIAL CONTEST OPPORTUNITIES

- To help celebrate America's 250th birthday, we will have a special contest, "She's a Grand Old Flag" where exhibitors can enter their best American flag inspired artwork. Exhibits that have been previously entered into the Wyoming State Fair are eligible to be entered in this contest only. Check the website for details. Entries will be accepted in the Crafted Arts department at normal processing times.
- Calling all cake bakers & decorators--join us for the first annual Cowboy State Cake Showdown! This special contest is a joint venture with the Wyoming State Fair Foundation, and will pit 10 teams against each other on both best tasting cake (public tasting and voting) as well as cake decoration (live, on-site). Watch the website for details and how to enter. You may just win the Golden Fork AND the Golden Tier award!

## 2026 Wyoming State Fair and Rodeo ROADMAP FOR FIRST TIME YOUTH EXHIBITORS

Exhibiting at the Wyoming State Fair is an exciting opportunity to showcase your hard work, make new friends, and gain valuable experience. Here's what you need to know:

### GETTING STARTED

**Eligibility** Youth must be enrolled in 4-H (through ZSuite) or FFA in Wyoming to enter Youth Show Livestock competitions and 4-H/ FFA static competitions. All youth, regardless of club/chapter activity, may enter the Open Classes for both livestock and static, and are encouraged to do so.

**County Fair Participation** Youth 4-H and FFA Static (non-livestock/indoor) exhibits must qualify at the county level before advancing to State Fair. Livestock exhibitors do not need to qualify at the county level to enter State Fair. The exceptions for livestock are Champion of Champions and FFA Showmanship classes, both of which require qualification at the county level (COC) / chapter level (FFA). Any entry you make into the Open shows need not place at the county level.

**Entry Process** Livestock and FFA exhibits are entered via ShoWorks; 4-H static exhibits are entered via 4-H. Wyoming State Fair uses Group Entry, meaning 4-H educators/FFA advisors log in and do the entries for their respective groups. Each county may have different procedures for how they accomplish this, so check with your 4-H leader, Extension Educator, or FFA advisor on the process for your county. You, as the exhibitor and parent, will not be able to enter your 4-H/FFA projects into ShoWorks directly, but you can enter your Open projects! Please work with your educator/advisor to ensure you have access to the password that will get all your open projects entered under your same login as your youth projects. This will help ensure all your prizes are included in one check after fair.

**Deadlines** State Fair entry deadlines must be met. These can be found in the official premium book. The most notable deadlines are listed on page 11 under the General Information. Ownership deadlines are listed on page 19 under Youth Livestock. There are ownership and tagging deadlines, as well as entry deadlines. Talk with your educator/advisor if you are unsure of a deadline.

### ADMISSIONS & FEES

**Passes** Daily or season passes are required for all exhibitors and guests starting Tuesday, August 11. Many educators/advisors will secure passes for the youth exhibitors (and sometimes, for the exhibitor's family) when submitting entries and credentials prior to fair. These passes are given to the educator/advisor and they will distribute them to their exhibitors. Check with your educator/advisor for the process in your county. Additional passes can be purchased for family and friends online or at the ticket booths at the fairgrounds.

**Processing/Entry Fees** All livestock are charged a processing fee, and there are some additional stock fees for the horse show. All youth fees are typically paid through the club/chapter/school. Each county, club or school may have a different way of collecting these fees from the exhibitor (and some cover all or part of the fees). Get with your educator/advisor to learn what fees you will need to cover and what help they may be able to give. These fees must be paid by the chapter/club/school upon arrival on grounds. Any additional passes, entry fees for Open class, parking, etc, must be paid upon arrival.

### PREPARING FOR STATE FAIR

**Static Exhibits** Most 4-H indoor projects are transported by county Extension Educators. Oversized or fragile items may require personal delivery. Confirm with your county on how they do this.

**Livestock Exhibits** Some counties work together to transport animals, while many leave that up to individual families. Check with your educator, advisor, and county staff to verify your transportation options. Animals may begin arrival on grounds on Monday, August 10, at 8:00 AM, and must be in place by 5:00 PM that day.

Review the requirements for health certificates, brand inspections, drug declaration forms, breeding papers, and vaccinations. Make sure to bring all appropriate papers, certificates, and documentation with you. Brand paperwork, health certificates, vaccination records can all be digital as long as they are clear and accessible. Drug declaration forms must be a physical copy to turn in. Check show guidelines for breeding paper requirements.

It is a good idea to print out the section of this book that pertains to your species. You can use this as a reference when you get to the fairgrounds, knowing which classes you are in, show times, and the basic entry requirements. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the requirements, policies, and general expectations for fairtime.

**Lodging Options** There are several different lodging options for youth exhibitors. Both 4-H and FFA exhibitors have the option of staying in the dorms on the fairgrounds. If staying in the dorms, you will need to bring your own bedding and towels. The respective programs provide chaperones. There is also a campground with RV hookups on the fairgrounds if the whole family wants to come. Reservations for these spots open up on July 1st each year and can be made via the website, [www.wystatefair.com](http://www.wystatefair.com). There are also several hotels and other camping options in and around Douglas. If needing a hotel, please keep in mind rooms sell out quickly, so book early.

**Meals** There is a cafeteria available to all exhibitors starting with dinner on Monday night. You can purchase a weekly meal pass or buy meal tickets separately. Your educator/advisor can assist you in pre-purchasing these, but they are also available once you arrive from the Exhibitor's Office. Don't forget there is also the midway and food court, with lots of tasty options. Some spending cash will go a long way!

**Planning Your Visit** Check out Converse County Tourism's website, <https://conversecountytourism.com/> to help plan your time in the Douglas area.

### DURING FAIR WEEK

**Arriving** Upon arrival, check in with your species superintendent and follow their direction for unloading, stalling, etc. Each species superintendent has an office in the livestock area (either in the barn or nearby) or at the show tent (for walk in shows). Stall cards with contact details must be displayed in the pen for the duration of fair for cattle, goats, sheep, and swine.

**Herdsmanship** Pens must be cleaned by 9 AM daily. Most counties will have a trailer parked near the barns for storing extra feed and bedding. Work with your county advisors and educators to know when they will have those unlocked during the day. Any additional loading of supplies should happen during loading windows (5:00 AM-9:00 AM and 5:00 PM-9:00 PM daily). Be sure to bring enough bedding & feed to last the week! Limited shavings are available on grounds for purchase.

## ROADMAP FOR FIRST TIME YOUTH EXHIBITORS

*(continued)*

**Livestock Showing** As a livestock exhibitor, be sure to note when your species needs to be checked in, weighed in (market classes), and classified (market classes). Some species use weight cards that must be turned in, and some have the animals pass over the scales. Check your species pages in the book for these times and locations. It is your responsibility to be present for these activities and turn in the required information on time.

On your show day, be ready to enter the ring when your class is called. Review schedules and listen for announcements. Be on time and exhibit good sportsmanship at all times.

**Jackpot Shows** The Wyoming Ag Teacher Association (WATA) puts on jackpot shows for each of the four market species (goats, swine, sheep, and cattle). You can enter these when you weigh in (beef and goats) or check in (for sheep and swine). Get with your species superintendent for more details. You will need cash to enter. There is more info in the Youth Livestock section of this book on entry fees and show times.

**Have Fun** Remember, fair is about celebrating all the things our exhibitors (YOU!) have accomplished over the past year. We hope you enjoy showing off your animals and non-animal projects. Be sure to check out the midway, exhibit halls, shows of other species, and the great entertainment on grounds while you are here!

**Exhibits Release** Youth livestock exhibits may leave starting Saturday, August 15, at 6:00 PM. Open livestock release times vary and are listed in this book. Statics vary by 4-H/FFA and Open, and times are listed in this book. You are responsible for cleaning the pens/stalls your animals were in before you depart.

## AFTER FAIR

**Premium Checks** If your exhibits earned a monetary prize given by the WSF, known as a premium, a check will be mailed to the address provided on your entry (either online or submitted form for Open). If you had multiple entry files, or if you win a special 4-H award, you may receive more than one check. If you have not seen your premiums by September 30th, please first check with your advisor or educator. If a school or club address was used when they did entries, your check would have been mailed there. If they do not have it, call the WSF office and ask for Sara. The last day to report a missing or inaccurate check is November 1st, 2026.

Any exhibitor earning over \$600 in premiums must fill out a W-9 before the check will be released. If you believe you earned over \$600, please contact Sara in the office to complete your form.

Any exhibitor who has an animal exhibit drug tested will have their premiums held until the results are received and verified that they are negative or excusable.

**Plan for Next Year** Start thinking about your next project and how you can improve for the following year's competition! The fair will be August 17-21, 2027. We hope to see you and your exhibits there!

*For more details, consult the Wyoming State Fair premium book or contact your county Extension Office or FFA Advisor.*

## COMING TO FAIR CHECKLIST

	Confirm enrollment of project(s) through ZSuite or FFA
	Coordinate with educator/advisor to complete State Fair entries and additional passes (meals, dorms, entry, etc)
	Enter any additional projects into Open Class. Educators/advisors can assist, but may have you do this on your own. Online entry opens July 1 at <a href="http://www.wystatefair.com">www.wystatefair.com</a>
	Verify and coordinate with educator/advisor on transportation of exhibits (both static and animal)
	Gather and verify all required paperwork: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Health Certificate</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Brand inspection (paper or digital)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Vaccination records (paper or digital) for dogs &amp; cats</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Breeding papers (if required)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Drug declaration form (physical copy to turn in, one per market species being shown)</li> </ul>
	Print out Premium Book sections for your species & shows. Be familiar with your show times and locations!
	Bedding and feed for your animal exhibit for the week
	Pick and confirm lodging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dorms (4-H and FFA youth only)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> WSF Campground (reservations open July 1)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hotel or other option in Douglas (book early!)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ul>
	Pick your meal options and arrange (if needed) with your educator/advisor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Cafeteria (single meal or weekly pass)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Food court/Midway options</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Local eateries in Douglas</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bring groceries/meals/snacks</li> </ul>
	Plan ahead for jackpot and Open show entries. Cash may be required for entry fees

# Open Static

Crafted Arts, Culinary, Gardening, Natural Fiber Arts, Needlework, Visual Arts, Wool, and Sheep Lead

## DEPARTMENT POLICIES

### Exhibit Buildings

Ft. Fetterman - Ft. Reno (lower) - Ag Hall (upper) - Wool Barn  
Open Tue - Sat. 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM

**Exhibits must be in place no later than Saturday, August 8, 6:00 PM (Needlework only), Sunday, August 9, 6:00 PM (Crafted Arts, Culinary, Gardening, Visual Arts, Natural Fiber Arts, and Wool).**

1. All exhibitors will abide by all applicable Policies of the Wyoming State Fair and special Department Policies.
2. All applications for entry require a completed entry form and the applicable processing fee. Entry forms are included in the back of this premium book and online at [www.wystatefair.com](http://www.wystatefair.com). Please fill out the form in its entirety.
3. Articles will be awarded first, second, third, or no premium, according to individual merit. **ONLY ONE FIRST, ONE SECOND, AND ONE THIRD PLACE AWARD SHALL BE AWARDED PER CLASS.**
4. Unless otherwise stated, Open Class Exhibitors need not have exhibited or placed at a County Fair in order to exhibit at State Fair.
5. Exhibitor may make only **ONE** entry in each class.
6. **ENTRY INFORMATION:** When filling out the entry form, the Class Code must include the Division Number and Class Number. **EXAMPLE:** If you are entering a Relief Carving in the Woodcraft department, Amateur-Adult status, your class entry would be: **214-6** (214 for Amateur-Adult Division, and 6 for Relief Carving).
7. Articles to be exhibited may be delivered to the Office of the General Manager of the State Fair. **Entry forms must be completely filled out (name, address, etc.) and attached to article, and all Processing Fees must be paid. All transportation charges must be pre-paid.** otherwise the exhibit will be refused. Articles to be returned will only be sent if postage is **pre-paid**. Adequate packaging (box, crate, etc.) for return of the article must be provided to WSF office.
8. Department Superintendents reserve the right to change any entry to a more appropriate class to ensure that like items are judged with like items.
9. Any item may be entered only one time at the Wyoming State Fair unless otherwise noted. Violations will result in loss of awards, premiums, and future privileges.
10. No article shall be entered to compete for more than one premium, except when it shall count as part of a collection or display.
11. No responsibility is assumed by the Wyoming State Fair in case of loss, theft, damage, or breakage of any exhibit, although due caution and care will be exerted to prevent such loss or damage.
12. In order to safeguard against loss in these departments, no one will be permitted to handle any article once put in place, with the exception of the department staff or judge. All articles entered for competition shall be under the control of the Superintendent of the Department.
13. Judges shall not award a prize to an unworthy exhibit. No premiums will be awarded to undeserving exhibits, whether there is competition or not. Judges do not have to award a placement if no qualifying exhibit is presented, and may award down (ie, may skip a 1st place and start with 2nd). **The judge's decision is final.** All judging will be "blind," with the exhibitor's info not displayed to the judge(s).

14. **PROFICIENCY LEVEL DEFINITIONS:** NOTE: Exhibitors may place into a higher proficiency level if they feel qualified to compete; however, an exhibitor cannot go to a lower level. WSF may combine or split levels as appropriate for the subject matter to foster better competition. Exhibitors must enter the same level in all classes in any given category (ie, if you enter as a professional in one leathercraft class, all leathercraft classes you enter should be at the professional level).

- a) **PROFESSIONAL** refers to those who derive significant income from the art or craft, and whose work is produced primarily for the purpose of selling; **OR** who have a diploma, certificate, degree, or three or more years of school training; **OR teach in their discipline area.**
- b) **ADVANCED AMATEUR** refers to those who have exhibited and won three (3) or more first prizes in accredited or recognized shows (including Wyoming State Fair), **OR** who have had professional training or education but have not completed more than three years.
- c) **AMATEUR - ADULT** refers to those who have not previously won three (3) first prizes **AND** have had little or no training or schooling in the discipline. Also refers to those who are 19 years or older as of January 1 of the current year.
- d) **YOUTH** refers to those who have not reached their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday before January 1 of the current year. Divided into **Senior** (14-18), **Intermediate** (11-13), and **Junior** (8-10). All ages based on age on January 1 of current year. Youth do not advance up based on previous wins.
- e) **CHILD** refers to those who have not reached their 8<sup>th</sup> birthday by January 1 of the current year. Children do not advance up based on wins.

Each area lists the available proficiency levels. Please pay special attention to ensure entry into the most appropriate level. The Wool department does not use proficiency levels. Sheep Lead has a separate class breakout based solely on age, not proficiency. Please see that section for the appropriate class by age.

15. Exhibitors may pick up their exhibits from the Department Superintendent on **Sunday, August 16 from 7:00 AM until 12:00 PM. No early releases are allowed in the interest of maintaining the integrity of the show.** Exhibitor or authorized person should present the exhibitor tag to obtain release of exhibits. Exhibits left in the building with no instructions for return will be held at the Wyoming State Fair Office until picked up by the exhibitor, but **not longer than September 1 of the current year (Exceptions- See Culinary and Gardening).** Exhibits remaining after September 1st will become the property of WSF.

## PREMIER EXHIBITOR

All exhibitors who enter into at least three (3) of the six (6) Static departments (Crafted Arts, Culinary, Gardening, Natural Fiber Arts, Needlework, and Visual Arts) will compete for the Premier Creative and Home Arts Exhibitor Award. All winning entries (1st, 2nd, and 3rd place) receive a corresponding point value, and the top 5 values per exhibitor in each department entered will be combined. The exhibitor with the highest overall points will win a \$500 cash prize. The more you enter, the better your chance of winning! Entries into the Wool and Sheep Lead departments do not count toward this award. **Note: An exhibitor may receive this award only once every three (3) years.**

# Visual Arts

<b>SUPERINTENDENT</b>	<b>Shawn Wyse</b> , Torrington, WY
<b>COORDINATOR</b>	
<b>ENTRY</b>	Online or via mail by July 31 of the current year. In-person entries will be accepted at drop-off, see below for times.
<b>ENTRY DEADLINE</b>	August 10, 2026 at 6:00 PM
<b>ENTRY FEE</b>	\$2 per entry
<b>DROP-OFF</b>	<b>Ft. Fetterman</b> Saturday, August 8, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM Sunday, August 9, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
<b>JUDGING</b>	Monday, August 10, 8:00 AM
<b>RELEASE TIME</b>	Sunday, August 16, 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM

1. Paintings, drawings, and photography exhibited in this department must be the work of the exhibitor and must have been created within the **last three years**. Exhibitors entering borrowed or purchased art as their own handiwork forfeit all rights to participate. All entries in Professional or Advanced Amateur classes must be original. In all other proficiency/age classes, art may be copied from works of others, but the exhibitor must declare this at time of entry, and the name of the creator and title of the original work must be submitted with the exhibit.
2. Photographs must be submitted as prints. Minor hand coloring, dodging, and burning is acceptable. Photos that have had content manipulated past minor corrections, or have altered the original appearance of the image must be entered in the Digital Creations category (youth classes only). Adults have the opportunity to show off digital editing skills in the AI Assisted Art division. **Deliberate violation of this policy may result in disqualification and permanent exclusion from future participation in WSF competition.**
3. **HANGING ATTACHMENTS FOR WALL DISPLAY: Framed/mounted with eye screws and wire is the preferred method. Any exceptions are to be approved with Superintendent or Coordinator.** For safety purposes, **ONLY** entries with the approved, proper hanging attachments will be accepted. **No string or wire affixed by tape. If there is glass on picture, please make sure it is secure.** Youth/Children's exhibits are not required comply with the aforementioned, but must be able to hang from large hooks on pegboard display walls (yarn or string through holes on cardboard or matboard backing is acceptable).
6. **All exhibits must have artist's name, division, and class number on the back.** Any names/signatures on the front will need to be covered prior to entry and judging.
7. Judges shall consider entries on basis of: 1) Content and appropriateness of class 2) Composition, 3) Technical quality, 4) Overall presentation. **ONLY one entry per class per exhibitor may be made.** If multiple entries have been made in the same class, one will be reclassified or disqualified prior to judging. Any entries which have been made inadvertently or erroneously may be reclassified by Department Staff.
8. Exhibitors wishing to sell their artwork may notify the Superintendent in writing. No indication may be anywhere on the piece. Should visitors inquire concerning a piece, the Superintendents may provide the information of the artist. Neither the Wyoming Stat Fair or the Superintendent will be responsible for the collection of any monies or the delivery of any article sold.

## Visual Arts Premiums

<b>Proficiency level</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>
Professional/Advanced Amateur...	\$15.....	\$10.....	\$5
Amateur - Adults .....	\$10.....	\$6.....	\$4
Youth/Child.....	\$7.....	\$5.....	\$3

## Painting & Drawing

DIVISIONS 101 - 106

### DIVISION 101 - Professional DIVISION 102 - Advanced Amateur DIVISION 103 - Amateur - Adult

- A - Oil or Acrylic Painting
- B - Watercolors, Gouache, or Tempera
- C - Chalk, Pastels, or Charcoal
- D - Pen & Ink, Pencil, or Scratch Board
- E - Colored Pencil, Crayon, or Markers
- F - Mixed Media

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>
Scenery.....	1....	8.....	15.....	22....	29....	36
Animal, Primary Subject.....	2....	9.....	16.....	23....	30....	37
Lifestyles, Past or Present .....	3....	10....	17.....	24....	31....	38
Plant World.....	4....	11....	18.....	25....	32....	39
Still Life.....	5....	12....	19.....	26....	33....	40
People; Central Interest .....	6....	13....	20.....	27....	34....	41
Abstract or Non-Objective .....	7....	14....	21.....	28....	35....	42

### DIVISION 104 - Youth Senior / Intermediate DIVISION 105 - Youth Junior / Child

#### CLASS

1. Oil, Acrylic, or Finger Painting
2. Watercolors, Gouache, or Tempera
3. Chalk, Pastels, or Charcoal
4. Pen & Ink, Pencil, or Scratch Board
5. Colored Pencil, Crayon, or Markers
6. Mixed Media

## PAINT THE FAIR CONTEST

Always wanted to paint but don't know how? Love to dabble with art while hanging out with friends? We do too! Join us for a virtual painting class online where an instructor will walk you through painting a fair-themed masterpiece. Then, enter that piece into fair to win bragging rights and some amazing prizes!

Can't make the virtual class? The recording will be available on the website for you to watch and paint at your leisure.

Check the website for dates, time and needed materials.

- The submitted painting must be based on the artwork taught during the virtual workshop. Artists may change the colors, but all key elements of the original design must be present.
- Paintings will be judged on how well the original piece is recreated, general artistry, and individual artist interpretation.
- Standard Visual Arts premiums apply.
- One Grand Prize shall be awarded, selected by People's Choice out of the top three paintings in each division.

### DIVISION 106, Class 1 - Paint the Fair - Adult (all proficiencies) DIVISION 106, Class 2 - Paint the Fair - Youth (all ages)

## Photography Challenges

DIVISION 107

### Division 107 - All Proficiencies & Ages

#### CLASS

1. **AMERICA UNSCRIPTED** - It's the people and places that make this country amazing. Capture your best candid shot of a moment that embodies life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Posed or staged photographs not permitted. No cash award.
2. **SPIRIT OF WYOMING** - Photograph that captures what Wyoming is to you. One entry per person. Cannot be entered in any other category. No cash award.
3. **Best Photo of the Past** - Photo must be at least 50 years old. Please include card to hang beside photo that tells the "story" of the image, including capture date. (Does not have to be exhibitor's own work.) No cash award.

## Photography

DIVISIONS 108 - 115

- **PHOTOGRAPH SIZES:** With the exceptions of youth/child entries, all photographs must be at least **8" x 10"**. Cropping for matting is allowed, but at least 7 1/2" x 9 1/2" **must be visible** after framing and matting.

**DIVISION 108 - Professional, Black & White**

**DIVISION 109 - Professional, Color**

**DIVISION 110 - Advanced Amateur, Black & White**

**DIVISION 111 - Advanced Amateur, Color**

**DIVISION 112 - Amateur - Adult, Black & White**

**DIVISION 113 - Amateur - Adult, Color**

#### CLASS

1. People - Casual / Informal
2. Wildlife - **NO** pets
3. Animals - Domesticated or Livestock, Casual / Informal, **NO** controlled lighting or backgrounds
4. Scenery
5. Still Life & Conceptual
6. Plant World - Cultivated or wild, arranged or free-growing
7. Agricultural & Ranch Life
8. Abstract & Experimental
9. Nighttime - May use artificial light or long exposure
10. Any Other Subject Matter NOT Covered Above-- **NO** digital creations. All digital creations must be entered in the AI Assisted Artwork divisions for these skill/age levels.

**DIVISION 114 - Youth Senior / Intermediate**

**DIVISION 115 - Youth Junior / Child**

- *All photos, black & white or color, should be entered into the same class for Divisions 113-114. One entry per class.*

#### CLASS

1. People--Portrait or Casual/Informal
2. Wildlife - No pets or livestock
3. Animals - domestic, pets, livestock
4. Scenery & Natural World
5. Still Life & Conceptual
6. Abstract & Experimental
7. Digital Creations - manipulated or altered. Original photo must belong to the exhibitor or a member of their immediate family. Copy of original photo must be submitted with final creation for comparison..

## AI Assisted Artwork

DIVISION 116-117

AI Assisted Artwork is art created using a generator tool like Midjourney, DALL-E 2, Jasper Art, and others. It is the artist's responsibility to ensure that they use the generator in accordance with all applicable laws.

1. For all classes in this division, a step-by-step account must be provided, with accompanying screenshots, of the prompts/direction given and the resulting images. This allows the judges to critique grasp of knowledge and proficiency in using the generator to produce the desired results. Exhibits submitted without this step-by-step account will not be judged. This should be submitted on standard letter-sized paper, one-sided, and in color. Artist's name should not appear anywhere on this paperwork.
2. For the entire division, no prompts/direction shall reference any specific artist (i.e. you cannot prompt something "in the style of Bob Ross" or "like van Gogh.") Any such direction to a specific artist will be grounds for disqualification, and the piece will not be judged.
3. For class 1, a starting image will be provided by WSF and the artist will manipulate it with at least four (4) alterations. For class 2, a starting prompt is given, which must be used as the initial prompt, and then manipulate with at least four (4) alterations.
4. Artists are expected to clean up any "glitches"--i.e., extra appendages, misshapen or distorted features, unrealistic colors or textures (unless going for a surreal effect), unintended elements or duplication. Any glitches that remain will be considered with prejudice for judging.

**DIVISION 116- Adult - All proficiency levels**

**DIVISION 117 - Youth Senior / Intermediate**

#### CLASS

1. Common Starting Image--scan the QR code to access, or visit [www.wystatefair.com](http://www.wystatefair.com) to download the file.



2. Common Starting Prompt--use the following as your starting prompt/direction for your image. You may pick specific lines, themes, images, etc., and should use at least three elements.

"O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain! America! America! God shed His grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet whose stern impassioned stress, a thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness! America! America!"

*Excerpt from "America the Beautiful" by Katherine Lee Bates, published 1895, public domain*

## Visual Arts Awards and Donors

**PREMIER EXHIBITOR AWARD** - A banner will be presented by **Wyoming State Fair** to the exhibitor with the highest points earned in the Visual Arts Department. Ribbon point values are: Blue 5, Red 3, White 1.

**PREMIER YOUTH EXHIBITOR** - A rosette will be presented by **Wyoming State Fair** to the youth exhibitor with the highest points in the Visual Arts Department. Ribbon point values are: Blue 5, Red 3, White 1.

**BEST OF SHOW – Wyoming State Fair** will present Best of Show rosettes to the best overall entry, as determined by the judges, in each of the following: Painting & Drawing, Photography, and AI Assisted Artwork.

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS** - Show guests may vote for the one entry in each of the following categories: Painting/ Drawing; Photography; Youth/Child's Painting/Drawing; Youth/ Child's Photography; AI Assisted Artwork. **Wyoming State Fair** will award a rosette to the most popular entry in each division. Voting will end at 6:00 PM on Friday.

**ARTISTS' CHOICE AWARDS** - Artists who enter the show may vote for one entry in Painting/Drawing AND for one entry in Photography. Special rosettes will be awarded by the **Wyoming State Fair** to the most popular in these two categories.

**FAIR MANAGER'S CHOICE AWARD - The Wyoming State Fair** will award one special rosette to one painting, drawing, or photograph chosen by the State Fair Manger as their favorite.

**STAFF'S CHOICE** - A special rosette will be awarded by the **Wyoming State Fair** to the photograph, painting, drawing, or AI assisted artwork that is the favorite of the Department Staff.

**ROOKIE OF THE YEAR - The Wyoming State Fair** will award a rosette to the Rookie of the Year exhibitor in the Visual Arts Department as determined by Fair Staff.

**WILL MYERS STORYTELLING AWARD – Sara Doyle, in Memory of Will Myers**, will award a special rosette and \$10 prize to the staff's choice of best storytelling in a painting or drawing for Child and Youth classes (Div 105, 106), any medium listed in those classes. A small gift may accompany the award.

**BEST BEEF PHOTOGRAPH AWARD - The Niobrara County Cattlewomen, Lusk, WY** will present a special rosette and \$15.00 to the best beef photograph entry as determined by the judge(s) from all the beef pictures from all divisions and classes.

**PHOTOGRAPHY CHALLENGE AWARD - The Wyoming State Fair** will award a rosette to the winner of the current year's Challenge (106-1).

**SPIRIT OF WYOMING AWARD - The Wyoming State Fair** will award a special rosette to the photo in this category (106-2).

**BEST PHOTO OF THE PAST- The Wyoming State Fair** will award a special rosette to the photo in this category (106-3).

## Open Wool

<b>SUPERINTENDENT</b>	Tracy Dilts, Douglas, WY
<b>COORDINATOR</b>	Tiffany Hageman, Douglas WY
<b>ENTRY</b>	Online or via mail by July 31 of the current year. Walk-in entries accepted at drop off on Sunday only.
<b>ENTRY FEE</b>	\$3 per fleece/ \$3 per Flock of Fleece entry
<b>DROP OFF</b>	<b>Wool Barn</b> Sunday, August 9, 12:00 AM - 5:00 PM
<b>JUDGING</b>	Wednesday, August 12, 8:00 AM
<b>RELEASE TIME</b>	Saturday, August 15, 8:00 PM
<b>QUESTIONS</b>	Call the WSF Office, 307-358-2398

The Wool Show encourages improved wool production, stimulates interest and knowledge in the proper preparation of wool for market and informs the public on the versatile uses of wool as a high-quality textile fiber.

- All exhibitors will abide by all applicable Policies of the Wyoming State Fair and special Department Policies.
- All **entry forms** must be received by the 6:00 PM deadline on the Sunday prior to fair, however, you may drop off the wool through Monday at noon. If you need to email your entry form to the Superintendent after July 31st, please contact the WSF office.
- FLEECES WILL BE SHOWN UNTIED IN CLEAR BAGS.**
- Entry deadline is August 10, 5:00 PM.** Youth Exhibitors are encouraged to also exhibit in the Open Wool Show, and **must pre-enter** the same fleeces by the August 10 entry deadline.
- Exhibitors may enter two (2) fleeces in any one class, and entries may be made in as many classes as desired. An individual fleece may be entered in one class only. **Any fleece entered in both the Youth and Open Shows must be entered in the same class with the same name.**
- ELIGIBILITY OF FLEECES:** Each fleece must have been shorn in 2025 or 2026 (fleeces entered in the 2025 State Fair cannot be entered again) and represent 12 months growth or less (yearling fleeces will be allowed 16 months growth).
- JUDGING CRITERIA:** Fleeces shall be faulted for: (a) being tied with string, (b) paints or tar brands (soluble branding fluids allowed), (c) excessive dung locks or tags, (d) moisture discoloration, (e) being cotted, (f) a break or weak staple, (g) excess burrs or vegetable matter. Fleeces showing black fiber will be disqualified.
- PREPARATION OF FLEECES: NO TIES/NO BELLIES**
- Fleeces need not be tied but must be prepared in the same fashion. Spread out the fleece on a clean table or floor. Remove all heavy tags, stained wool, and obvious foreign matter. Roll the fleece in the following manner: 1) Begin at one side and loosely fold 8 to 10 inches of the edge toward the center of the fleece. 2) Do the same on the other side, but fold toward the center 2 times until the twice folded portion lies on top of the first fold. 3) Fold in the head wool. 4) Roll the entire fleece from the breech toward the shoulder and long side wool. Fleece **SHOULD NOT** contain belly wool. Place fleece in a clear, breathable plastic bag, one fleece per bag.
- Fleeces must be delivered to the Wool Barn no later than 12:00 PM, Monday, August 10. Fleeces will be released starting at 8:00 PM, Saturday, August 15.

**VISUAL ARTS**  
**ENTRY FORM**

**MAIL ENTRY TO:**

Wyoming State Fair  
P.O. Drawer 10  
Douglas, WY 82633

**Each Department has their own entry form--**

Use a separate entry form for each Department you enter.

Use this form for all Visual Arts entries.

Additional entry lines on back/next page.

**Phone:** 307-358-2398

**Entries must be dropped off by August 9th, 2026 by 6:00 PM**

See department pages for drop off times and locations. Please read carefully the Policies and Procedures governing entry in each Department **BEFORE** filling out the entry form for the Department.

Processing fees for each Department are to be **paid separately**.

**EXHIBITOR INFORMATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

(Birth year and age required for all non-professional/  
advanced amateur entries)

Check here if this is your first time entering Visual Arts  
at the Wyoming State Fair.

**DEPARTMENT FEES**

Each exhibitor is required to pay a separate Processing Fee (office charge) for the items entered in each Department according to this schedule. Please count only the articles from this Department in calculating the processing fee for this Department.

Processing Fee: \$2/each entry

Total Number of entries \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Fee Remittance \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Make checks payable to: Wyoming State Fair

**REMINDER: Exhibitor issued checks which are returned for any reason will be assessed a \$30.00 returned check fee.**

Please accept the entries described below, subject to the policies and regulations as published in the Wyoming State Fair Premium Book. I agree to abide by those policies, and I declare all statements made in connection with these entries to be correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Item	Computer Item # (Office Use Only)	Department	Division	Class	Description of Exhibit (Use exact wording from Premium Book)
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					

## 2026 VISUAL ARTS ENTRY FORM CONTINUED

Item	Computer Item # (Office Use Only)	Department	Division	Class	Description of Exhibit (Use exact wording from Premium Book)
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