

FARM TO FAIR!



GOLD COUNTRY FAIR

September 10-13, 2026

Auburn, CA



Exhibitor Handbook

Gold Country Fair

Dates

September 10-13, 2026

Theme

Farm to Fair!

Website

<https://www.goldcountryfair.com/>

Administrative Address

Gold Country Fairgrounds and Event Center
1273 High St.
Auburn, CA. 95603

Contact Phone

Admin Office (530)823-4533

Contact Emails

General Information info@goldcountryfair.com
Livestock/Stills Entries entries@goldcountryfair.com

Fair Schedule

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Thursday, September 10 | 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM |
| Friday, September 11 | 12:00 PM to 11:00 PM |
| Saturday, September 12 | 11:00 AM to Midnight |
| Sunday, September 13 | 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM |



Administration

State Officials

Governor, State of California
CA Department of Food and Agriculture

Gavin Newsom
Karen Ross

Gold Country Fair Staff

Interim Chief Executive Officer
Maintenance Mechanic
Analyst II
Office & Event Support

Andrew Trygg
Ray Smith
Sonia Del Toro
Katie Bielen
Faith Vercruyssen
Amy Frankenhauser
James Corgan
Andy Ciandro
Giovanni Giarttitta

Maintenance Staff

20th District Agricultural Association – Board of Directors

Keri Askew Bailey, Chairman
Corinn Crowley, Vice Chairman
Bethel Vercruyssen
Doug Houston
Eddie Vegaalban
Mitchell "Mitch" Dion
Anupriya "Anu" Ramaraj

Online Entry Information



Entry Form Method

How can I enter? At the beginning of each department page is the information relative to that competition. This information includes eligibility requirements, entry deadline, delivery/pickup information and judging schedule.

When is the entry deadline?

Online entries and fees must be received online through [ShoWorks](#) by 11:59 PM on **Saturday, August 1, 2026**. Entries that are not complete by August 1, 2026, will be charged a \$25 penalty fee per entry. The required information and penalty fee must be submitted by August 8, 2026, in order to participate at fair.

Where do I submit my entries and fees?

You are required to enter online through our [ShoWorks Online](#) entry system. All entries must be submitted online before the deadline. **No** paper entries will be accepted.

Registration Link

Coming Soon!

ShoWorks

1. Click 'Sign-In' in the top right corner.
2. Use the drop-down box for 'I am a..' and choose 'Exhibitor.'
3. Sign-in if you have previously used ShoWorks Software for other fairs, expositions, and/or jackpots.
4. OR, if you do not have an existing account, click 'I am a new exhibitor or have yet to register this year.'
5. Complete the following page of exhibitor information.
6. Use the drop-down boxes to add entries to your cart.
7. You will select 'Department' then 'Division' and then 'Class.'
8. Fill in the required information for each entry.
9. **Review** your entries, pay, and confirm. Make sure you have completed all steps to ensure your entries were successfully completed.
10. It is advised to print your confirmation number and entries for your records.



Still Exhibits, Non-Perishables

Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2026

Lions Building

3 PM- 7 PM

Receiving

Adult Still Exhibits

Clothing & Textiles
Fine Arts
Fine Crafts
Photography
Preserved Foods
Special Education

Youth Still Exhibits

Clothing & Textiles
Fine Arts & Crafts
Photography
Preserved Foods
School Projects
Special Education
Technology

Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2026

Lions Building

9AM- 11 AM

Receiving

Adult Still Exhibits

Clothing & Textiles
Fine Arts
Fine Crafts
Photography
Preserved Foods
Special Education

Youth Still Exhibits

Clothing & Textiles
Fine Arts & Crafts
Photography
Preserved Foods
School Projects
Special Education
Technology

Monday, September 14, 2026 ♦ 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Entry Pick-Up for Adult and Youth

Still Exhibits, Perishables

Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2026

Lions Building

2 PM- 7 PM

Receiving

Adult Still Exhibits

Agriculture
Baked Foods
Floriculture
Homebrew & Wine
Table Settings

Youth Still Exhibits

Agriculture
Baked Foods
Floriculture
Table Settings

Feature Booth
Set- Up

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2026

Lions Building

7 AM -9 AM

Receiving

Adult Still Exhibits

Agriculture
Baked Foods
Floriculture
Homebrew & Wine
Table Settings

Youth Still Exhibits

Agriculture
Baked Foods
Floriculture
Table Settings

Monday, September 14, 2026 ♦ 10:00 am - 7:00 p.m.
Entry Pick-Up for Adult and Youth

Adult Rules and Judging Overview

Below is a list of rules that apply to all adult categories unless otherwise noted. Rules specific to each category will be noted in each category's section in the following pages.

All rules must be followed for entries to be accepted and judged in the Gold Country Fair. For questions on any entry rules, please email entries@goldcountryfair.com.

Adult Rules

1. Adult categories are open to exhibitors who are legal residents of El Dorado, Placer, Nevada, Sacramento, Sutter & Yuba counties.
2. All entries are to be displayed in the Lions Building.
3. Every possible care will be taken in handling work, but no responsibility is assumed by fair management or the Gold Country Fairgrounds.
4. All entries must be made, collected or produced by the exhibitor not more than one year prior to opening day of the Fair. Copied work will be disqualified.
5. Exhibitors must check carefully for receiving instructions and any other rules specific to their entry.
6. Entries cannot have been exhibited in any prior Gold Country Fair.
7. For amateurs only, unless otherwise specified.
8. Management reserves the right to withhold or reject any entries if they are deemed inappropriate or offensive.
9. If any of the above rules are not followed, works shall not be displayed.
10. Management has the right to change schedules and divisions at any point in time.

Definition of Terms

- Class - A group of items that are judged together
- Division - A group of classes with a similar theme
- Show/Category - A group of divisions that make up a category

Adult Judging

All Adult categories will be judged using the **American Judging System**. In the American judging system, each entry in a class is judged in comparison to other entries in the class. Awards are given for each class with the potential for no more than one first, one second and one third place per class.

A Best of Division award is given in each division. This is selected from all of the first-place class winners in that division.

A Best of Show award is given in each category (unless otherwise noted). This is selected from all the Best of Divisions in that category. The Best of Show award may or may not be awarded based on number of entries.

Awards

1. Placement of ribbons does not guarantee correct placing in judging. Only the official placing on the judging sheet constitutes the final placement.
2. Cash awards will be paid out within 60 days of the conclusion of the Gold Country Fair.

Adult Agriculture

Agriculture Rules

1. The quality desired in agriculture & horticultural product exhibits is the quality that brings the best financial return in the commercial market.
2. Entry or container must be labeled with exhibitor name, division, and class number.
3. Please transport your exhibit in your own container for any agricultural item smaller than a quarter, such as berries, cherry tomatoes, nuts etc. Exhibit will be transferred.

Egg Rules

1. All eggs are to be from the exhibitor's own birds.
2. Each entry consists of one-half dozen eggs (6), unless otherwise specified.
3. Please transport your WASHED eggs in a non-porous sanitary container. Put pointy ends down!
4. Eggs will be automatically disposed of after show unless otherwise requested.

Agriculture: Divisions 100 - 106

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Entry Pick-Up After the Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

Entry Fee – \$6 per entry

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Premium Awards Offered

- Best of Division - \$10
- Best of Show- \$25

Adult Agriculture

Agriculture Divisions

Division 100 Vegetables

Please provide 5 of each vegetable

Class

- 01 Beans
- 02 Peas
- 03 Tomatoes
- 04 Lettuce/Chard
- 05 Beets
- 06 Carrots
- 07 Potatoes
- 08 Garlic
- 09 Onions, Specify in description
- 10 Eggplant
- 11 Corn
- 12 Any other - Specify in description

Division 101 Fruit

Please provide 3 of each fruit

Class

- 01 Strawberries
- 02 Peaches
- 03 Nectarines
- 04 Plums
- 05 Apricots
- 06 Apples
- 07 Any other - Specify in description

Division 102 Berries

Please provide 1 basket

Class

- 01 Berries, any variety

Division 103 Herbs

Please provide 1 of each plant

Class

- 01 Basil (3)
- 02 Chives (10)
- 03 Dill (5 full stalks)
- 04 Marjoram (3)
- 05 Mint (3)
- 06 Oregano (3)
- 07 Parsley (3)
- 08 Sage (3)
- 09 Thyme (3)
- 10 Any other- Specify in description (3)

Division 104 Nuts

Please provide 1 basket

Class

- 01 Nuts, any variety

Division 105 Honey

Please provide (2) identical 8 oz jars

Class

- 01 Liquid Honey, any variety

Division 106 Eggs

Please provide 6 eggs

Class

- 01 White
- 02 Brown
- 03 Green
- 04 Any other - Specify in description

\$6 fee for each entry. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm**

Adult Agriculture Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm

OR Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Adult Fine Crafts

Fine Craft Rules

1. A label bearing the title, artist's name, division, and class number must be attached to the back or bottom of the work.
2. Kits or molds will be accepted in specified divisions only. All other divisions must represent the original artwork of the participant.
3. No individual entry shall exceed 24" x 36" in., exceed 30 lbs., or take up more than 4 square feet of floor space.
4. All artwork expected to hang must be wired. Do not use tape as it does not hold up for the duration of the exhibit. Any artwork deemed unsafe to hang will not be displayed.

Fine Crafts: Divisions 110-113

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

Entry Fee – \$6 per entry

Ribbon Awards Offered

- 1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only
- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
 - Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Premium Awards Offered

- Best of Division - \$10
- Best of Show- \$25

Adult Clothing and Textiles

Fine Crafts Divisions

Division 110

Jewelry

Class

01 Any - Specify in description

Division 111

Gourds

Class

01 Any - Specify in description

Division 112

Junk Yard/Farm Art/Upcycle

Class

01 Any - Specify in description

Division 113

Fine Crafts Misc.

Kits and/or molds accepted for Fine Crafts Misc.

Class

01 Models

02 Needlepoint

03 Macrame

04 Collections

05 Tie-Dye

06 Any other - Specify in description

\$6 fee for each entry. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Adult Fine Crafts Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm

OR Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Adult Clothing and Textiles

Clothing and Textile Rules

1. A label bearing your name, division, and class number must be attached to the entry.
2. A minimum of 3" top sleeve must be attached to each quilt for hanging purposes. Miniature quilts must have either sleeves or loops attached.

Clothing and Textiles: 120-123

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

Entry Fee – \$6 per entry

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Premium Awards Offered

- Best of Division - \$10
- Best of Show - \$25

Adult Clothing and Textiles

Clothing and Textiles Divisions

Division 120

Clothing: Knitted or Crocheted

Class

01 Hat

02 Scarf

03 Sweater - Any size

04 Any other - Specify in description

Division 121

Other: Knitted or Crocheted

Class

01 Afghan

02 Any other - Specify in description

Division 122

Sewn Items

Class

01 Any other - Specify in description

Division 123

Quilts

Class

01 Any other - Specify in description

Division 124

Embroidery

Class

01 Any other - Specify in description

\$6 fee for each entry. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Adult Clothing and Textile Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm

OR Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Adult Fine Arts

Fine Art Rules

1. A label bearing the title, artist's name, division, and class number must be attached to the back or bottom of the work.

Two Dimensional Rules

1. No individual entry shall exceed 24" x 36" in. or exceed 30 lbs.
2. All works must be on canvas or matted and ready to hang or wired for hanging. Any artwork deemed unsafe to hang will not be displayed. No frames allowed!

Three Dimensional Rules

1. No individual entry shall exceed 36" x 48" in. or exceed 50 lbs.

Fine Arts: Divisions 130-131

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building :

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

Entry Fee – \$6 per entry

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Premium Awards Offered

- Best of Division - \$10
- Best of Show - \$25

Adult Fine Arts

Fine Art Divisions

Division 130

Two-Dimensional Artwork

Digital designs must be printed to be displayed

Class

01 Water Color

02 Oil

03 Acrylic

04 Drawings (charcoal, graphite, ink, etc.) -
Specify in description

05 Printmaking (lithograph, etching, silk-screen,
wood cut etc.) - Specify in description

06 Digital design

07 Any other (pastel, gouache, tempera, mixed
media, etc.) - Specify in description

Division 131

Three-Dimensional Artwork

Class

01 Ceramics (must be finished pieces that have
been set and fired in a kiln)

02 Woodworking

03 Metalworking

04 Glass

05 Recycle/Junk

06 Any other - Specify in description

\$6 fee for each entry. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Adult Fine Arts Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm

OR Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Adult Floriculture

Plants and Flowers Rules

1. All entries must be grown by the exhibitor.

Table Setting Rules

1. Table must be set by exhibitor only.
2. Tables are to have a setting for one (1) person.
3. Setting must include dish, glassware, linens, napkin, utensils, and floral arrangement. Accessories are optional.
4. Stands and backdrops are acceptable as long as the entire table setting does not exceed 24" x 24".
5. Emphasis will be on design and originality.

Plants and Flowers: Divisions 140-142

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

Entry Fee – \$6 per entry

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Premium Awards Offered

- Best of Division - \$10
- Best of Show - \$25

Table Settings: Division 149

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Armory:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

Entry Fee – \$6 per entry

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Premium Awards Offered

- Best of Division - \$10
- Best of Show - \$25

Adult Floriculture

Plants & Flowers Divisions

Division 140 Potted Plants

Class

- 01 Cactus
- 02 Succulents
- 03 Dish Garden
- 04 Plants in an Unusual Container
- 05 Any other - Specify in description

Division 141 Floral Arrangements

No less than 12 stems per arrangement

Class

- 01 Fresh Arrangements
- 02 Any other - Specify in description

Table Setting Division

Division 149 Table Setting

Class

- 01 2025 Fair Theme Table Setting: Farm to Fair
- 02 Any other - Specify in description

\$6 fee for each entry. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Adult Floriculture and Table Setting Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026.**

Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm

OR Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Adult Baked Foods

Baked Food Rules

1. All entries must be prepared by the exhibitor in a home, not a commercial kitchen.
2. All entries must be delivered on a disposable plate or container and covered with cellophane wrap or its equal and be ready for display.
3. Please read all instructions for the number of baked goods needed for each division.
4. You must note on your online registration if any entries require refrigeration for proper display throughout the Gold Country Fair.
5. Any remaining baked goods not picked up during the designated entry pick-up will be disposed of.
6. All items are to be judged on taste and presentation.

Baked Foods: Division 150-155

Deadline for Entry Application:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Exhibit Judging:

Wednesday, September 9, 2025, 12:00 pm

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

Entry Fee – \$6 per entry

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Premium Awards Offered

- Best of Division - \$10
- Best of Show - \$25

Adult Baked Foods

Baked Food Divisions

Division 150 Breads

*Please provide 1/2 loaf for display and one slice for judging.
Please provide 6 biscuits/rolls for display and 1 for judging.*

Class

- 01 Banana Bread
- 02 Whole Wheat
- 03 White
- 04 Biscuits or Rolls
- 05 Sourdough
- 06 Any other - Specify in description

Division 151 Cakes

*Please provide 1/2 a cake for display and one slice for judging.
Please provide 3 cupcakes for display and 1 for judging.*

Class

- 01 Any Cake - Specify in description
- 02 Any Cupcake - Specify in description
- 03 2025 Fair Theme Cake or Cupcakes: Farm to Fair
- 04 Decorated Cake (Not to be edible, display only. Decorations should be completed on a foam mold)

Division 152 Confections

Class

- 01 Any Confection - Specify in description

Division 153 Cookies

Please provide 6 cookies for display and 1 for judging.

Class

- 01 Brownies
- 02 Chocolate Chip
- 03 Oatmeal
- 04 Peanut Butter
- 05 Any other - Specify in description

Division 154 Pies/Pastries

Please provide 1 8" pie in disposable container. Please provide 3 pastries for display and 1 for judging

Class

- 01 Apple Pie
- 02 Berry Pie
- 03 Lemon Pie
- 04 Cream Pies
- 05 Any other - Specify in description

Division 155 Gluten Free

Please see other divisions for counts based on type of baked good.

Class

- 01 Bread
- 02 Cake
- 03 Cookies
- 04 Any other- Specify in description

\$6 fee for each entry. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 8, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Adult Baked Foods Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm

OR Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Adult Preserved Foods

Preserved Food Rules

1. Canning and Preserved Entries: Must have been made by an exhibitor within one year of the opening date of the fair. Must be two jars of the same size and if the same batch, one for display and one for judging.
2. All dried products must be wrapped or sealed in clear plastic or sealed in clear jars.
3. Foods that require refrigeration cannot be entered.
4. Jars: A new, sterilized, clear (non-colored), regular or wide-mouthed, Mason-type (Ball, Kerr, etc.), threaded, home canning jar, sealed with a metal lid and ring band. Vinegar entries must be in a new sterilized glass container that is clear (non-colored). Sizes: For Fruits, Tomatoes, and Pickles: From one Pint to 1 Quart. For Jelly, Jam, and Soft Spreads: From 4 to 16 ounces. For Sauce, Chutney, Salsa, Vinegar and Relish: From 8 to 16 ounces.
5. Head Space: The following head space must be utilized for each product: 1/4" headspace: Jams, jellies, preserves, conserves, butter, marmalades, and curds 1/2" head space: Fruits, tomatoes, sauerkraut, pickles, relishes, chutneys, sauces, salsas
6. Jar Seal Requirements: Jars must be sealed with new, two-piece, vacuum seals, specifically made for canning jars. Seals must consist of metal screw ring band and metal lid. The color of the ring band and metal lids must match. Ring band must unscrew easily. Vinegar entries must be sealed with new sterilized corks, screw-band caps, plastic storage screw caps, wire swing-top lids, or 2-piece canning lids
7. Labels: Both jars must be labeled on their lids only. Use plain white labels without any decoration. Labels must not overlap onto the screw ring band of the jars (This includes any tape used to attach the label). Vinegar entry labels may be placed on side of bottle if a canning jar is not used. Labels must contain the following information: Title of Entry, Division/Class, Date of Preservation (Month/Day/Year), Canning method used
8. All Home Canning entries (including jam and jelly) must meet proper acid levels and be processed according to USDA standards using only one of the three following canning methods listed below:
 - 01 Method A. Water Bath Method: Acid foods (example: most fruits, excluding figs). Tomatoes, figs and some fruits are considered borderline low-acid foods. These foods should be made more acid by adding lemon juice, citric acid or vinegar as appropriate for the type of food.
 - 02 Method B. Pressure Canner Method: Usually used for low acid foods but can also be used to process acid foods. Low acid foods processed using the pressure canner method are not eligible for competition at the California State Fair.
 - 03 Method C. Steam Canner Method: Processing times are the same for both water bath and steam canning. Products requiring a water bath processing time longer than 45 minutes cannot be safely processed in a steam canner. This restriction only applies to a few products, primarily whole or halved tomatoes packed without added liquid, or liquid-packed tomatoes processed at elevations above 1000 feet.
9. No paraffin seals. All canning must be in sealed glass jars with rings in place.
10. Vegetables must be canned under pressure. Low acid fruits such as figs, should be made more acidic by adding lemon juice as directed in the University of California Agricultural Extension Service leaflet, "Home Canning of Fruits." Tomatoes and fruit, not including their juices, must be processed in a boiling water bath.

Adult Preserved Foods

Preserved Foods: Division 160-164

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Fee – \$6 per entry

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am
Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only
Best of Division at Judge's discretion
Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Exhibit Judging:

Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at 10:00 am

Premium Awards Offered

- Best of Division - \$10
- Best of Show - \$25

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions

Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

Adult Preserved Foods

Preserved Food Divisions

Division 160 Canned Foods

Class

- 01 Any Fruit - Specify in description
- 02 Any Vegetable - Specify in description
- 03 Any other - Specify in description

Division 161 Dried Foods

*Indicate method of drying on entry form.
Provide in zip lock bag or plated display.*

Class

- 01 Fruit
- 02 Vegetables
- 03 Meat
- 04 Any other - Specify in description

Division 162 Jams and Jellies

Class

- 01 Any Jam - Specify in description
- 02 Any Jelly - Specify in description
- 03 Mandarin Jam or Jelly

Division 163 Miscellaneous Preserved Foods

Class

- 01 Sauce/ Syrup
- 02 Juices
- 03 Pickled Food
- 04 Any other - Specify in description

Division 164 Pickled Vegetables

Class

- 01 Beets
- 02 Pickles
- 03 Peppers
- 04 Any other - Specify in description

\$6 fee for each entry. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Adult Preserved Food Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm

OR Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am &

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm OR

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Adult Homebrew and Wine

Homebrew and Wine Rules

1. Exhibitor must be 21 years of age or older.
2. Accurate and legibly written stickers, including exhibitor's name, entry division and class number, must be attached to entry on bottom of bottles only.
3. Open bottles will be disposed of. Any exhibits not claimed within the release time will be discarded.
4. Amateur entries may not be produced in a commercial facility.
5. No more than 5 entries per person.

Homebrew Specific Rules

1. Entries for Homebrew shall consist of three (3) 12-ounce bottles. One bottle will be for display only, two bottles will be opened for judging.
2. Bottles with identifiable commercial labels will be disqualified. Caps with commercial markings must be blacked out.
3. All entries must include type of herbs, fruit, etc. used in homebrew in the description on the entry form.

Wine Specific Rules

1. Exhibitor must bring two 750 ml. cork or screw finished bottles. One bottle will be for display only, one bottle will be opened for judging.
2. Wine must be personally produced by the exhibitor. Grapes do not have to be grown by exhibitor.
3. All wine entries will be judged for taste and bottle label design. In judging, consideration for label design will be given to creativity, marketability, aesthetic appearance, and appropriateness to product. Label must be presented on a wine bottle.

Homebrew and Wine: Divisions 170-173

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am
Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Exhibit Judging:

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 2 pm

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building

:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

Entry Fee – \$6 per entry

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

Best of Division at Judge's discretion
Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Premium Awards Offered

- Best of Division - \$10
- Best of Show - \$25

Adult Homebrew and Wine

Homebrew & Wine Divisions

Division 170

Amateur Homebrew

Must specify any fruits or herbs used in production on label

Class

01 Lager

02 Ale

03 Porter/Stout

04 Wheat Beer

05 Fruit/Herb

06 Sours

07 Any other - Specify in description

Division 171

Commercial Homebrew

Must specify any fruits or herbs used in production on label

Class

01 Lager

02 Ale

03 Porter/Stout

04 Wheat Beer

05 Fruit/Herb

06 Sours

07 Any other - Specify in description

Division 172

Amateur Wine

Class

01 Red Wine

02 White Wine

03 Blush Wine

04 Dessert Wine

05 Sparkling Wine

06 Any other - Specify in description

Division 173

Commercial Wine

Class

01 Red Wine

02 White Wine

03 Blush Wine

04 Dessert Wine

05 Sparkling Wine

06 Any other - Specify in description

Adult Photography

Photography Rules

- a. A label bearing the photographer's name, division and class number must be attached to the back or bottom of the work.
- b. Entries must be the original work of the exhibitor with the exception of processing and mounting materials.
- c. Amateur photographers only. Amateur is defined as someone whose main source of income does not come from photography.
- d. Any entry can be a color or black and white photograph. The B&W Film class is specifically for photographs developed using traditional film methods with no digital interference.
- e. Exhibitors are limited to 5 print entries total.
- f. Size of print must be at least 5" x 7. The print, including the mat, must not weigh more than 5 lbs. or exceed 18" x 24".
- g. All prints must be matted or canvas. No glass frames are allowed!
- h. Prints must be ready for display at time of drop-off. To be display ready you must either attach a metal wire to your print or attach a plastic sawtooth adhesive picture hanger (to prints 3 lbs. or less). All prints not ready for display at time of receiving will not be accepted.
- i. Prints will be judged on the following criteria:
 - i. Exposure/Focus
 - ii. Composition
 - iii. Lighting
 - iv. Image Processing
 - v. Image Creativity
 - vi. Emotion/Expression (Portraits Only)

Photography: Division 180

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

Entry Fee – \$6 per entry

Ribbon Awards Offered

- 1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only
- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
 - Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Premium Awards Offered

- Best of Division - \$10
- Best of Show - \$25

Adult Photography

Photography Divisions

Division 180 Photography

Class

01 Portrait

02 Animals

03 Landscape

04 Cityscape

05 Still Life

06 Street Photography

07 Gold Country Fair

08 Film

\$6 fee for each entry. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Adult Photography Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Adult Special Education

We encourage ALL adults to submit their work in the age specific category they belong to. However, if anyone with a disability would like to submit their entry under the Special Education Department as well, the rules and instructions are below.

Department Judging

All divisions and categories in the Special Education Department will be judged using the Danish judging system. In the Danish judging system, each entry in a class is judged according to how well it meets a product standard rather than how it compares with other exhibits.

Special Education Limits

1. This department is open to those of any age, who are currently enrolled in Special Education classes, are residents of any care facility, or who have a disability and are legal residents of El Dorado, Placer, Nevada, Sacramento, Sutter, and Yuba counties.
2. Paintings, drawings, and photographs must be adequately matted and ready for display.
3. A label bearing the title and name of the exhibitor must be attached to the back or bottom of the exhibit.

Special Education: Division 190

Deadline for Entry Application:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Adult Special Education

Special Education Divisions

Division 190 Special Education

Class

01 Fine Arts & Crafts

02 Clothing & Textile

03 Photography

04 Any Other - Specify in description

No fee for each entry. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Adult Special Education Divisions Entry

Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Youth Rules Overview

Youth and Teen Rules

1. Restricted to youth ages 5 to 18 years of age and/or 4-H Member to age 19.
2. Youth and Teen categories are open to exhibitors who are legal residents of El Dorado, Placer, Nevada, Sacramento, Sutter & Yuba counties.
3. All entries to be displayed in Lions Building.
4. Every possible care will be taken in handling work, but no responsibility is assumed by the fair management or at the Gold Country Fairgrounds.
5. All entries must be made, collected or produced by the exhibitor not more than one year prior to opening day of the Fair. Copied work will be disqualified.
6. Exhibitors must check carefully for receiving instructions and any other rules specific to their entry.
7. Entries cannot have been exhibited in any prior Gold Country Fair.
8. State and local rules apply to all entries in corresponding Adult Departments and shall be used unless otherwise specified in the Youth Department.
9. Management reserves the right to withhold or reject any entries if they are deemed inappropriate or offensive.
10. If any of the above rules are not followed, works shall not be displayed.
11. Management has the right to change schedules and divisions at any point in time.

Definition of Terms

- Class - A group of items that are judged together
- Division - A group of classes with a similar theme
- Show/Category - A group of divisions that make up a category

Youth Judging Overview

Youth Judging

The **Danish Judging System** will be used in all divisions not divided by age groups and in divisions with age groups 5-9 years old and 10-14 years old. The Danish judging system is based upon standards of quality for each type of product. In this system each exhibit is judged according to how well it meets that standard rather than how it compares with other exhibits.

The following guidelines shall be used by the judge(s):

| Quality: | Score: |
|----------------------|----------|
| 1st Place - Superior | 90-100 % |
| 2nd Place - Good | 80-89 % |
| 3rd Place - Average | 70-79 % |

A Best of Division award is given in each division. This is selected from all of the first-place class winners in that division.

A Best of Show award is given in each category (unless otherwise noted). This is selected from all of the Best of Divisions in that category. The Best of Show award may or may not be awarded based on number of entries.

Awards

1. Placement of ribbons does not guarantee correct placing in judging. Only the official placing on the judging sheet constitutes the final placement.

Youth Agriculture

Agriculture Rules

1. The quality desired in agriculture & horticultural product exhibits is the quality that brings the best financial return in the commercial market.
2. Entry or container must be labeled with exhibitor name, division, and class number.
3. Please transport in your own container for any agricultural item smaller than a quarter, such as berries, cherry tomatoes, nuts etc. Exhibit will be transferred.

Egg Rules

1. All eggs are to be from exhibitor's own birds.
2. Each entry consists of one-half (6) dozen eggs, unless otherwise specified.
3. Please transport your WASHED eggs in a non-porous sanitary container. Put pointy ends down!

Agriculture: Divisions 200 - 206

Deadline for Entry Application:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Youth Agriculture

Agriculture Divisions

Division 200 Vegetables

Please provide 5 of each vegetable

Class

- 01 Beans
- 02 Peas
- 03 Tomatoes
- 04 Lettuce/Chard
- 05 Beets
- 06 Carrots
- 07 Potatoes
- 08 Garlic
- 09 Onions, Specify in description
- 10 Eggplant
- 11 Corn
- 12 Any other - Specify in description

Division 201 Fruit

Please provide 3 of each fruit

Class

- 01 Strawberries
- 02 Peaches
- 03 Nectarines
- 04 Plums
- 05 Apricots
- 06 Apples
- 07 Any other - Specify in description

Division 202 Berries

Please provide 1 basket

Class

- 01 Berries, any variety

Division 203 Herbs

Please provide 1 of each plant

Class

- 01 Basil (3)
- 02 Chives (10)
- 03 Dill (5 full stalks)
- 04 Marjoram (3)
- 05 Mint (3)
- 06 Oregano (3)
- 07 Parsley (3)
- 08 Sage (3)
- 09 Thyme (3)
- 10 Any other- Specify in description (3)

Division 204 Nuts

Please provide 1 basket

Class

- 01 Nuts, any variety

Division 205 Honey

Please provide (2) identical 8 oz jars

Class

- 01 Liquid Honey, any variety

Division 206 Eggs

Please provide 6 eggs

Class

- 01 White
- 02 Brown
- 03 Green
- 04 Any other - Specify in description

No Entry Fee. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Youth Agriculture Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm

OR Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Youth Fine Arts & Crafts

Fine Arts and Crafts Rules

1. A label bearing the title, artist's name, division, and class number must be attached to the back or bottom of the work.
2. Kits or molds will be accepted in specified divisions only. All other divisions must represent original artwork of the participant.
3. No individual entry shall exceed 24" x 36" in., exceed 30 lbs., or take up more than 4 square feet of floor space.
4. All works must be on canvas or matted and ready to hang or wired for hanging. Any artwork deemed unsafe to hang will not be displayed. No frames allowed!

Age Groups

1. The Fine Art and Fine Crafts divisions are divided into three age groups.

Art

Division 210 5-9 years old
Division 211 10-14 years old
Division 212 15-18 years old

Crafts

Division 214 5-9 years old
Division 215 10-14 years old
Division 216 15-18 years old

Fine Arts & Crafts: Divisions 210-217

Deadline for Entry Application:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

- 1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only
- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
 - Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Youth Fine Arts & Crafts

Fine Art and Crafts Divisions

Division 210-212 Fine Art

Digital designs must be printed to be displayed

Age Groups

Division 210 5-9 years old

Division 211 10-14 years old

Division 212 15-18 years old

Classes for Divisions 210-212

01 Acrylic

02 Drawing: charcoal, pencil, pen & ink,
felt pen or colored pencils

03 Oil

04 Watercolor

05 Sculpture, Specify medium in description

06 Ceramics

07 Digital design

08 Any other - Specify in description

Division 214-216 Fine Crafts

Age Groups

Division 214 5-9 years old

Division 215 10-14 years old

Division 216 15-18 years old

Classes for Divisions 214-216

01 Jewelry

02 Collections

03 Tie Dye Items

04 Puzzle

05 Any other - Specify in description

Division 217

Lego & Knex

Class

01 2026 Fair Theme: Farm to Fair

02 Cars/Trucks

03 Made by a kit

04 Any other - Specify in description

No Entry Fee. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Youth Arts and Crafts Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - **Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &**

Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Youth Clothing & Textiles

Clothing and Textiles Rules

1. A label bearing your name, division and class number must be attached to the entry.
2. A minimum 3” top sleeve must be attached to each quilt for hanging purposes. Miniature quilts must have either sleeves or loops attached.

Clothing & Textiles: Divisions 220-221

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, August 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions

Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge’s discretion
- Best of Show at Judge’s discretion

Youth Clothing & Textiles

Clothing and Textile Divisions

Division 220

Clothing

Class

01 Clothing - Specify in description
(includes crochet, knitting, embroidery, etc.)

02 Mask

Division 221

Textiles

Class

01 Non-Clothing - Specify in description
(includes crochet, knitting, embroidery, etc.)

No Entry Fee. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Youth Clothing and Textiles Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Youth Floriculture

Plants and Flowers Rules

1. All entries must be grown by the exhibitor.

Table Setting Rules

1. Table must be set by exhibitor only.
2. Tables are to have a setting for one (1) person.
3. Setting must include dish, glassware, linens, napkin, utensils, and floral arrangement. Accessories are optional.
4. Stands and backdrops are acceptable as long as the entire table setting does not exceed 24" x 24".
5. Emphasis will be on design and originality.

Plants and Flowers: Divisions 230-231

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Table Settings: Division 239

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Youth Floriculture

Floriculture Divisions

Division 230 Potted Plants

Class

- 01 Cactus
- 02 Succulents
- 03 Dish Garden
- 04 Plants in an Unusual Container
- 05 Any other - Specify in description

Division 231 Flowers

For arrangements, no less than 12 stems

Class

- 01 Fresh Arrangements
- 02 Tallest Sunflower
- 03 Any other - Specify in description

Table Setting Division

Division 239 Table Setting

Class

- 01 2025 Fair Theme Table Setting: *Farm to Fair*
- 02 Any other - Specify in description

No Entry Fee. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Youth Floriculture and Table Setting Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm OR

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Youth Baked Foods

Baked Foods Rules

1. All entries must be prepared by the exhibitor in a home, not a commercial kitchen.
2. All entries must be delivered on a disposable plate or container and covered with cellophane wrap or its equal and be ready for display.
3. Please read all instructions for number of baked goods needed for each division.
4. You must note on your entry form or your online registration if any entries require refrigeration for proper display throughout the Gold Country Fair.
5. Any remaining baked goods not picked up during the designated entry pick-up will be disposed of.
6. All items are to be judged on taste and presentation.

Age Groups

Breads, Cakes, and Cookie divisions are divided into three age groups. All ages can enter the Misc. Baked Foods division.

Breads

Division 240 5-9 years old
Division 241 10-14 years old
Division 242 15-18 years old

Cakes

Division 243 5-9 years old
Division 244 10-14 years old
Division 245 15-18 years old

Cookie

Division 246 5-9 years old
Division 247 10-14 years old
Division 248 15-18 years old

Baked Foods: Divisions 240-249

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

- 1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only
- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
 - Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Youth Baked Foods

Baked Food Divisions

Division 240-242 Breads

Age Groups

Division 240 5-9 years old

Division 241 10-14 years old

Division 242 15-18 years old

*Please provide 1/2 loaf for display and one slice for judging.
Please provide 6 biscuits/rolls for display and 1 for judging.*

Class

01 Banana Bread

02 Whole Wheat

03 White

04 Biscuits or Rolls

05 Sourdough

06 Any other - Specify in description

Division 243-245 Cakes

Age Groups

Division 243 5-9 years old

Division 244 10-14 years old

Division 245 15-18 years old

*Please provide 1/2 a cake for display and one slice for judging.
Please provide 3 cupcakes for display and 1 for judging.*

Class

01 Any Cake - Specify in description

02 Any Cupcake - Specify in description

03 2025 Fair Theme Cake or Cupcakes: Farm to Fair

04 Decorated Cake (Not to be edible, display only. Decorations should be completed on a foam mold)

Division 246-248 Cookies

Age Groups

Division 246 5-9 years old

Division 247 10-14 years old

Division 248 15-18 years old

Please provide 6 cookies for display and 1 for judging.

Class

01 Brownies

02 Chocolate Chip

03 Oatmeal

04 Peanut Butter

05 Any Other - Specify in description

Division 249 Misc. Baked Foods - All Ages

Please provide 1 8" pie in disposable container. Please provide 3 pastries for display and 1 for judging.

Class

01 Any Pie - Specify in description

02 Any Confection - Specify in description

03 Any Gluten Free - Specify in description

04 Any Other - Specify in description

No Entry Fee. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Youth Baked Foods Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm OR

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Youth Preserved Foods

Preserved Food Rules

11. Canning and Preserved Entries: Must have been made by an exhibitor within one year of the opening date of the fair. Must be two jars of the same size and if the same batch, one for display and one for judging.
12. All dried products must be wrapped or sealed in clear plastic or sealed in clear jars.
13. Foods that require refrigeration cannot be entered.
14. Jars: A new, sterilized, clear (non-colored), regular or wide-mouthed, Mason-type (Ball, Kerr, etc.), threaded, home canning jar, sealed with a metal lid and ring band. Vinegar entries must be in a new sterilized glass container that is clear (non-colored). Sizes: For Fruits, Tomatoes, and Pickles: From one Pint to 1 Quart. For Jelly, Jam, and Soft Spreads: From 4 to 16 ounces. For Sauce, Chutney, Salsa, Vinegar and Relish: From 8 to 16 ounces.
15. Head Space: The following head space must be utilized for each product: 1/4" headspace: Jams, jellies, preserves, conserves, butter, marmalades, and curds 1/2" head space: Fruits, tomatoes, sauerkraut, pickles, relishes, chutneys, sauces, salsas
16. Jar Seal Requirements: Jars must be sealed with new, two-piece, vacuum seals, specifically made for canning jars. Seals must consist of metal screw ring band and metal lid. The color of the ring band and metal lids must match. Ring band must unscrew easily. Vinegar entries must be sealed with new sterilized corks, screw-band caps, plastic storage screw caps, wire swing-top lids, or 2-piece canning lids
17. Labels: Both jars must be labeled on their lids only. Use plain white labels without any decoration. Labels must not overlap onto the screw ring band of the jars (This includes any tape used to attach the label). Vinegar entry labels may be placed on side of bottle if a canning jar is not used. Labels must contain the following information: Title of Entry, Division/Class, Date of Preservation (Month/Day/Year), Canning method used
18. All Home Canning entries (including jam and jelly) must meet proper acid levels and be processed according to USDA standards using only one of the three following canning methods listed below:
 - 01 Method A. Water Bath Method: Acid foods (example: most fruits, excluding figs). Tomatoes, figs and some fruits are considered borderline low-acid foods. These foods should be made more acid by adding lemon juice, citric acid or vinegar as appropriate for the type of food.
 - 02 Method B. Pressure Canner Method: Usually used for low acid foods but can also be used to process acid foods. Low acid foods processed using the pressure canner method are not eligible for competition at the California State Fair.
 - 03 Method C. Steam Canner Method: Processing times are the same for both water bath and steam canning. Products requiring a water bath processing time longer than 45 minutes cannot be safely processed in a steam canner. This restriction only applies to a few products, primarily whole or halved tomatoes packed without added liquid, or liquid-packed tomatoes processed at elevations above 1000 feet.
19. No paraffin seals. All canning must be in sealed glass jars with rings in place.
20. Vegetables must be canned under pressure. Low acid fruits such as figs, should be made more acidic by adding lemon juice as directed in the University of California Agricultural Extension Service leaflet, "Home Canning of Fruits." Tomatoes and fruit, not including their juices, must be processed in a boiling water bath.

Youth Preserved Foods

Preserved Foods: Divisions 260-263

Deadline for Entry:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am
Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Youth Preserved Foods

Preserved Food Divisions

Division 260 Canned Foods

Class

- 01 Any Fruit - Specify in description
- 02 Any Vegetable - Specify in description
- 03 Any other - Specify in description

Division 261 Dried Foods

*Indicate method of drying on entry form.
Provide in zip lock bag or plated display.*

Class

- 01 Any Fruit - Specify in description
- 02 Any Vegetable - Specify in description
- 03 Any other - Specify in description

Division 262 Jams and Jellies

Class

- 01 Any Jam - Specify in description
- 02 Any Jelly - Specify in description
- 03 Mandarin Jam or Jelly

Division 263

Miscellaneous Preserved Food

Class

- 01 Pickled Fruit or Vegetable
- 02 Any other - Specify in description

No Entry Fee. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Youth Preserved Foods Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**
Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm
OR Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am &
Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm OR
Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Youth Photography

Photography Rules

1. A label bearing the photographer's name, division and class number must be attached to the back or bottom of the work.
2. Entries must be the original work of the exhibitor with the exception of processing and mounting materials.
3. Any entry can be a color or black and white photograph. The B&W Film class is specifically for photographs developed using traditional film methods with no digital interference.
4. Exhibitors are limited to 10 print entries total.
5. Size of print must be at least 5" x 7. The print, including the mat, must not weigh more than 5 lbs. or exceed 18" x 24".
6. All prints must be matted. No canvas or frames are allowed!
7. Prints must be ready for display at time of drop-off. To be display ready you must either attach a medal wire to your print/frame or attach a plastic sawtooth adhesive picture hanger (to print 3 lbs. or less). All prints not ready for display at time of receiving will not be accepted. For step-by-step instructions on how to prepare your print for display visit placercountyfair.org/photo-display.
8. Prints will be judged on the following criteria:
 - Exposure/Focus
 - Image Processing
 - Composition
 - Image Creativity
 - Lighting
 - Emotion/Expression (Portraits Only)

Age Groups

The Photography division is divided into three age groups.

Photography

Division 270 5-9 years old

Division 271 10-14 years old

Division 272 15-18 years old

Photography: Divisions 270

Deadline for Entry Application:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Youth Photography

Photography Divisions

Divisions 270 Photography

Age Groups

Division 270 5-9 years old

Division 271 10-14 years old

Division 272 15-18 years old

Class

01 Portraits

02 Animals

03 Landscape

04 Cityscape

05 Still Life

06 Street Photography

07 Gold Country Fair

08 B&W Film

09 Poultry Animal

No Entry Fee. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Youth Photography Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Youth School Projects

School Project Rules

1. Projects must be made in school under the supervision of a teacher, home school, or 4-H/FFA program.
2. The class for Individual Projects is meant for one individual entering a school project. The class for Group Projects is meant for multiple persons turning in the same group project.
3. The class for 4-H/FFA Projects is only allowed to be entered by 4-H/FFA members.

School Age Groups

The School Projects division is divided into four school age groups.

School Projects

Division 280 2nd Grade and Under

Division 281 3rd-5th Grade

Division 282 6th-8th Grade

Division 283 9th-12th Grade

School Projects: Divisions 280-285

Deadline for Entry Application:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions

Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Youth School Projects

School Project Divisions

Divisions 280-283 School Projects

Age Groups

Division 280 2nd Grade and Under

Division 281 3rd-5th Grade

Division 282 6th-8th Grade

Division 283 9th-12th Grade

Classes for Divisions 280-283

01 Individual Project

02 Group Project

03 4-H/FFA Project

04 Any other - Specify in description

Division 284 Language Arts & Creative Writing

Class

01 Poems

02 Short Story

03 Any other - Specify in description

Division 285 California Missions

Class

01 Models

No Entry Fee. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Youth School Projects Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Youth Technology

Technology Limits

1. A label bearing the photographer's name, division and class number must be attached to the back or bottom of the work.
2. Projects made from kits are not eligible. Component parts should be made by the exhibitor whenever possible.
3. No exhibitor may enter more than one article made from the same pattern.
4. Power Mechanics classes include rebuilt motors and tractors, engines, engine cut-away. Each exhibit must be accompanied by before/after photos/storyboard.
5. Projects must be completed and operational upon receiving. No work, additions or embellishments can be done once the project is received.

Technology: Divisions 290-292

Deadline for Entry Application:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11
am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion
- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Youth Technology

Technology Divisions

Division 290 Small Tech Projects

Class

- 01 Metal Fabrication - (i.e. hay hooks)
- 02 Wood Technology - (i.e. bookends)
- 03 Power Mechanics - (i.e. chainsaws)

Division 291 Large Tech Projects

Class

- 01 Metal Fabrication - (i.e. grooming chutes)
- 02 Wood Technology - (i.e. beds)
- 03 Power Mechanics - (i.e. tractors)

Division 292 Miscellaneous Tech Projects

Digital designs must be printed to be displayed

Class

- 01 Electricity/Electronics
- 02 Pyrography
- 03 Any other - Specify in description

No Entry Fee. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Youth Agriculture and Horticulture Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Youth Technology

We encourage ALL youth and teens to submit their work in the age specific category they belong to. However, if anyone with a disability would like to submit their entry under the Special Education Department as well, the rules and instructions are below.

Department Judging

All divisions and categories in the Special Education Department will be judged using the Danish judging system. In the Danish judging system, each entry in a class is judged according to how well it meets a product standard rather than how it compares with other exhibits.

Special Education Limits

1. This department is open to those, of any age, who are currently enrolled in Special Education classes, are residents of any care facility, or who have a disability and are legal residents of El Dorado, Placer, Nevada, Sacramento, Sutter, and Yuba counties.
2. Paintings, drawings, and photographs must be adequately framed and ready for display.
3. A label bearing the title and name of the exhibitor must be attached to the back or bottom of the exhibit.

Special Education: Divisions 191

Deadline for Entry Application:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions

Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Show at Judge's discretion

Youth Technology

Special Education Divisions

Division 191 Special Education

Class

01 Fine Arts & Crafts

02 Clothing & Textile

03 Photography

04 Any other - Specify in description

No Entry Fee. All entries to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Youth Special Education Divisions

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entry Drop-Off - Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Feature Booths

Feature Booth Limits

1. Entries are limited to Placer County organizations. Due to space restrictions Feature Exhibits Booths will be available on a first come, first serve basis.
2. Divisions are limited to one entry by a club, chapter, or organization.
3. Space for each exhibit will be 10' x 10'.
4. Booths must be designed, constructed, and installed by organization members only.
5. Exhibits must be maintained for the duration of the fair.
6. Booths are subject to fire inspector's approval.
7. Exhibits must be completed by noon on **Wednesday, September 9, 2026**. There will be no exceptions.
8. Entries are limited to the first ten (10) entries.

Scorecard for Judging Booths

| | |
|--|------|
| Effective Title - short, personal, active verb | 10% |
| Suitable Subject - timely, personal | 10% |
| Attracts Attention - stopping power | 20% |
| Holds Interest - encourages study | 10% |
| Conveys Message - accomplishes purpose | 30% |
| General Appearance - simple, balanced, orderly | 10% |
| Workmanship - neat, well-constructed | 10% |
| Total | 100% |

Notes

The feature exhibit booth provides members an opportunity to acquaint the public with a specific focus of their club or chapter. The booth can show what they learned, the activities in which they have participated in, or contributions of their organization to the community.

Feature Booths

Feature Booths: Divisions 195-197

Entries Close:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Set-Up Times:

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 8-11 am

Exhibits Released:

Monday, September 14, 10:00 am - 7:00 p.m.

No Entry Fee!

Ribbon Awards Offered

1st, 2nd & 3rd Ribbons Only

- Best of Division at Judge's discretion

Feature Booth Divisions

Division 195

FFA Chapters

Class

01 Agriculture theme and/or 2026 Fair theme: Farm to Fair

Division 196

Placer County 4-H

Class

01 Agriculture theme and/or 2026 Fair theme: Farm to Fair

Division 197

Other Organized Group

Class

01 Group and/or 2026 Fair theme: Farm to Fair

All exhibits to be picked up on **Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm.**

Feature Booths

Entry Deadline - **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Entries Set Up - Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2-7 pm OR

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7-9 am

Ag Mechanics Auction

Ag Mechanics Auction: Division 301

Deadline for Entry Application:

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Entry Drop-Off at Lions Building:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 2-7 pm &
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 8-11 am

Entry Pick-Up After Fair at Lions Building:

Monday, September 14, 10 am- 7 pm

(For entries that did not qualify for auction)

Entry Fee: \$15

Limits:

- One entry per exhibitor. Placer County FFA members only.
- Exhibitors must be enrolled in a high school agriculture mechanics/technology pathway the prior year to the fair.
- Ag Mechanics Auction projects must have an agriculture, western, outdoor, and/or recreation themes to be eligible. Eligibility will be determined by the exhibitor's instructor and fair management.
- No group projects are allowed.
- Only first and second-place projects will be considered for the live Ag Mechanics Auction.
- Eight (8) projects will be selected to sell in the live Ag Mechanics Auction, to take place prior to the Junior Livestock Auction.
- Third place projects that are unsafe or deemed unsellable will not sell in the live auction.
- Exhibitors must suggest a minimum for their project. Minimum bids must be declared to fair staff upon entry.

- To be eligible to sell, projects must compete in the Ag Mechanics contest. Instructors will validate eligibility.
- Auction commission to be determined by Fair Management will be charged to the seller to promote and finance the sale.
- Projects must be completed and operational upon receiving. No work, additions, or embellishments can be done once the project is received.
- No sponsor advertising allowed.
- No private treaty sales allowed.
- Exhibitor must be present at the live auction and at the time of sale.
- Failure to follow limits may result in disqualification and non-sale.
- Entries selected to participate in the auction will not count against the exhibitor's limit of one market entry.
- Declarations must be made to the Livestock Office, within one hour after judging has concluded. Items that are not declared will not be placed in the sale order.

Division 301

Ag Mechanics Auction

Class

| | |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 01 | <u>1st year student level</u> |
| 02 | <u>2nd year student level</u> |
| 03 | <u>3rd year student level</u> |
| 04 | <u>4th year student level</u> |