

CREATIVE ARTS / SPECIAL EVENTS DEPARTMENT

KATHY BENNETT
Director

2015 COMPETITION HANDBOOK

STATE FAIR OF TEXAS
September 25 – October 18, 2015
Dallas, Texas

CONTACT INFORMATION
Creative Arts Department
State Fair of Texas

U.S. POST OFFICE MAIL ADDRESS:
PO BOX 150009, Dallas, TX. 75315

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Website: <http://www.bigtex.com>

CREATIVE ARTS / SPECIAL EVENTS 2015 HANDBOOK

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CREATIVE ARTS / SPECIAL EVENTS DEPARTMENT

Kathy Bennett, Director

We are pleased to bring you our 2015 Creative Arts Handbook, which is filled with everything you need to know to participate in our big-as-Texas contests. Whether you're into baking bread, lace making by lamplight or showing off your collection of antique fishing lures, we've got a competition just for you. With more than 1,100 categories in 12 departments of pre-Fair contests along with contests taking place each day of the Fair, Creative Arts gives you more opportunities to take home a ribbon than you can shake a stick at.

There are two ways to enter:

IN PERSON

- Deadline to mail your entry form and fee is Friday, July 24, 2015.
- An entry receipt will be mailed or emailed to you.
- Bring the receipt and your entry item to the Creative Arts Building on Friday, Saturday or Sunday, Aug. 14, 15, 16, from 9am to 5pm.
- You'll be notified of your entry's status after judging via mail or email.

BY MAIL

- Deadline to mail your entry form, fee, item and return-mail postage* is Friday, July 24, 2015.
- You'll be notified of your entry's status after judging via mail or email.

Keep an eye on www.bigtex.com, where we'll post all the judging results. Entries that are awarded ribbons will be on display during the Fair.

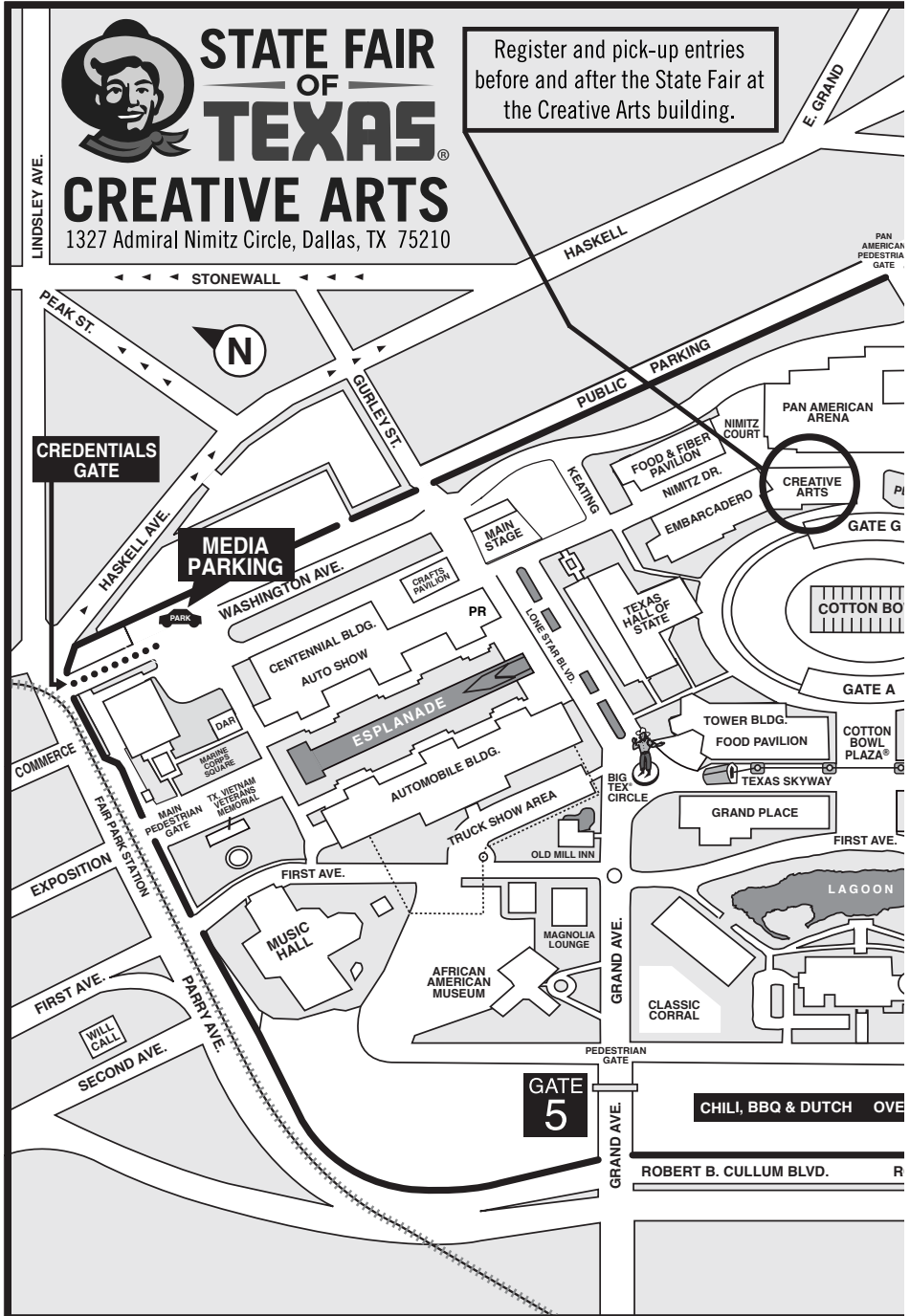
Please read the following pages for details on contest rules and guidelines. Note that only one entry per person per category is allowed.

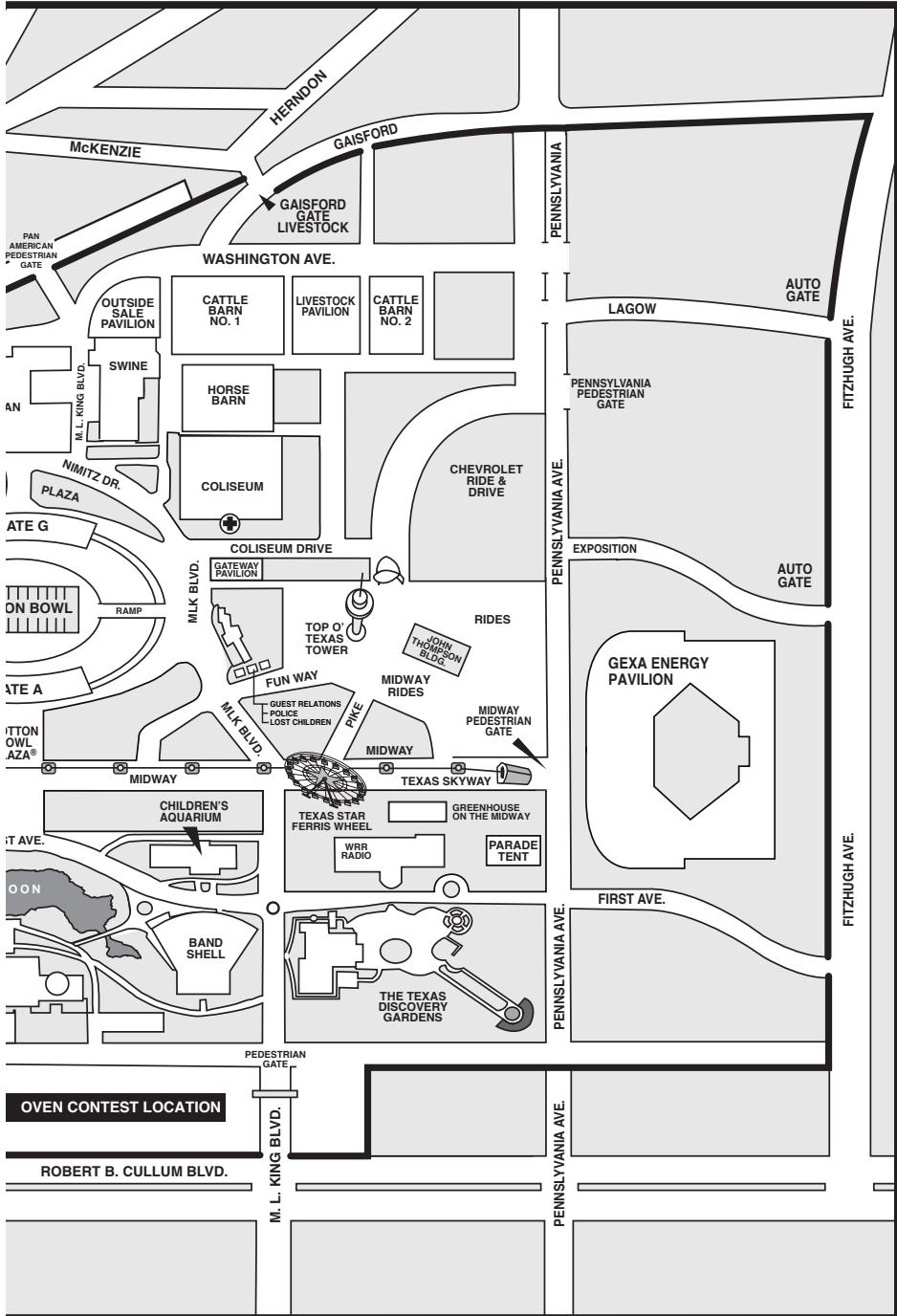
The Creative Arts staff is delighted that you'll be sharing your creations in this year's contests. We can't wait to see y'all soon!

Best wishes,

Kathy Bennett

* We are asking that you include return-mail postage this year on items other than photographs to avoid C.O.D. charges.







CREATIVE ARTS SHOWPLACE THEATRE

Performances Daily

“WORLD ON A STRING”

CELEBRITY CHEF DEMO'S PROGRAM DAILY

11:00 am * 12:30 pm * 2:30 pm * 4:30 pm

STATE FAIR CONTEST KITCHEN

Contests Daily

2015 Cookbooks for sale, “featuring winning recipes” from contests held during 2015.

Big Tex® Cookie Cutters & Linens – for sale!!!

BUTTER SCULPTURE

By Sharon BuMann

STATE FAIR OF TEXAS WEB PAGE

<http://www.bigtex.com>

Look for **Creative Arts Competitions**, complete listing of contest dates, rules and categories.

Judging Results will be listed for all departments and contests.

FAIR TIME BUILDING HOURS

Friday and Saturday – 10 am to 10 pm

Sunday thru Thursday – 10 am to 9 pm

STATE FAIR OF TEXAS®

The State Fair of Texas® is a unique company, in that it is a tax exempt, non-profit corporation that operates in a publicly owned park.

Fair Park is managed and operated by the Park and Recreation Department of the City of Dallas.

Our take-in dates, give-back dates and hours are often difficult to set because of the numerous events taking place in Fair Park during the months before the fair starts. Last minute schedule changes are not uncommon. We work hard to make participating in our department enjoyable for all.

State Fair of Texas® is the owner of certain registered marks, including the following: State Fair of Texas®, Big Tex®, Big Tex® (figure), Texas State Fair®, SFT® (logo), Fried Food Capital of Texas®, Pan American Livestock Exposition®, Summer Place®, Summer Adventures in Fair Park®, Heritage Hall of Honor®, Texas SkyWay® and Cotton Bowl® are registered trademarks of the:

**State Fair of Texas, Inc.
PO BOX 150009
Dallas, TX 75315**

2015 RULES AND ENTRY GUIDELINES
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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:

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

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: a Two-person quilt) and (a Group Quilt - 3 persons or more).**

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 enter articles in the Creative Arts Department Competition **must first register their “entry item’s information” by mail using the Entry Form (located in the back of this handbook by Friday, July 24, 2015 - 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’s information 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 and description (using description in handbook)
 - 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. Entry items 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. DELIVERY / TAKE IN OF ENTRY ITEMS: (ITEMS CAN BE DELIVERED IN PERSON or MAILED IN – see description below:)

1. Entry items **DELIVERED IN PERSON** should be brought, along with your registration confirmation receipt which we email or mail to you after we receive your entry form, to the Creative Arts Building on August 14, 15 or 16, 2015, from 9 am to 5 pm.

- Entry items that are **DELIVERED IN PERSON** must be **picked up in person**, unless you have requested in writing that the entry item be returned by mail and have provided packaging and prepaid postage.

2. Entry items **MAILED IN** must include entry form and entry fees and must be received by **Friday, July 24, 2015**. Packages should be sent prepaid to our address on page 1.

- Entry items that are **MAILED IN** will be returned at the close of the fair and **PREPAID POSTAGE IS NOW REQUIRED**. Please attach a prepaid return mailing label to your entry form. Note: COD costs have become too expensive for all concerned. No money orders, checks 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 do not require a prepaid return mailing label because the return postage fee is included in the entry fee.**

C. JUDGING

1. Judging will begin after August 16th, 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 09	(Noon to 5 pm)
Thursday,	September 10	(9 am to 5 pm)
Friday,	September 11	(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 23, 2015, or a **LATE FEE OF \$10 WILL BE CHARGED.**

POST FAIR PICK UP

Wednesday,	October 21	Noon – 7pm
Thursday,	October 22	9am – 7pm
Friday,	October 23	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

1st place - \$100 2nd Place - \$50 3rd 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:

Best of Show Purple Ribbon	- 4 points
Blue Ribbon	- 3 points
Red Ribbon	- 2 points
White Ribbon	- 1 point

Best Competitor Award Ribbons will be awarded following the last contest on Sunday, October 18, 2015.

**Note: 2014 First Place winner
will not be eligible to compete for this award in 2015**

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 2015 or 2016 Handbook to the following: (please specify the year needed).

Print Name: _____

Print Address: _____

Print City: _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

2015 ENTRY FORM

Creative Arts Department

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE: "PLEASE USE THIS PO BOX" - State Fair of Texas, ATTN: Creative Arts Dept., PO BOX 150009, Dallas, TX 75315
 UPS & FedEx:(USE PHYSICAL ADDRESS ONLY) State Fair of Texas,ATTN:Creative Arts Dept, 1327 ADMIRAL NIMITZ CR,FAIR PARK,DALLAS,TX75210

TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Exhibitor Name:	IMPORTANT – Please answer: Did you enter in '11, '12, '13 or '14 YES ____ NO ____
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Address:	If yes, give your exhibitor number (from mailing label:)
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____	Please note! **Social Security Number is (required only for Fair Time Cooking Contests entries)** "Has address changed since last Fair?" Yes____ No____ "Please provide if changed".
Very Important-Daytime tele #: ()	Email Address:

	Class No.	ENTRY – Use same description wording as category in handbook	Entry Fee
1			\$
2			\$
3			\$
4			\$
5			\$
6			\$
7			\$
8			\$
9			\$
10			\$
11			\$
12			\$
13			\$
14			\$
15			\$
TOTAL OF ENTRY FEES INCLUDED =			\$

By signing this Entry Form & as a condition of entry in the State Fair of Texas contest, I certify that I have read, understand & will abide by the rules & regulations in the 2015 State Fair of Texas Creative Arts Handbook & as promulgated by State Fair's Creative Arts Dept. I acknowledge that all of the above-stated information & representations are true & correct. I understand that all recipes submitted hereunder will become the property of the State Fair of Texas & the State Fair of Texas reserves the right to edit, adapt, publish, publicize, assign &/or use any or all of such recipes or photographs or images, including my name, in its business, promotion & advertising, without any compensation to me. I acknowledge that the State Fair of Texas reserves the right to publish recipes, photograph entries or images of me taken during the contest events and use such recipes, photographs or images in its business, promotion & advertising without any compensation due to me. By signing below, I voluntarily agree to these terms.

Signature of Exhibitor _____ Date _____

Entry fees will not be refunded or transferred, but categories may be changed after entry form is delivered by Mail to above address. Form must be complete. Payment of entry fees must be included. Make payment to State Fair of Texas. *""This form may be duplicated.""*