

TEXAS 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST OBJECTIVES:

- To develop life skills in composition, light, story line, posing, and awareness.
- To encourage 4-H members to use photography as a meaningful communication tool in their lives.
- To provide 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 FOR THE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST:

- Adventures With Your Camera – B (Grades 6 to 9) (Available from National 4-H Council Supply)
- Texas 4-H and Youth Development Photography Project Resource Page <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/photography/index.html>

Any reference to a product or company is not to endorse or support them and their causes. Links to companies are provided for their educational resources only.

DEFINITION OF CLASSES:

- Color: photos taken with either emulsion film or digital cameras.
 Black & White: photos taken with any camera, however, they must be in grey-scale only (this class does not include antiquing, sepia-tone, and/or hand-tinting).
 All Media: this includes color emulsion/digital, and black and white emulsion/digital.

DESCRIPTIONS OF DIVISIONS AND CLASSES

DIVISIONS:	CLASSES:	DESCRIPTIONS:
People	1. Color 2. Black & White	People (babies, children, adults, and senior citizens) alone or in a group, active or inactive. Such photos may be photojournalistic, or an interpretative portrait where the person rather than the environment is emphasized.
Animals	1. Color 2. Black & White	Animal life, including domestic, wild, insects, and underwater creatures. The animal(s) should be the focus of the photo and not human subjects or nature/scenic. No harm or injury should be inflicted on the animal in order to acquire the photo.
Still Life	1. Color 2. Black & White	Photography where objects are pre-arranged or set up by the photographer (composition does not occur naturally).
Natural Landscape	1. Color 2. Black & White	Scenes of natural landscapes, seascapes, skiescapes (sunsets, clouds, etc) or underwater scenes.
Plant/Flora	1. Color 2. Black & White	Any photo that focuses on the plant or flower structure and not on a scene or landscape.
Architectural Elements	1. Color 2. Black & White	Photos that emphasizes geometric details such as lines, patterns, textures of inanimate objects.
Special Effects/Creative Effects	1. All Media (color and black & white)	Any photo that has been enhanced to bring out dramatic or artistic qualities. These enhancements can occur using the camera or developing process. Antiquing, hand-tinting, color and black & white combination photos, and sepia-tone photos would be entered in this division.
Theme	1. Color 2. Black & White	The 2008-2009 theme will be "Volunteers in Action". Volunteers, youth and adults, play an import role in our society. 4-H members are encouraged to take photographs of volunteers in action. Photos can include 4-H volunteers, but also volunteers serving in action roles through other organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, etc.

See attached Texas 4-H Photography score card, judging definitions, and standards of excellence for detail description of each criteria. DO NOT INCLUDE SCORECARD WITH ENTRY!



RULES AND GUIDELINES:

1. Participation Age: The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Photography contest will be displayed during the 2009 Texas 4-H Roundup and is open to all senior age 4-H members that have passed their 14th but not their 19th birthday before August 31, 2008. Participants must have been born during the period beginning September 1, 1989 and ending August 31, 1994.
2. Eligibility of Photos: All photographs must have been taken by 4-H members between the dates of January 1, 2008 and the time of entry. Photos may be submitted only one time and in only one division and class to the state photography contest.
3. Number of Entries: A county may have only one entry per class for a total of 15 entries per county, and all entries and entry fees must be submitted DIRECTLY TO THE TEXAS 4-H AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.
4. Entry Fee: A fee of \$8.00 per picture must accompany each entry. Please make check payable to TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION – PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST for all entries.
5. Contestants Participating at Texas 4-H Roundup: Photography contest participants do not attend Texas 4-H Roundup unless they are competing in another contest however, if a 4-H member/adult chooses to attend to view the display they may do so, but are required to pay the necessary registration fee.
6. Entry Deadline: ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED AND PAYMENT (E-CHECK OR CREDIT CARD) MADE ON 4-H CONNECT by April 15, 2009.
7. Photo Submission: Photos and county/club checks must be postmarked by April 15, 2009.
8. Removal of Entries: Entries are not to be removed from the display by anyone.

Contest Structure

9. Size of Photographs: Each photograph must be a true 8 inch by 10 inch photograph.
10. Mounting of Photographs: All prints must be securely and permanently mounted solid on PHOTOGRAPHIC MOUNT BOARD (mat board material) or a THIN FOAM BOARD no larger than 8 inches by 10 inches suitable for hanging without an additional frame. Masonite, photo folders, corrugated cardboard or thin poster board is not acceptable. Double faced tape, glue or rubber cement is not allowed for mounting purposes. (Use dry mounting if possible.) Matting (of any kind) is not allowed and will result in disqualification. Some resources for mounting supplies include: Hobby Lobby, Michaels, Blick Studio (www.dickblick.com), local framing shops, and art supply stores.
11. Negatives: Entrants must be able to provide original transparencies, negative, disk or print if requested.
12. Refusal Rights: The Texas 4-H and Youth Development reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.
13. Judges: Judges will determine the placings. Their decision on all entries is final.
14. Judging Criteria: Photographers aiming for the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Photography contest should be mindful of the criteria used in judging entries. In general, contest judges establish a viewing distance when evaluating photo quality, 8X10 photos are generally viewed from 14 to 16 inches. Participants should use viewing distance and the following criteria as guidelines:
 - Focus
 - Exposure
 - Lighting
 - Print Quality
 - Subject



- Composition
- Impact
- Uniqueness

AWARDS

- Blue, Red, and White quality awards will be given to entries based on the score sheet criteria.
- Best of Show awards will be presented to one photo in each division. Additional Best of Show awards will be presented to the photos that demonstrates outstanding achievements in: lighting, composition, artistic quality, and impact.
- One award may be presented for the photograph that best demonstrates the spirit of 4-H, this can be awarded to any division and class.
- A select number of pictures will be retained by the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program for the purpose of marketing and program promotion. Pictures retained are based on both quality and subject matter. Pictures retained could be of all quality award colors.

PROPER LABELING OF PHOTOS:

Each entry must include the following information to ensure proper entry. Some information will be based on the division and class entered. The information **MUST** be legibly printed or typed on the photo release and affixed to the back of the photo in the center. This form can be found online in a PDF format on the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Photography website, located at: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/photography/index.html>.

County	Division
District	Class
Name	Make & Model of Camera Used
Address	Film Speed Used (if applicable)
City/Zip	Software Used (digital photos)
Phone	E-mail:
Birthday	Age:
Name/Title of Picture:	
Special Effect/Creative Effect category please describe your process used to achieve desired effect (30 words or less)	

Entries that do not follow the proper labeling procedures WILL be disqualified.

See the attached example for the exact layout of label AND a blank entry form for photos.

DISQUALIFICATIONS OF ENTRIES:

Entries that do not follow the rules, division and class guidelines or any general guidelines will automatically be disqualified. Disqualifications forfeit all entry fees. A general form letter specifying reason(s) for disqualification will be returned together with photo to the county after Texas 4-H Roundup. County entries received past the deadline will be automatically disqualified and will be returned to the county.

Reasons for disqualification:

- Incorrect size.
- Mounted improperly or not securely mounted.
- Labeled improperly or label incomplete.
- Entered into incorrect division and/or class.
- Same photo entered into multiple divisions and/or classes.
- No signature(s).
- Entry fee not paid or only partial fee paid.
- County did not select/certify photo to represent county.
- Photo was NOT entered into 4-H CONNECT system.
- Received after postmarked date.
- For black and white photos – not a true black and white photo.
- More than one entry in a division and class from a county



ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS:

Results will be posted on the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Website after judging has concluded and all placings have been verified. This will be AFTER Texas 4-H Roundup.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY:

The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, Texas 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, mislabeled, damaged, or non-displayed photographs. By entry the 4-H member accepts this release.

DISPLAY AND FUTURE USE RIGHTS:

By submitting an entry to the contest, the 4-H member grants permission to the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, Texas AgriLife Extension, the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation, and any other public or private agency authorized by the Texas 4-H and 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 will be retained for future 4-H program and marketing uses. Other photos will be returned through district offices after Texas 4-H Roundup. By entry the 4-H member accepts these conditions of display and future use.

PROCESS FOR ENTERING PHOTOGRAPHS USING 4-H CONNECT ON-LINE REGISTRATION PROGRAM

(MUST BE ADHERED TO IN ORDER FOR DISQUALIFICATION OF ENTRY(S) NOT TO OCCUR)

Photograph(s) that have won a county contest or those that are eligible for the Texas 4-H Photography Contest must be entered using the 4-H CONNECT on-line registration system.

Registration Steps:

1. Between the dates of March 15, 2009 and April 15, 2009, the photography contest will be open on 4-H CONNECT.
2. Create a profile and family email address in the 4-H CONNECT on-line registration program if you do not have one already established. Web address: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu>
3. Under contests and events registration tab, select the "2009 State Photography" Contest.
4. Enter your photograph(s) in the correct category.
5. Select your method of payment (credit card, e-check, or club/county check).
6. Submit your entry and payment method on 4-H CONNECT.
7. Mail photographs with release attached to the back of photograph to the following address (postmark April 15, 2009).
8. Once confirmation is received mail photograph(s) with COMPLETE label/release attached to back to the state 4-H office.

Mailing address is:

Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation
c/o 2009 Photography Contest
P.O. Box 11020
College Station, TX 77842-1020



EXAMPLE LABEL - MUST INCLUDE RELEASE

County: <u>Brazos</u>	Division: <u>Special Effects/Creative Effects</u>
District: <u>9</u>	Class: <u>Color</u> <u>Black & White</u> <u>All Media</u>
Name: <u>Joe Doe</u>	Camera: <u>Nikon 3400 Digital Camera</u>
Address: <u>123 Oak Street</u>	Film Speed: <u>N/A</u>
City/Zip: <u>Anytown, 12345</u>	Software Used: <u>N/A</u>
Phone: <u>979-845-1212</u>	Email: <u>photography@anyemail.com</u>
Birthdate: <u>9-4-1989</u>	Age: <u>17</u>
Title: <u>Sunset over the Grand Canyon</u>	
Description: <u>To achieve this effect I made copies of the different sunset layer colors and then applied a different degree of embossing to each layer.</u>	

I do hereby consent and agree that Texas AgriLife Extension, Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program staff have permission to take photographs and/or record video and/or audio of me and/or my property and to use these for 4-H Youth Development educational, promotional, and/or marketing materials. I further do hereby give the right to exhibit any such works publicly or privately, including posting on the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program website. I waive any rights, claims, or interests I may have to control the use of my identity, the identity of the subject(s), or likeness in the photographs, video or audio and agree that any uses described herein may be made without compensation or additional consideration. I represent that I have read and understand the foregoing statement and I am competent to execute this agreement.

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Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

If individual is under the age of 18, consent of the legal parent or guardian is needed.

Parent/Guardian name (please print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Name: _____ County: _____

Division: _____ Class: _____

Your entry is judged according to the standards of excellence established for this project contest. You are competing against previously determined standards of excellence, not against your peers. Before preparing your entry for submission please carefully review the judging definitions and standards of excellence sheet.

JUDGES, PLEASE CIRCLE ONE:

TECHNICAL	Excellent	Good	Fair	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory
Focus	5	4	3	2	1
Exposure	5	4	3	2	1
Lighting	5	4	3	2	1
Print Quality	5	4	3	2	1
Technical Feedback					

SUBJECT	Excellent	Good	Fair	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory
Creative Use of Subject	5	4	3	2	1
Composition	5	4	3	2	1
Impact	5	4	3	2	1
Uniqueness	5	4	3	2	1
Technical Feedback					

Total Points					
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Awarded (circle one)	Blue (30 to 40 points)	Red (17 to 29 points)	White (0 to 16 points)
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FOCUS

Definition: Adjustment of the distance setting on a lens to appropriately define the subject.

Standard: The focus is appropriate to the theme/mood and/or photographic class.

EXPOSURE

Definition: The quantity of light allowed to act on a photographic material; a product of the intensity and the duration of light striking the film or paper.

Standard: The exposure compliments the composition and gives the picture a smooth feeling or a particular effect.

LIGHTING

Definition: The illumination of a subject.

Standard: Use of light to produce the desired mood or effect.

PRINT QUALITY

Definition: The photo exhibits quality consistent with display.

Standard: The absence of blemishes, scratches, overly enlarged (graininess), and pixilation. This also includes the quality of mounting.

SUBJECT

Definition: The photo uses the subject to deliver a message in a creative way.

Standard: The photo clearly communicates the subject and fits the chosen category.

COMPOSITION

Definition: Placement of the subject in the photo demonstrating artistic ability.

Standard: A pleasing balance exists among all components of the composition.

IMPACT

Definition: The photo clearly captures the attention of the viewer.

Standard: The composition conveys a strong message.

UNIQUENESS

Definition: Use of originality, camera angle, lighting, character studies, and/or creativity.

Standard: The photographer exhibits creativity through the photo.



Cut along dotted lines and affix securely in middle of photo back.

TOP OF PHOTOGRAPH

PHOTOGRAPH LABEL/RELEASE - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY
(This release must fully completed and securely attached to the back of photo. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.)

County: _____ Division: _____
District: _____ Class (select only one): _____ Color _____ Black & White _____ All Media _____
Name: _____ Camera: _____
Address: _____ Film Speed: _____
City, Zip: _____ Software Used: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Birthday: _____ Age: _____
Title: _____

Description (Special Effects/Creative Effects Category) _____

I do hereby consent and agree that Texas AgriLife Extension, Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program staff have permission to take photographs and/or record video and/or audio of me and/or my property and to use these for 4-H Youth Development educational, promotional, and/or marketing materials. I further do hereby give the right to exhibit any such works publicly or privately, including posting on the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program website. I waive any rights, claims, or interests I may have to control the use of my identity, the identity of the subject(s), or likeness in the photographs, video or audio and agree that any uses described herein may be made without compensation or additional consideration. I represent that I have read and understand the foregoing statement and I am competent to execute this agreement.

Name (please print): _____ Date: _____
Signature: _____
If individual is under the age of 18, consent of the legal parent or guardian is needed.
Parent/Guardian name (please print): _____ Date: _____
Signature: _____

