

# PHOTOGRAPHY JUDGING



The Texas 4-H Photography Judging contest allows 4-H members to demonstrate skills in the evaluation, selection, and placing of photographs based on industry standards and expectations.

## Entry

- Enter as an individual or as a team of 3 to 4 members.
- Teams are made up of individuals in the same age division (Junior, Intermediate or Senior).

## County Entries

- There is no limit in the number of entries per county.

## Contest

- Contestants will receive orientation before entering the contest and will be provided a scantron form, pencil, and clipboard to respond to questions.
- The 4-H members participating in the contest will judge six classes of photographs and two classes of problems, testing both the participant's knowledge and skills in the photography project.

Classes	Max Points Per Class	Total Points Possible
6 photo judging classes	50	300
2 photo problems classes	50	100
2 oral reasons sets	50	100
Possible Individual Score		500

- The **6 photo judging classes** consist of photographs from the categories of people, animals, plant/flora, nature/landscape, special/digital effects, night photography, black & white, animals (domestic or wildlife), details/macro, architecture, or other categories as deemed by the contest committee and judges.
- The **2 photo problem classes** will cover such things as exposure, ISO, shutter speed, focal length, white balance, camera settings, composition, technique, photo shooting situations, and other questions as deemed necessary by the contest committee and judges.
- Only registered contestants, committee members and judges are permitted in the judging room.
- Contestants may not leave once the contest has started unless permission is given by the contest superintendent. Contestants should not separate themselves from the class on which their group is working. Contestants should not in any way willfully obstruct the work of another contestant.
- While the contest is in progress, there shall be no talking or any other type of communication between contestants. If a contestant has a question once the contest begins, please direct that question to the assigned group leader or the contest superintendent.

**Oral Reasons**

- After scoring all 8 classes, youth will then transition into the reasons portion of the contest to present over two (2) classes.
- Youth have 10 minutes to prepare their reasons over both classes before being called before the judge.
- All age divisions will give reasons as part of the official contest.
- The scores from the reasons portion of the contest will be added to the overall judging score.

**Time Limits**

- Contestants are given 4 minutes to judge each class. Contestants will be given a warning of 1 minute before time is up.

**Scoring**

- All contestants are eligible for individual awards.
- Team scores are a combined total of the top three scores of the team members.
- Ties will be broken on the consistency of judging all classes. If ties still exist, ranking with the ties will be the discretion of the contest superintendent.
- Scantrons will be scored at the close of the contest.

**Study Guide and Resources**

- You will find a list of resources and study guide to download on the 4-H website at <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography/> and [https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/photography\\_judging\\_2025.pdf](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/photography_judging_2025.pdf)