



2017 District 11 4-H Photography Contest Rules and Guidelines

(For Juniors & Intermediates ONLY)

DISTRICT 11 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 a photography project showcase opportunity for 4-H members.
- To continue to share the message of 4-H.
- To utilize photographs which can promote and strengthen the 4-H program.

THIS YEAR:

- There are 15 categories for the photography contest.
- The District 11 Photography Contest will follow the Texas 4-H Photography Contest (state contest) guidelines. All photos will be submitted and judged electronically.

RULES AND GUIDELINES:

Participation Age:

The District 11 4-H Photography Contest is open to all Junior and Intermediate 4-H members.

- Junior participants must be in the 3rd through 5th grade as of August 31, 2016.
- Intermediate participants must be in 6th through 8th grade as of August 31, 2016.
- Senior 4-H members participating in the Texas 4-H Photography Display at Texas 4-H Roundup should refer to the 2017 Texas 4-H Photography Contest Rules and Guidelines found on the Texas 4-H website.

Photography contest judging will take place between **March 27, 2017 and March 31, 2017**. All placing photography entries will be displayed at District 11 4-H Roundup on Saturday, April 8.

Eligibility of Photos:

All photographs must have been taken by 4-H members between the dates of **January 1, 2016**, and the time of entry. Photos may be submitted only one time and in only one category.

Number of Entries:

A county may have only one entry per category per age group for a total of thirty (30) entries per county. All entries must be submitted electronically by March 10, 2017.

Entry Fee:

A fee of \$10.00 per participant must be paid by March 10, 2017 for official entry. Participants must pay via 4-H CONNECT by credit card or 4-H Check. All entries paid by paper check must come from a COUNTY/CLUB account and **MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 10, 2017**. Late registration allowed March 11-17, 2017 for an additional \$25.00.

Contestant Participation:

Photography display participants are not to be present for judging. Participants do not need to attend District 11 4-H Roundup unless they are competing in another contest; however, if a 4-H member/adult chooses to attend to view the display, he/she is welcome.

Entry Deadline:

ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED AND PAYMENT (CREDIT CARD OR 4-H CHECK) MADE ON 4-H CONNECT BY MARCH 10, 2017. Late registration will be allowed from March 11 – 17 for an additional \$25.

Refusal Rights:

The District 11 4-H Program reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.

Judges:

Judges will determine the placings. Their decision on all entries is final.

Awards:

1st – 3rd in each category will receive awards. One award will be presented in each age category for the photography that best demonstrates the Spirit of 4-H and a Best of Show. This award can be awarded to any category.

Disqualification of Entries:

Entries that do not follow the rules, division and class guidelines or any general guidelines will automatically be disqualified. County entries received past the deadline will be automatically disqualified and will be returned to the county.

Announcement of Results:

Results will be announced to all counties via e-mail and posted on the District 11 4-H website. A photo display will be available at the District 11 Spring Spectacular Event.

Contest Categories and Descriptions:**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 include: Dog, Sheep, Pig, Goat, Cow, Cat, Chicken, Horse, Camel, Goose, Ducks (domestic use), Hamsters.

Animals – Wildlife

Category focuses on animals not tamed or domesticated and commonly found in the wild throughout the country and world. Photos can be of wildlife in nature, zoos, and/or petting zoos.

Examples include: Deer, snakes, insects, rodents, elephants, etc.

Catch-all

Category for photos that do not fit into one of the other categories. This includes such photos as still-life, motion-blur, Polaroid transfers, SX-70 images, hand colored photos.

Examples include: Polaroid image & emulsion transfers, still-life, long exposure zoomed images, and painting with light.

Details & Macro

Getting in close is the name of the game for this category. We welcome pictures of small details that suggest a larger story. This is also the place for macro photographs (although a macro image of a flower might equally go into the Flowers category).

Examples include: detail of a knot, a lock, or an abstract close-up – anything as long as it is a tight composition of a detail. Macro examples include parts of a flower bloom, insects, stamps, ice crystals, etc.

Digital Darkroom

Photos are for digital art – images created or drastically altered in software like Adobe Photoshop®. Although digitally manipulated images are also allowed in the other categories, this is a category exclusively showcasing such art. If the digital darkroom work is the main attraction of the photo, or plays a big part, enter it here.

Examples include: Photoshop® composites and creations, images greatly manipulated with a variety of filters, photos with artistic borders, photos stitched into a panoramic.

Dominant Color

Photos with a dominant color. The dominant element in the image must be a specific color, such as red, yellow, blue, white, black, white, green, etc. Black & White photos, duotones, are excluded from this category.

Examples include: bowl of lemons, in a yellow bowl, on top of a yellow table covering, with a bright yellow tone sun lighting on it.

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. Category is neither for graphic illustrations made in commercial programs (i.e. Adobe Illustrator®) nor for extreme digital creations.

Examples include: Perspective, Line, Pattern.

Food

Category is 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. NO PHOTOS OF ALCOHOL BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED!

Examples include: Thanksgiving dinner, cakes/pies, fruits and place settings, Easter eggs, sandwiches, ingredients, etc.

Marine/Aquatic

Photos of any living organism in bodies of either fresh or ocean (salt) water.

Examples include: Fish, stingrays, whales, starfish, etc.

Nature & Landscape

The focus of this category includes landscapes, outdoor scenic, nature images, sunsets, urban landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, and farms. Images focus on the beauty of the outdoors.

Examples include: Landscapes, Scenic, Outdoors.

Night Photography

Photos taken outdoors between dusk and dawn (**this category does not include sunsets and sunrises – those photos are to be entered into nature & landscape**). Generally these photos are achieved by using artificial light or using a long exposure. This category can include any subject as long as the focus is on the skill and technique used to acquire the photograph.

Examples include: buildings/structures, animals, plant/flora, people, etc.

People

Photos focus from all walks of life, parenting and family, children, babies, models/fashion, sports, and couples.

Examples include: Kids & Family, Models/Fashion, Sports.

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 Nature & Landscape category.

Examples include: A rose, an upward shot of a tree, a flower bouquet, etc.

Storyboard

A storyboard is one digital entry (one photo) that contains three smaller images and minimal text that tells a story. The story should be easily understood by the viewer. This entry is one single file.

Examples include: Three images depicting the blooming of a rose bud at different stages, with the title of "Beginning of Beauty".

Theme

Theme photo focuses on a subject announced and outlined in the contest rules and guidelines. For 2016-2017, the theme is "**Reflections**". A photo shot off any natural or artificial reflective surface. A well-executed shot can show perfect symmetry or a slightly distorted shot.

(PHOTOS ENTERED IN OTHER CATEGORIES ARE NOT ALLOWED) Examples include images of family members, a leader/teacher or someone that you look up to, something in nature, or things that give you daily inspiration.

Release of Liability:

The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, 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 A&M AgriLife Extension Service, the Texas 4-H 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 use. By entry, the 4-H member accepts these conditions of display and future use.

Judging Criteria:

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. There can be impact in any of these twelve elements.
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 EXCELLENCE (Max Points: 25)	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 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 (Max Points: 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 they 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.

SUBMISSION OF PHOTO

Photos must be uploaded to 4-H connect in their appropriate category at time of entry. He photo must not exceed 2,048k (2MB)

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Individuals who require an auxiliary service or accommodation in order to participate need to contact the District 11 Office at 361/265-9203 no later than March 1, 2017 in order for proper arrangements to be made.