

2024-2025 Humble 4-H Photography Contest Rules and Guidelines



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PURPOSE

The 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 4-H members.
- To continue to share the message of 4-H.
- To utilize photographs which can promote and strengthen the 4-H program.

Entry Fee: \$10 Paid via TeamApp (**due by Nov 8**)

Entry/Registration Deadline: *New Process*****

- Photos must be registered and uploaded via the [Google Form](#) by **November 8th**.
- Photos must be .jpeg, .jpg, or .png
- Preferred file naming structure: "Name_Division_Category"
 - AmyJordan_SR_AN

RESOURCES

- An extensive list of resources can be found on the Texas 4-H Photography Project page: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/>

CONTEST RULES AND GUIDELINES

PLEASE READ ALL RULES AND GUIDELINES. PHOTOS NOT ADHERING TO GUIDELINES WILL NOT BE JUDGED.

1. **Eligibility:** Participants must be Humble 4-H members currently enrolled and have an "active" status with Texas 4-H Youth Development Program and actively participating in the Photography project.
2. **Active Status:**
 - Registered with Humble 4-H, a member in good standing with dues and fundraising paid
 - Registered with Texas 4-H, Member in good standing with dues paid
 - Participate in club activities, service projects, and attend monthly meetings
3. **Age Divisions:** Age divisions are determined by a participant's grade as of August 31, 2024 as follows:

<u>Division</u>	<u>Grades</u>
Clover Kid (CK)	K - 2
Junior (JR)	3 - 5
Intermediate (IT)	6 - 8
Senior (SR)	9 - 12
4. **Photo Classes:**
 - Color (CL)
 - Black & White / Sepia (BWS)



5. **Photo Categories:** It is extremely important that 4-H members and parents 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. Please see the [photo categories](#) page for more details. Categories for this year will be:
 - Animals (AN)
 - Details & Macro (DM)
 - Landscape & Nature (LN)
 - Plants & Flora (PF)
 - Catch-All (CA)
 - “Abandoned” - 2024-2025 theme (TH)

6. **Eligibility of Photos.** All photographs must have been taken by the 4-H member and may not have been previously entered in the Humble Fair and Rodeo 4-H Photography Contest. Photos may be submitted only one time and in only one category.

7. **Alteration of Photos.** Although slight computer-enhanced photos are allowed, such as crop, trimming, and red eye reduction; substantially altered photography, such as changing colors or applying design styles, using computer graphics will disqualify an entry. Smartphone filters should not be used.

8. **Text on Photographs.** Photographs **MUST NOT** contain camera or user placed text. This includes such things as date stamps, comments, or titles. Text or wording that is part of the photograph (i.e. photo of a street sign, etc.) is acceptable.

9. **Judging & Scoring.**
 - Each photo will be judged by three separate judges.
 - The three scores per photo, will be added together and averaged for a maximum of one-hundred points.
 - In the event of a tie for Grand Champion or Reserve Champion, a fourth judge will score each photo to break the tie and that score will be added and averaged to the total points awarded for that photo.

10. **Awards.**
 - There will be 2 Grand Champions and 2 Reserve Grand Champions awarded for each Division.
 - Grand Champions will be awarded a belt buckle and Blue Rosette, as well as being allowed to participate in the Silent Auction. Reserve Grand Champions will be awarded a Red Rosette.

11. **Announcement of Results.**
 - All winners will be notified at the January meeting and notified of auction details prior to the auction.
 - Grand Champion photo must be framed and mounted prior to the silent auction.
 - photo size 8x10”
 - frame size 11x14”

12. **Image Resizer.** If you need assistance in resizing photos, you can use: <http://webresizer.com> or a program of your choice.



13. Silent Auction / Buyers BBQ.

- Students winning a belt buckle in the Photography Show will need to be present at the Buyer's BBQ in the Humble Civic Center Main Ballroom with their Belt Buckle for the 4-H Belt Buckle Photo.
- Silent Auction checks will be released during the March meeting to the Grand Champions. Humble 4H cannot release checks unless payment has been received from the buyer. Checks are valid for 90 days after issue date. After 90 days, uncashed checks will be considered a donation to Humble 4H.
- If a replacement check is requested, a \$30 stop payment fee will be deducted from the original check amount. No replacement check requests will be accepted after 30 days from original issue date.



Judging Criteria

Each photograph will be evaluated against the following set of criteria:

IMPACT (Max Points: 15)	Impact is the sense one gets upon viewing an image for the first time. Compelling images evoke laughter, sadness, anger, pride, wonder or another intense emotion. There can be impact in any of the judging elements.
CREATIVITY (Max Points: 15)	Creativity is the original, fresh, and external expression of the imagination of the maker by using the medium to convey an idea, message or thought.
TECHNICAL (Max Points: 25)	Technical is the quality of the image itself as it is presented for viewing, which includes the following aspects: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• allowable amounts of retouching and adjustments (removal of red eye, cropping, minor straightening)• sharpness and correct color balance• lighting, which includes the use and control of light. The use of lighting whether natural or man-made and its proper use to enhance the image.• Posing and capturing of the image
COMPOSITION (Max Points: 20)	Composition is important to the design of an image, bringing all of the visual elements together in concert to express the purpose of the image. Proper composition holds the viewer in the image and prompts the viewer to look where the creator intends. Effective composition can be pleasing or disturbing, depending on the intent of the image maker.
SUBJECT MATTER (Max Points: 15)	Subject Matter should always be appropriate to the story being told (i.e. category the photo is entered into) in an image. Subject matter also includes the center of interest for the photograph or where the maker wants the viewer to stop and they view the image.
STORY TELLING (Max Points: 10)	Story Telling refers to the image's ability to evoke imagination. One beautiful thing about art is that each viewer might collect his own message or read her own story in an image.



Photo Categories

Category Description	
<p>ANIMALS: Photos can focus on various animals. Photos can be of wildlife in nature, zoos, and/or petting zoos, or your household pet.</p> <p>Examples: Barn animals, dogs/cats, snakes, horses, birds, zoo animals</p>	<p>DETAILS & MACRO: Getting in close is the name of the game for this category. The goal is to zoom in close on an object to see its finer details or to make small objects appear life-sized or larger than we do not normally get to see with the naked eye.</p> <p>Examples: Insect Eyes, veins on a leaf, reflection in water droplets</p>
<p>PLANT/FLORA: 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.</p> <p>Examples: Rose, flower, upward shot of tree</p> <p>Not allowed: Large collections of plant/flora should be considered for entry into the Nature & Landscape category.</p>	<p>LANDSCAPE & NATURE (NON-ANIMAL): The focus of this category includes landscapes, outdoor scenic, nature images, sunsets, urban landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, and farms. Images focus on the beauty of the outdoors.</p> <p>Examples: Landscapes, gardens, beach, waves, collection of flowers</p> <p>Not Allowed: Primary subject is wildlife or people</p>
<p>THEME “Reflections”: The 2024-2025 theme is “Abandoned”. Photographs capturing the essence of forgotten or neglected places, things, or structures; emphasizing its worn and forsaken nature. Please take all necessary safety precautions around abandoned buildings/structures.</p>	<p>CATCH-ALL: Photos that do not fit into one of the other categories.</p> <p>Not Allowed: A duplicate photo also entered in another category. Primary subject is of a person or people.</p>