4-H on Parade 2024
Photography Competition Rules & Guidelines

The 4-H on Parade Photography competition is open to all 4-H members registered in a 2023-2024 4-H Photography project.

RULES:

- All submissions must be the original work of the member and be current year project work.
- Photos can only have minor manipulation or touch-ups performed for all categories **with the exception of creative (new this year).** The only acceptable manipulation includes correction of red eye, cropping, and straightening of photos.
- Photos must be submitted in a 5”x7” or “8x10” print format size and framed in a matte only.
- The matte may be any color the photographer feels would enhance the photo.
- Photos may be submitted as color, black and white, or sepia tone.
- Each entry must be labeled with member name, club, and category on the back.

CATEGORIES:

- The competition will consist of six (6) categories this year (***maximum 1 entry per category***):

- **People** - These are pictures of people in all walks of life - parenting and family, children, cute baby pics, couples and relationships, models/fashion, people engaged in fun outdoor activities, etc.

- **Nature & Landscape** - The pictures in this category showcase outdoor beauty. That includes images of landscapes, nature images, sunsets, urban landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, and farms - to name a few.

- (*Note: a macro image of a flower, leaf, etc. is better placed in the Details & Macro category*)

- **Details & Macro** - Getting in close is the name of the game for this category. This category includes pictures of small details that suggest a larger story. This is also the place for MACRO photographs. Detail photos might be of a knot, a lock, or an abstract close-up. Anything goes as long as it is a tight composition of a detail. Macro - insects, coins, clocks, stamps, ice crystals, etc.

- **Animals** - These competition entries are images of all kinds of animals. They can be pictures of pets - dogs and puppies, cats and kittens, birds, reptiles, amphibians - as well as photos of wildlife, zoo life, farm/domesticated animals, and even insects.

- **Night Time** - Come to the dark side! This category includes photos taken outdoors between after-dusk and before dawn. Generally, these photos are achieved by using artificial light or using a long exposure. This category can include any subject matter as long as the focus is on the skill and technique used to acquire the photograph.

- (*Note: a sunset or sunrise image is not acceptable … it should be placed in the Nature & Landscape category*).

- **Creative** - Let's get creative! A creative image is produced through the use of imaginative skill or originality of thought. No image will be eliminated from competition simply because it looks realistic, provided it shows originality of concept and/or creativity of technique/style. **New this year, this category may be edited with no limitations.**

- *(Note: Creative images may be edited and may include unusual points of view, imaginative use of subject matter, creative use of lighting, motion blur, etc.)*

~ Be sure to review the judging criteria on the next 2 pages ~

4-H *on Parade* 2024 – Photography Competition Judging Criteria

Each photograph will be judged against the following set of judging criteria, and not against photographs of your peers.

Based on total points awarded for each photograph, the photograph with the highest total points will be awarded a Grand Champion ribbon and the photograph with the second highest total points will be awarded a Reserve Champion ribbon. This applies for each of the 6 categories.

Upon completion of the judging, the top two entries (by total points) will earn the Grand Champion and Reserve Champion banners. Should a tie or ties occur the judging team will be asked to break the tie for award purposes. No one member may win both awards.

The elements for judging the photographs will be:

IMPACT (Max Points 15)	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.
CREATIVITY (Max Points 15)	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 (Max Points 25)	Technical is the quality of the image itself as it is presented for viewing, which includes the following aspects: - 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. - Posting and capturing of the image.
COMPOSITION (Max Point 20)	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 (Max Points 15)	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 includes the center of interest for the photograph or where the maker wants the viewer to stop and view the image.
STORY TELLING (Max Points 10)	Story telling refers to the image's ability to evoke imagination. One beautiful thing about art is that each viewer might collect his own message or read her own story in an image.

4-H on Parade 2024 – Photography Competition Score Sheet

Category: _____

Entry Number:_____

Category	Minimum Points	Maximum Points	Points Awarded
Impact	0	15	
Creativity	0	15	
Technical	0	25	
Compposition	0	20	
Subject Matter	0	15	
Story Telling	0	10	
		TOTAL POINTS AWARDED	

Judge's Comments: