



**Erie County Fair**

## **Erie County Agricultural Society**

3110 Columbus Avenue, Po Box 2436,  
Sandusky, Ohio 44870

[secretary@eriefair.com](mailto:secretary@eriefair.com)

[www.eriefair.com](http://www.eriefair.com)

419-625-1000

Open class questions? [openclasseriefair@gmail.com](mailto:openclasseriefair@gmail.com)

Erie County Fair  
Open Class  
August 10 – 16, 2026

# **DEPARTMENT 4 - PHOTOGRAPHY**



## DEPARTMENT 4—PHOTOGRAPHY

**Margo Trinter —Superintendent**

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Check in will be on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup> from 5-8 pm.
2. Judging will start on Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.
3. Official release time is Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> from 9am - noon
4. All photography must be the work of the exhibitor.
5. Anything displayed in a previous year may not be entered again.
6. Photographs may not be entered that have previously won a prize at the Erie County Fair.
7. Each photography exhibit must be **no smaller than 5" x 7" and no larger than 11" x 14"**.
8. No Xerox copies or copies from any copy machine.
9. Each photograph in Classes I-II must be matted with a plain mat (any color) that extends at least ½", but no more than 3" beyond the photograph
10. Do not attach photograph to a foam backing
11. All photography must have been taken within the last three (3) years.
12. **No more than ONE entry per category**
13. Photos in all classes can be edited for color correction, brightness, etc.
14. The Fair Board or volunteers are not responsible if the exhibit falls from its hanger or glue comes off mat.
15. Photographs exhibited are on public display during operating hours of the building, but will not be supervised at all times. We cannot guarantee the safety of exhibits, but precautions will be taken to protect them
16. Framed prints will not be accepted.
17. Entry tags will be affixed to bottom of the mat
18. Please write name, address, phone number, class, and category on the back lower left of the photograph or mat to ensure proper placement on the judging wall.
19. Because the Fair provides entertainment of a wholesome nature for the entire family, exhibits containing nudes or other questionable subject matter will not be accepted. The superintendent has the right to determine what is acceptable.
20. If you have been a dealer or professional in the past or earn 50% of your annual income by such means, you must enter as a Dealer/Professional.
21. Categories may be combined or expanded, depending on the number of entries.

### CLASS I—DIGITAL AND FILM COLOR

**(Taken with a digital or film camera and /or printed from a computer, print station, or computer edited)**

1. Landscape
2. Waterscape (focus on water, waterfalls, etc)
3. Skyscape (focus on sky, sunset, sunrise, clouds, etc)
4. People (individuals or groups)
5. Animals (wild, domestic)
6. Sports/Action (local or professional, etc.)
7. Plants and Flowers
8. Non-Flower Still Life
9. Insects
10. Transportation (vehicles, bikes, boats, planes, horses, etc.)
11. Building (any with building(s) only or parts thereof)
12. Digitally enhanced and/or altered
13. What is it? (e.g. texture, surfaces)

14. Miscellaneous (should not fit in another category)
15. Make Me Laugh
16. Agriculture: (farms, farm equipment, crops, people, etc)

### CLASS WINNER

**CLASS II—DIGITAL OR FILM BLACK and WHITE (Taken with a digital or film camera and/or printed from a computer, print station, photo lab or computer edited)**

1. Landscape
2. Waterscape (focus on water, waterfalls, etc)
3. Skyscape (focus on sky, sunset, sunrise, clouds, etc)
4. People (individuals or groups)
5. Animals (wild, domestic)
6. Sports/Action (local or professional, etc.)
7. Plants and Flowers
8. Non-Flower Still Life
9. Insects
10. Transportation (vehicles, bikes, boats, planes, horses, etc.)
11. Building (any with building(s) only or parts thereof)
12. Miscellaneous (should not fit in another category)
13. Agriculture: (farms, farm equipment, crops, people, etc)

### CLASS WINNER

### CLASS III- JUNIORS (FOR 14 YEARS OR YOUNGER)

1. Nature
2. People
3. Animals
4. Other

### CLASS WINNER

### CLASS IV—DIGITAL COLLAGE OR PHOTOMONTAGE

1. Entries must contain at least 2 photos that tell a story or that go together in some way. Photos must be mounted or arranged for display by the photographer. Total display can be no larger than 11" by 14" and does not need to be matted.

### CLASS WINNER

### BEST OF SHOW

The Erie County Farm Bureau is sponsoring three cash prizes to highlight the best of the agriculture category entries. First Prize-\$30.00, Second Prize-\$25.00, and Third Prize-\$20.00. These awards will be given to the top three photographs overall and then regular placing of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd will be given to the remaining entries in both color and black and white classes.

**Registration Deadline—August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Interested in entering the 7 other Departments—Farm & Garden, Floriculture, Baked Goods, Household Arts, Arts, Antiques & Collections and Hobbies & Crafts?

Contact the Erie County Fair Board office at 419.625.1000 or visit [www.eriefair.com](http://www.eriefair.com)

**See last page for Open Class general information, rules and regulations**



# RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ERIE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

## General Information

1. BE SURE TO READ: (1) All rules imposed by the Erie County Agricultural Society; (2) All rules imposed by the State of Ohio; (3) All specific instructions under the department in which you wish to enter; (4) The summary of rules on the entry form.
2. Questions which arise will be answered by the department superintendents.
3. The Erie County Fair Board reserves the sole and absolute right to construe its own rules and regulations and to determine arbitrarily on matters and differences in regard thereto, from which there is no appeal.
4. Security and Police officers are on duty on the grounds during the continuance of the Fair. The Erie County Fair Board is not and will not be responsible for damage, loss, or accident that may occur. Exhibitors are requested to give attention to their items during the Fair.
5. Disrespect by an exhibitor or agent toward officials, or any misrepresentation, in regard to entries in any department either by statements made or facts omitted, will render the entry ineligible to compete, and no premium will be paid.
6. Competition is open to all counties in Ohio.
7. All open class exhibitors must hold a membership ticket, season ticket, pay per entry or a youth wristband.
8. All entries must be made in the name of the owner of the article.
9. Entries should be recorded on forms provided and mailed to the Erie County Agricultural Society, PO Box 2436, Sandusky, Ohio, 44870.
10. If you have been a dealer or professional in the past or earn 50% of your annual income by such means, you must enter as a Dealer/ Professional.
11. The closing date of all entries for each department will be 6pm, August 3<sup>rd</sup>.
12. All mail in entries in all departments must be postmarked no later than July 31<sup>st</sup>. There will be no exceptions to this rule.
13. The exhibitor must fill out the entry form completely. This includes designating the department; class; and description of the item. The entry form must be signed by the exhibitor.
14. When the entry of an item is recorded in the books of the Secretary, tags will be given a number and class which are to be placed on the item. Once the item has been entered, no changes in the entry will be permitted, unless it can be shown that a mistake has been made.
15. The superintendent has the right to change entry to a more appropriate category.
16. Every item for competition must be placed on display on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup> between 5-8 pm.  
Except for:
  - Items for Farm and Garden and Baked Goods must be placed on display on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> between 8-9am.
  - Floriculture Class:
    - o Classes I, II and III on Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> between 8-9 am.
    - o Classes IV, V and VI on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup> between 8-9 am.
17. Official release time is Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 9am-noon.  
**Any exhibitor removing items before release time will not be permitted to enter any open class exhibits the following year. Not responsible for items left after noon.**
18. Exhibitor must provide receipt to remove item from display area.
19. No interference or communications with the judges will be allowed and any person who by letter or otherwise attempts to influence the decision of the judge, shall forfeit any and all premiums which may be or have been awarded and be ruled out of competition.
20. Premiums for most classes are: 1st - \$5.00; 2nd - \$3.00; 3rd - \$1.00. Unless otherwise stated.
21. Premiums can be picked up on Saturday of the fair in the Sr. Fair Board office or on Sunday at exhibit check out.
22. Rosettes and ribbons will be awarded at time of judging or may be picked up in the Sr. Fair Board Office.
23. The judges are instructed not to award premiums, unless the items are deemed of worthy merit.
24. No person other than members of the Board, who are not competitors, will be allowed to see the entries, or to have access to the judges' books after the awards are made.
25. If there is any question as to the regularity of any entry, or of the right of any item to compete in any given class, the judges shall report the same to the Superintendent of the Department for adjustment.
26. The Fair Board is not responsible for notifying winning exhibitors.
27. For specific rules— see individual departments.

**Questions? email: [openclasseriefair@gmail.com](mailto:openclasseriefair@gmail.com)**

### **Interested in being an open class sponsor?**

We offer 3 levels of sponsorship. Email us if you want to support our program!