

**GENERAL RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS
CREATIVE ARTS/SPECIAL EVENTS DEPARTMENT
STATE FAIR OF TEXAS**

1. All entries and awards in this department shall be subject to the rules and instructions published in this handbook.
2. Rules, instructions and entry information concerning contests held during the fair in the Creative Arts Department are listed under their headings in the back of this book.
- *3. Each person desiring to exhibit articles in the Creative Arts Department **must first register their entries** by mail using the form included in the back of this book. **Closing date for registration is July 31, 2009.** We will confirm all registrations by mail.
4. An entry blank is included in the back of this book. Entry blanks may be duplicated. Entry blanks must be received before the closing date. All entries must be typed or printed. All entry forms must include the following:
 - A. Name of exhibitor.
 - B. Complete mailing address including route number, box number, street number, city, state, zip code, and daytime telephone number.
 - C. Department letter.
 - D. Class number.
 - E. Description of article.
 - F. Entry fee applicable to the article.
 - G. Payment for all entry fees.

Entries will not be accepted unless this information is given. Entries which have been erroneously entered may be transferred to their proper class prior to judging at the discretion of the Director and the Department Manager. Exhibitors are responsible for their own errors and those of their agents in filling out entry blanks.

- *5. Registered entries and our registration confirmation must be brought to the Creative Arts Building on **August 14, 15, or 16, 2009 between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.** Only registered participants will be admitted. **There is no process for late registration.** Each department will have a table set up to receive entries. **No registered entries will be accepted after 5:00 pm on August 16, 2009.**
 6. All articles for competition must be made by one individual, and entries cannot be accepted from two or more persons, nor from groups or organizations, unless otherwise specified.
 7. The Receiving Committee will be in charge of entries and reserves the right to accept or reject entries, depending on condition and suitability for exhibit.
- *PLEASE READ CAREFULLY. RULES STRICTLY ENFORCED!**

Articles not classified in the HANDBOOK will not be accepted for competition. Articles accepted for exhibit only will be subject to space available at the discretion of the Director of Creative Arts/Special Events. In order to make final judging less arduous and more exact, a qualified panel may prejudice a department classification prior to the finals.

8. **Entries mailed in** must be shipped in time to be received by the Creative Arts Department before 5:00 pm on July 31, 2009. Packages should be sent prepaid to our address on page 1.
9. Entries received by priority mail, UPS, parcel post or other will be returned **priority mail collect** at the close of the fair. No postage, money order, check or cash will be accepted from exhibitors for return of packages. It usually requires **three weeks** to prepare shipments after the fair closes. **Except for photographs**, entries received in person will be returned in person only, unless the exhibitor has requested in writing that their entry be returned COD and has provided packaging. Postage for photographs must be prepaid or they become the property of the State Fair of Texas.
10. All persons are invited to enter exhibits for competition and awards in any department or contest. Children and teenagers are invited to enter open classes or special sections according to their age. Age designations for entries shall be consistent throughout all departments and contests and unless otherwise stated, are as follows:
 - Children - through eleven years of age
 - Junior - twelve through seventeen years of age
 - Adult - eighteen years of age and over
 - Honorary- seventy years of age and over or persons in rest homes or hospitals
11. Articles which have been **displayed** at any previous exhibition of the State Fair of Texas will not be accepted a second time.
- *12. **All winning exhibits must remain on display for the entire period of the Fair.**
- *13. Judges will not award a ribbon to any unworthy exhibit, whether there is competition or not. There can be no ties. An exhibit will be judged on its individual merit and will place as the judges deem fitting. **Unless worthy, no First, Second, Third and Honorable Mention awards will be given.**
- *14. **Only First, Second, Third and Honorable Mention entries will be exhibited during the Fair.** Entries from non-metroplex exhibitors which are not awarded a ribbon may be stored and returned after the Fair.
- *15. After judging, exhibitors will be notified by mail as to the status of their entry. **Local metroplex entries that were not awarded a ribbon must be picked up on September 9, Wednesday-only, hours 12 noon to 5 pm, Thursday, September 10, or Friday, September 11, 2009, hours from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.** Judging notifications will be mailed about September 4, 2009.

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- *16. Exhibitors whose entries have been awarded a ribbon must pick them up on Wednesday-12-noon to 7 pm October 21, Thursday, October 22 or Friday, October 23. Hours are 9:00 am to 7:00 pm on Thursday and Friday. **ANY ENTRIES NOT PICKED UP BY 7 pm ON FRIDAY OCTOBER 23, 2009 WILL INCUR A \$10.00 LATE CHARGE PER ITEM.** This rule will be strictly enforced and is necessary because this department does not have storage area or security personnel after October 23rd and the exhibit hall becomes rental property of the City of Dallas. Food items not picked up within (30) thirty days will be donated to local charity.
17. Entry fee requirements are listed under each department or contest. No entry fee is required from **honorary** exhibitors, i.e. those over the age of seventy or those in hospitals or nursing homes. Entry fees in full must accompany entry form. **Do not send cash. Entry fees will not be refunded or transferred,** however, a class number may be changed within a department at the time the entry is brought in to us. All returned or insufficient funds checks will be subject to a \$35.00 fee.
18. Judges' sheets **ONLY** will be used as evidence for winning entries.
19. Any complaints or grievances not settled before the end of the fair should be sent in writing to the Director of Creative Arts/Special Events, State Fair of Texas. Include all pertinent information. After a full review, the decision of the Director and Staff shall be final.
20. Guard service is provided during building hours. Every precaution is taken to protect all articles, **but it is distinctly understood that in no case shall the State Fair of Texas, its Directors, Officers, or Employees be held responsible for any loss, damage, or injury of any character to any person, animal, vehicle, art work, exhibit, or article, while participating in the Creative Arts/Special Events Department at the State Fair of Texas.** Any insurance deemed necessary by an exhibitor must be provided by that exhibitor.
21. **Employees of the Creative Arts/Special Events Department of the State Fair of Texas may not exhibit in any department.**

NOTE

The Creative Arts/Special Events Department has more competitive classifications and contests than many other fairs. It is impossible to include all arts and crafts done by different individuals because of cost and available space.

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SPECIAL PERFORMANCE AWARDS

1st Place — \$100 2nd Place — \$50 3rd Place — \$25

Awarded to contestants with the most blue, red and white ribbons won in Contests during the Fair. Best of Show count 4 points. Blue ribbons count 3 points. Red ribbons count 2 points. White ribbons count 1 point. Ribbons must have been won in cooking contests from September 25, 2009 through October 18, 2009. Ribbons will be awarded following the last contest on Sunday, October 18, 2009. Previous year 1st place winner will not be eligible to compete for this award in 2009.

THE DIRECTOR'S AWARD

The Director of Creative Arts/Special Events will select from the ribbon winning department entries, one entry that best represents the current year's theme of the State Fair of Texas.

A special ribbon will be awarded.

DEFINITIONS

AMATEUR: A person who engages in an event or activity as a pastime rather than a profession.

CLASS: A group of like exhibits that are judged together: a sub-category of a department: same as lot.

CLASS NUMBER: The number assigned to each class or lot.

DEPARTMENT: A generalized category of exhibits or a group of classes/lots.

ENTRY: An eligible exhibit which is entered and judged.

EXHIBITOR: The owner of the exhibit as shown on the entry form.

EXHIBITOR NUMBER: A permanent number that is assigned each person entering the Creative Arts Department of the fair.

HANDBOOK: A book that contains rules and regulations regarding entry in the Creative Arts Department of the fair.

LOT: Same as a class.

RULE BOOK: Same as handbook.

PROFESSIONAL: A person who engages in an event or activity for monetary profit (more than \$2,000 per year): a person who teaches and/or instructs a particular craft or skill (i.e. sewing, baking, and so on).

Any person who has edited, produced, printed and published a cookbook for individual gain or as a project for any civic organization will not be eligible to compete.

Creative Arts Department
State Fair of Texas®

Entry Information and Mailing List Policy

Each year we mail our HANDBOOK in May.
Those who have entered the previous year will receive one free of charge.

If you have not entered and would like to receive the book, send \$5.00 to:

Creative Arts Mailing List
P O Box 150009, Dallas, TX 75315

Please send in your request as soon as possible. Use the form below.

The same information is available on our web page starting in June each year at <http://www.bigtex.com>

Clip out and mail this form with \$5.00. Make payment to State Fair of Texas

Please send the 2010 Handbook to the following:

Print Name: _____

Print Address: _____

Print City: _____ State _____ Zip _____