



Erie County Fair

Erie County Agricultural Society

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Sandusky, Ohio 44870

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www.eriefair.com

419-625-1000

Open class questions? openclasseriefair@gmail.com

Erie County Fair
Open Class
August 10 – 16, 2026

DEPARTMENT 6 - ARTS



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Superintendent - Shannon McCabe

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Check in will be on Sunday, August 9th from 5-8 p.m.
2. Judging will be on Monday, August 10th at 8pm
3. Official release time is Sunday, August 16th from 9am – noon
4. 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.
5. All items must be the work of the exhibitor.
6. No commercial kits allowed. Only original creative art permitted.
7. Exhibitors may enter only one item per class category.
8. The Fair provides entertainment of a wholesome nature for the entire family, exhibits containing nudes or other questionable subjects will not be accepted. The superintendent has the right to determine what is acceptable.
9. Each entry in Class I & II shall be no smaller than 5"x 7" and no larger than 16" x 20".
10. Each entry in Class I, II, IV, V, VI, VIII, IX must be matted on art board, NOT poster board (rigid mounting board is OK, poster board is too flexible and hanging hardware does not attach well).
11. In Class I, II, IV, V, VI, VIII, and IX the mat (mount board) or frame may not extend larger than 6" beyond the work.
12. Appropriate mounting (hanging) hardware IS REQUIRED by exhibitor/artist. To display, entries may be stapled or nailed through corners of art or mount board.
13. Class I, II, IV, V, VI may be submitted framed.
14. Items on stretched canvas may be displayed framed or not, but must adhere to size restrictions.
15. Figurative - representing an object or thing without distortion or physical change; person, animal, etc. drawn or painted to look realistic, i.e., lighthouse, flower, car horse, etc. Abstract - A shape that has been altered or changed, i.e., stretched human body, pink elephant, eyeball in hand, blurry image, etc.

CLASS I—DRAWING, DRY MEDIA

1. Pencil, Figurative
2. Pencil, Abstract
3. Pen & Ink, Figurative
4. Pen & Ink, Abstract
5. Oil—Pastel, Figurative
6. Oil—Pastel, Abstract
7. Chalk—Pastel, Figurative
8. Chalk—Pastel, Abstract
9. Colored Pencil, Figurative
10. Colored Pencil, Abstract

CLASS WINNER

CLASS II—PAINTING, WET MEDIA

1. Acrylic, Figurative
2. Acrylic, Abstract
3. Oil, Figurative
4. Oil, Abstract
5. Water Color, Figurative
6. Water Color, Abstract
7. Colored Ink, Figurative
8. Colored Ink, Abstract

CLASS WINNER

CLASS III—THREE-DIMENSIONAL ART

1. Wire
2. Foam Board
3. Clay/Pottery/Ceramics
4. Jr. Clay/Pottery/Ceramics - (Ages 14 and under)
5. Sculpture, any other media

CLASS WINNER

CLASS IV—PRINTMAKING

1. Etching
2. Linoleum Prints
3. Lithography
4. Mono Prints
5. Wood Cut Prints

CLASS WINNER

CLASS V—MIXED MEDIA

1. Mixture of wet and/or dry mediums
2. Mixture of wet/dry mediums and/or other items

CLASS WINNER

CLASS VI—PAPER ART/SCRAPBOOKING

1. Handmade Paper Art
2. Origami
3. Scrapbook Page (Display 1 page)

CLASS WINNER

CLASS VII—COLORING BOOK/PAINT BY NUMBER

1. Coloring Book Adult (Display 1 page)
2. Coloring Book Junior (Display 1 page)- (Ages 14 and under)
3. Paint by Number Adult
4. Paint by Number Junior (Ages 14 and under)

CLASS WINNER

CLASS VIII—HAND LETTERING

(i.e. Calligraphy—No Tracing) One page no larger than 12x12

1. Black and White
2. Colored

CLASS WINNER

CLASS IX - JUNIORS ART (Ages 14 and under)

1. Drawing - Any dry media
2. Painting - Any wet media
3. 2-D Mixed media (any media)
4. 3-D Art (any media)

CLASS WINNER

CLASS X - ANY MEDIA, USING "The Sweetest Fair Around"

All ages (14 and under, mark J on your entry)

BEST OF SHOW

Registration Deadline—August 3rd

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

Contact the Erie County Fair Board office at 419.625.1000 or visit

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 3rd.
12. All mail in entries in all departments must be postmarked no later than July 31st. 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 9th between 5-8 pm.
Except for:
 - Items for Farm and Garden and Baked Goods must be placed on display on Monday, August 10th between 8-9am.
 - Floriculture Class:
 - o Classes I, II and III on Tuesday, August 11th between 8-9 am.
 - o Classes IV, V and VI on Thursday, August 13th between 8-9 am.
17. Official release time is Sunday, August 16th, 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

Interested in being an open class sponsor?

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