



2023 Palo Pinto County 4-H Photography Contest

Entry Deadline: March 8, 2023

Please read the guidelines. Several revisions have been made including the entry procedures.

Printed copies of photos are not needed. The digital images will be used at all levels.

Participants will complete the online registration form at <https://forms.office.com/r/Yz4BE5efau>



Photos will need to be emailed to lynette.babcock@ag.tamu.edu or brought to the Extension Office on a flash drive. Please follow guidelines below about photo format and names.

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 skills in composition, light, story line, posing, and awareness.
- To gain knowledge about cameras, camera settings, photography dimension and resolution.
- To encourage 4-H members to use photography as a meaningful communication tool in their lives.
- To provide a 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.

RESOURCES

The Texas 4-H website has a variety of resources related to photography. <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/>

RULES AND PROCEDURES

The Palo Pinto County 4-H Photography Contest will follow the guidelines of the District 3 4-H Photography Contest and the Texas 4-H Photography Contest. Category winners of each age group will advance to the next level of competition.

RULES AND PROCEDURES	
Entry Deadline	Entries must be received by the Palo Pinto County Extension office by March 8, 2023.
Age Divisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clover Kid – Grades K-2 as of September 1, 2022 • Junior – Grades 3, 4, and 5 as of September 1, 2022 • Intermediate – Grades 6, 7, and 8 as of September 1, 2022 • Senior - between the grades of 9th and 12th as of September 1, 2022
Photo Eligibility	Photo must be taken by participants between the dates of January 1, 2022 and the time of entry. Photos may be submitted only one time and in only one category.
Photo Format & Name	Must be .jpeg, .jpg, or .gif formats. Name photo as follows: Category_ First & Last Name_ Photo Number for Category (1, 2 or 3) Ex. Animals-Wildlife_ John Doe_ 1 REVISED
Number of Entries	Each member is limited to 3 photos per category.
Entry Method	All entries must be submitted to the Palo Pinto County Extension office by the March 8, 2023 deadline. Participants will need to complete the online entry form at https://forms.office.com/r/Yz4BE5efau Only digital copies of the photo need to be submitted by email or on a flash drive. REVISED

Ratio and Size	<p>Size Ratio: any size ratio, except for panoramic, is acceptable. REVISED</p> <p>For this contest, panoramic is defined as a photo with an aspect ratio of 3:1 or 3:1 or wider/taller. File Size: Photo must be a minimum of 1MB and a maximum of 20MB. REVISED Tips: Upload the highest resolution possible. Review your photo at 100% size before uploading. Check your photo's file properties and/or metadata to ensure it meets the file size requirements.</p>
Alterations	<p>Color and Black & White photos are allowed in all categories. Although slight computer enhanced photos are allowed, such as cropping, minor adjustment of lighting, and red eye reduction; substantially altered photography, such as applying design styles, or using computer graphics will disqualify an entry. Any other alteration, manipulation, or edits to a photo would require the photo to be entered into the Enhanced category. REVISED</p>
Text on Photographs	<p>Photographs must not contain camera or user placed text. This includes such things as date stamps, comments, watermarks, or titles. Text or wording that is part of the original photograph (i.e. photo of a street sign, etc.) is acceptable. REVISED</p>
Original Work of 4-H member	<p>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.</p>
Awards and Recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Awards Blue, Red, White and Green Participation quality awards will be given to entries. • Best of Category Best of category will be presented to one photo in each category of each age group. These photos will advance to either the district (junior and intermediate) or state (senior) levels. • Best of Show One Best of Show will be selected from each age group.
Judging and Results	<p>Each photograph will be judged against a set of judging criteria. Judges will determine the placings and all decisions are final. Criteria for judging includes: Photos will be evaluated on the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact - 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 the judging elements. • Creativity - 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 - 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 - 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 - 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 include the center of interest for the photograph or where the maker wants the viewer to stop and they view the image. • Story Telling - Story Telling refers to the image's ability to evoke imagination or emotion. One beautiful thing about art is that each viewer might collect his/her own message or read her own story in an image.

Display and Participation	Photos could be displayed at the Extension office and possible other locations including social media following judging. Those photos advancing to the next level of competition may be on display at those events.
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 Program reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.
Copyright	The Texas 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 is not allowed.
Display and Future Usage Rights	By entry, the participant 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 may be used for 4-H program and marketing.
Liability Release	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.
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.

**TEXAS 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST 2022-
2023 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

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 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

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

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 2022-2023 theme is "Reflections". Reflection photography uses reflective surfaces to create an artistic "echo" of a scene. It includes photos that are creatively composed to capture an image from a reflective surface. The reflection should play a significant part of the image's composition.

Examples: reflections on polished metal, glass, mirror, and water.