

<b>2014 RULES AND ENTRY GUIDELINES</b>
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We invite you 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:

<b>Children</b>	<b>(up to 11 years of age)</b>
<b>Junior</b>	<b>(12 to 17 years of age)</b>
<b>Adult</b>	<b>(18+ years of age)</b>
<b>Honorary</b>	<b>(70+ years of age, or persons in rest homes or hospitals)</b>

Articles which have been displayed at any previous exhibition of the State Fair of Texas will not be accepted a second time.

All handmade 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! (**Exception: Two-person quilt**”).

Security 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.

Employees of the Creative Arts / Special Events Department of the State Fair of Texas® may not exhibit in any department.

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.

The entry guidelines, as well as rules and instructions, are listed below. All entries and awards in this department shall be subject to the rules and instructions published in this handbook and should be read by each participant.

The first half of this book is dedicated to the items that are entered into the fair for display in our numerous showcases. These items must be entered pre-Fair in order to give time for judging and decorating.

The second half of this book is dedicated to the many contests, including cooking contests, which Creative Arts conducts during the Fair.

## A. PRE-FAIR ENTRIES

1. Each person desiring to exhibit articles in the Creative Arts Department **must first register their entry item's information by mail using the Entry Form (located in the back of this handbook by Friday, July 25, 2014 - which is the closing date for registration.) This form may be duplicated** and must be used to register in all departments that you are entering except Food Contests held during the Fair. **(See # 9 below).**

2. Each entry item must be typed or printed on the Entry Form (15 items per page) and must include the following:

- Name of exhibitor
- Complete mailing & email address
- **Daytime telephone number**
- Department letter (A, B, C, etc.)
- Class number
- Entry fee applicable to the article (fees vary)
- Payment for all entry fees.

3. Entry fees vary and are listed under each department or contest. Entry fees must accompany all registrations. Checks or money orders should be made out to State Fair of Texas. All returned or insufficient funds checks will be subject to a \$40.00 fee. Entry fees will not be refunded or transferred.

4. There is no entry fee charge for senior citizens, age 70+, or those in hospitals or nursing homes, who then become **Honorary** entrants.

5. Entry items may be transferred to another class prior to judging if the Director and Department Manager decide it would fit better in another category. However, exhibitors **are** responsible for their own entry errors and those of their agents filling out entry blanks.

6. Only **one** entry is allowed in a class number.

7. Articles not classified in the handbook will not be accepted for competition.

8. Confirmation letters for all registrations will be sent via mail or email.

9. **To register for food contests held during the Fair, use the “food contest entry form”** which is located in the handbook on back of the contest information. **Only the food contests that are cooked in the building require advance registration to reserve an oven.** Participants will be chosen by lottery drawing. See each cook off contest for rules.

**B. TAKE-IN OF ENTRY ITEMS: (ITEMS CAN BE DELIVERED IN PERSON or MAILED IN – see below:)**

1. Entry items ("Delivered in person"). Bring your entry items with your registration confirmation receipt letter which we mail to you after we receive your entry form, to the Creative Arts Building on August 15, 16 or 17, 2014, from 9 am to 5 pm.

- Entry items "delivered in person" will be returned to you in person, unless you have requested in writing that the entry item be returned COD and have provided packaging.

2. Entry items ("mailed in:"), must be "mailed in" along WITH ENTRY FORM & ENTRY FEES in time to be received by Friday, July 25, 2014. Packages should be sent prepaid to our address on page 1.

- Entry items "mailed in" will be returned C.O.D. (Collect on Delivery) at the close of the fair, unless otherwise notified. 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. "Exception: Mailed in Photographs – the return mailing fee is included in the entry fee & photos will be mailed back after the Fair closes - first class".

**C. JUDGING**

1. Judging will begin after August 17<sup>th</sup>, which is the last day pre-fair "delivered in person" entries are accepted.
2. Only winning entries will be exhibited during the Fair and they must remain on display for the entire period of the Fair.
3. An entry will be judged on its individual merit and will place as the judges deem fitting. It is possible that a ribbon will not be awarded.
4. After judging, exhibitors will be notified by mail, as to the status of their entry. Non-winning items **MUST** be picked up as follows:

**"PRE FAIR - NON-WINNING" ENTRY ITEM PICK UP:**

Wednesday,	September 10	(Noon to 5 pm)
Thursday,	September 11	(9 am to 5 pm)
Friday,	September 12	(9 am to 5 pm)

**Note:** Entries items not picked up will be stored in the attic until after the Fair, but **MUST BE** picked up by Friday, October 24, 2014, or a **LATE FEE OF \$10 WILL BE CHARGED.**

### **POST FAIR PICK UP**

Wednesday,	October 22	Noon – 7pm
Thursday,	October 23	9am – 7pm
Friday,	October 24	9am – 7pm

**Note:** All entries items “**MUST**” be picked up at this time, or a **\$10 LATE FEE will incur.** If items are **NOT** picked up, they may be disposed of or donated to a local charity.

### **BEST COMPETITOR AWARD**

**For Cooking Contests during Fair Time**

**1<sup>st</sup> place - \$100    2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$50    3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$25**

Awarded to contestants with the most purple, blue, red and white ribbons won in **cooking contests during the Fair.** Points are calculated as follows:

<b>Best of Show Purple Ribbon</b>	<b>- 4 points</b>
<b>Blue Ribbon</b>	<b>- 3 points</b>
<b>Red Ribbon</b>	<b>- 2 points</b>
<b>White Ribbon</b>	<b>- 1 point</b>

Best Competitor Award Ribbons will be awarded following the last contest on Sunday, October 19, 2014.

**Note: 2013 First Place winner  
will not be eligible to compete for this award in 2014**

### **THE DIRECTOR'S AWARD**

The Director of Creative Arts / Special Events **will select 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 (& earns more than \$2,000 per year): a person who teaches and / or instructs a particular craft or skill (i.e. sewing, needlework, baking, and so on). In “Photography”, a professional photographer uses photography to earn money; amateur photographers take photographs for pleasure and to record an event, emotion, place or person.

Any person who has edited, produced, printed and published a cookbook for individual gain 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 a handbook free of charge.

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

**State Fair of Texas  
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 mid-May each year at <http://www.bigtex.com> (Creative Arts Competitions),

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

Please send the 2014 or 2015 Handbook to the following: (please specify the year needed).

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Print City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_