



# 2015 Texas 4-H Photography Contest

## Rules and Guidelines



### PURPOSE

The Texas 4-H Photography Contest encourages self-expression and allows youth to demonstrate skills learned in the area of photography, including the use of photographic equipment and process of photographs.

### OBJECTIVES

- To develop life skills in composition, light, story line, posing, and awareness.
- To encourage 4-H members to use photography as a meaningful communication tool in their lives.
- To provide photography project showcase opportunity for senior 4-H members.
- To continue to share the message of 4-H.
- To utilize photographs which can promote and strengthen the 4-H program.

### RESOURCES

- Adventures With Your Camera – B (Grades 6 to 9) (Available from National 4-H Council Supply)
- 4-H Guide to Digital Photography by Daniel Johnson. (Available from Amazon.com)
- Digital Photography for Teens by Marc Campbell and Dave Long (Available from Amazon.com)
- Free picture resizer: <http://freepicresizer.com>
- Texas 4-H Youth Development Photography Project Resource Page located on the 4-H website. Any reference to a product or company is not to endorse or support them and their causes. Links to companies are provided for their educational resources only.

RULES AND PROCEDURES	
<b>Participation Age</b>	Senior age 4-H member that has passed their 14th but not their 19th birthday before August 31, 2014. Participants must have been born during the period beginning September 1, 1995 and ending August 31, 2000.
<b>Photo Eligibility</b>	Photo must be taken by participants between the dates of January 1, 2014 and the time of entry. Photos may be submitted only one time and in only one category.
<b>Photo Format</b>	Must be .jpeg, .jpg, or .gif formats.
<b>Number of Entries</b>	Each county may have only one entry per class for a total of 15 entries.
<b>Entry Fee</b>	\$10.00 per photograph paid through 4HConnect at the time of entry into this contest. Payment needs to be received by April 22, 2015.
<b>Entry Method</b>	4HConnect: <a href="http://texas.4honline.com">http://texas.4honline.com</a>
<b>Event Name</b>	2015 State 4-H Photography Contest
<b>Entry Period</b>	Entry Open Date: April 1, 2015 Entry Close Date: April 15, 2015 Entries will not be accepted after 11:59pm on April 15, 2015
<b>Size</b>	Must be 8" x 10" in size. Photos should be at least 800 pixels by 1000 pixels. The ideal 8x10 quality is 2400 pixels by 3000 pixels, which is the same as an 8x10 photo at 300 dpi (resolution). Higher variations of the 8x10 ratio are allowed but the final file size may not be larger than 2,048k (2MB).  The best way to tell is to take the lower pixel number and divide by the higher pixel number. If you get 0.8 then you've successfully hit the mark. If your photos have a different pixel ratio you may still submit. However the photos will be judged using the 8x10 pixel dimensions. Which may cause your photo to appear stretched, compressed, or distorted. If you view a photo's properties on your computer it will tell you the width and height in pixels. View the resources for information on a free online photo resizer to assist with this process.

## 2015 Texas 4-H Photography Contest - Rules and Guidelines

<b>Alterations</b>	Although slight computer enhanced photos are allowed, such as crop, trimming, adjusting lighting, and red eye reduction; substantially altered photography, such as changing colors or applying design styles, using computer graphics will disqualify an entry. Any other alteration, manipulation, edits, to a photo would require the photo to be entered into the Digital Darkroom category.
<b>Text on Photographs</b>	Beyond the storyboard and digital darkroom categories photographs should not contain “user placed text.” This includes such things as comments or titles. Text or wording that is part of the photograph (i.e. photo of a street sign, etc) is acceptable.
<b>AWARDS, DISPLAY AND JUDGING</b>	
<b>Awards and Recognition</b>	<p><b>Quality Awards</b> Blue, Red, White and Green Participation quality awards will be given to entries based on the scoring criteria.</p> <p><b>Best of Show Awards</b> One Best of Show Award will be presented to one photo in each category. Best of Show winners will be displayed in the Texas 4-H Youth Development State Headquarters office for a year following the contest.</p> <p><b>Cash Awards</b> Each Best of Show winner will receive a \$250.00 cash prize.</p>
<b>Judging and Results</b>	<p>Each photograph will be judged against a set of judging criteria, and not against photographs of peers. Based on total points awarded for each photograph, the participant will be awarded either a blue, red, white, or a participation ribbon. See Contest Judging Criteria</p> <p>Judges will determine the placings and all decisions are final. Results will be available after Texas 4-H Roundup concludes and will be published on the Texas 4-H website.</p>
<b>Roundup Display and Participation</b>	<p>Photos will be displayed through a multimedia display at Texas 4-H Roundup.</p> <p>Photography contest participants do not attend State 4-H Roundup unless they are competing in another contest, however, if a 4-H member/adult chooses to attend to view the display they may do so, but are required to pay the necessary registration fee.</p>
<b>RELEASES</b>	
<b>Content</b>	Photos that are deemed obscene, vulgar, sexually-oriented, hateful, threatening, or otherwise violate any laws are strictly prohibited. The Texas 4-H Youth Development Program reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.
<b>Copyright</b>	The Texas 4-H Youth Development Program respects the rights related to copyright laws and intellectual property. All photos should be based on a participant’s original photograph. Use of a photo from other sources/people is not allowed.
<b>Display and Future Usage Rights</b>	Participant grants permission to the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation, and any other public or private agency authorized by the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program, the use, and rights associated to the use of the photographic likeness, in promotional publications, and other media, without compensation. Certain photos may be used for 4-H program and marketing.
<b>Liability Release</b>	The Texas 4-H Youth Development Program, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation and/or its employees/agents involved in the contest will not be held liable for missing or non-displayed photographs.
<b>Model and Property Releases</b>	It is required that each participant have sufficient permission of any recognizable locations or people photographed. Documentation should be retained by the participant and be available upon request from the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program. This permission should be granted to both the photographer and the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program to publish and use as needed.

## 2015 Texas 4-H Photography Contest - Rules and Guidelines

### DISQUALIFICATION

An entry that does not follow the rules or category guidelines will automatically be disqualified. Disqualifications forfeit all entry fees. A general notice specifying reason(s) for disqualification will be sent to the county after Texas 4-H Roundup.

<b>Reasons for disqualification</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• County did not select/certify photograph to represent county</li> <li>• Does not meet category criteria (see category descriptions)</li> <li>• Entry does not follow rules or category guidelines</li> <li>• Entry fee not paid or only partial fee paid</li> <li>• Extremely poor quality (resolution)</li> <li>• Photography too small in size to be evaluated</li> <li>• Inappropriate or unsuitable</li> <li>• Manipulation of photo beyond what is allowed</li> <li>• Multiple county entries into a category</li> <li>• Photo entered into multiple categories</li> <li>• Photograph was not certified by county office in timely manner</li> <li>• Photograph was not entered into 4-H CONNECT</li> <li>• Broken content rule</li> <li>• Broken copyright rule</li> <li>• Broken display and future rights usage rule</li> <li>• Broken model and property release rule</li> </ul>
-------------------------------------	--

### CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

It is extremely important that 4-H members, project leaders, parents, and county Extension agents review the descriptions of each category very carefully. Please do not enter photographs into categories that are duplicates from other categories or ones that do not clearly meet the category description. Photographs that do not meet the description of the category will be disqualified.

#### ANIMALS – DOMESTIC

<i>Description</i> Photos focusing on the various animals that have been tamed and made fit for a human environment. To be considered domesticated, the animal must have their behavior, life cycle, or physiology systemically altered as a result of being under human control for many generations.	<i>Examples</i> Dog, Sheep, Pig, Goat, Cow, Cat, Chicken, Horse, Camel, Goose, Ducks (domestic use), Hamsters.
---	---

#### ANIMALS - WILDLIFE

<i>Description</i> Category focuses on animals not tamed or domesticated and commonly found in the wild throughout the country and world. Photos can be of wildlife in nature, zoos, and/or petting zoos.	<i>Examples</i> Deer, snakes, insects, rodents, elephants, etc.
--	--

#### CATCH-ALL

<i>Description</i> Category for photos that do not fit into one of the other categories. This includes such photos as still-life, motion-blur, Polaroid transfers, SX-70 images, hand-colored photos.	<i>What is NOT Allowed</i> Do not submit a photo in this category which can clearly be submitted in another photography category. Catch-all is not intended for counties to use to eliminate duplicate photos from multiple 4-H members.	<i>Examples</i> Polaroid image & emulsion transfers, still-life, long exposure zoomed images, and painting with light.
--	---	---

#### DETAILS & MACRO

<i>Description</i> Getting in close is the name of the game for this category. We welcome pictures of small details that suggest a larger story. This is also the place for macro photographs (although a macro image of a flower might equally go into the Flowers category).	<i>Examples</i> Detail of a knot, a lock, or an abstract close-up - anything as long as it is a tight composition of a detail. Macro examples include parts of a flower bloom, insects, stamps, ice crystals, etc.
---	---

#### DIGITAL DARKROOM

<i>Description</i> Photos are for digital art - images created or drastically altered in software like Adobe Photoshop®. For this category, a 4-H member will submit a minimum of at least two photos that demonstrate the before photo(s) and the altered, or final, digital piece.	<i>Examples</i> Photoshop® composites and creations, images greatly manipulated with a variety of filters, photos with artistic borders, photos stitched into a panoramic.
---	---

#### DOMINANT COLOR

<i>Description</i> Photos with a dominant color. The dominant element in the image must be a specific color, such as red, yellow, blue, white, black, white, green, etc. Black & White photos, duotones, are excluded from this category.	<i>Examples</i> Bowl of lemons, in a yellow bowl, on top of a yellow table covering, with a bright yellow tone sunlighting on it.
--	--

## 2015 Texas 4-H Photography Contest - Rules and Guidelines

<b>ELEMENTS OF DESIGN</b>		
<b>Description</b> Images use of graphic elements of design. Photos that showcase line, shape, pattern, form, texture, perspective, etc. Photo can consist of any subject matter. Category is not for graphic illustrations made in commercial programs (i.e. Adobe Illustrator®) nor for extreme digital creations.		<b>Examples</b> Perspective, Line, Pattern.
<b>FOOD</b>		
<b>Description</b> Category is a still life specialization of photography, aimed at producing attractive photographs of food for use in such items of advertisements, packaging, menus and/or cookbooks.	<b>What is NOT Allowed</b> Photos of alcoholic beverages.	<b>Examples</b> Thanksgiving dinner, cakes/pies, fruits and place settings, Easter eggs, sandwiches, ingredients, etc.
<b>MARINE/AQUATIC</b>		
<b>Description</b> Photos of any LIVING ORGANISM in bodies of either fresh or ocean (salt) water.	<b>What is NOT Allowed</b> Photos of boats, ships or fishing supplies	<b>Examples</b> Fish, stingrays, whales, starfish, divers under water, etc.
<b>NATURE &amp; LANDSCAPE</b>		
<b>Description</b> The focus of this category includes landscapes, outdoor scenics, nature images, sunsets, urban landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, and farms. Images focus on the beauty of the outdoors.		<b>Examples</b> Landscapes, Scenics, Outdoors.
<b>NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY</b>		
<b>Description</b> Photos taken outdoors between after-dusk and before dawn. Generally these photos are achieved by using artificial light or using a long exposure. This category can include any subject as long as the focus is on the skill and technique used to acquire the photograph.	<b>What is NOT Allowed</b> Photos containing any natural light from the sun (sunset and sunrise).	<b>Examples</b> Fireworks, lighting on buildings/structures, animals, plant/flora, people, etc.
<b>PEOPLE</b>		
<b>Description</b> Photos focus from all walks of life, parenting and family, children, babies, models/ fashion, sports, and couples. See the Model and Property Release.		<b>Examples</b> Kids & Family, Models/Fashion, Sports.
<b>PLANT/FLORA</b>		
<b>Description</b> Photos of interesting, unique, and beautiful flowers and flora. Photography can occur outdoors or indoors. Photo subject should be that of a single flower, plant, bush, tree, etc. Large collections of plant/flora should be considered for entry into the Nature & Landscape category.		<b>Examples</b> A rose, an upward shot of a tree, a flower bouquet, etc.
<b>STORYBOARD</b>		
<b>Description</b> A storyboard is one digital entry (one photo) that contains three smaller images and minimal text that tells a story. The story should be easily understood by the viewer. This entry is one single file.		<b>Examples</b> Three images depicting the blooming of a rose bud at different stages, with the title of "Beginning of Beauty".
<b>THEME</b>		
<b>Description</b> Theme photo focuses on a subject announced and outlined in the contest rules and guidelines. For 2014-15 the theme is "Inspiration". This year theme will focus on pictures of subjects that move and inspire YOU. Photos can include photos of leaders, mentors, family, friends, things in your community, school, church, or across the country and world.	<b>What is NOT Allowed</b> Photos which have been entered into other categories.	<b>Examples</b> Images of family members, a leader/teacher or someone that you look up to, something in nature, or things that give you daily inspiration.