



## 4H Photography Fair Entry Classes

### Landscape

Fair book description: single image featuring an expanse of scenery (layout and features of land or water); could include sunsets, seascapes, day or night scenes

Pointers:

- “Expanse of scenery” is key!
- Make sure horizon is level.

Considerations:

- A photograph taken in a landscape orientation, does not mean it should be exhibited in the landscape category (see fair book description and first pointer).
- Remember the Rule of Thirds – Horizon line is often centered in photo; however consider it belonging on a thirds line. Example: a beach scene with a great sky and sand detail; putting the horizon line in the middle forces the viewer is forced to decide if the photo is about the beach or the sky, however placing it low communicates this is about the SKY first and the beach is secondary; placing it high and it's about the beach and the sky is ancillary.

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see Notes).

### People

Fair book description: single image featuring a person or people in formal or informal settings

Pointers:

- People must be the subject of the photo, receiving approximately 50% or more of the visual interest.

Considerations:

- Is the person is too small in proportion to the rest of the photo.
- Is the photo interesting, background clear of clutter, good lighting?
- Is a portion of subject cut off by framing either during capture or after capture and does that affect the overall photo?

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see Notes).

### Animals

Fair book description: single image featuring one or more animals

Pointers:

- Must be subject of the photo, receiving approx. 50% or more of the visual interest.
- Exceptions to this might include insect photos, where their environment may contribute more to the balance of the photo.



## Considerations:

- Is the subject is too small in proportion to the rest of the photo.
- Is the photo interesting? Is the background clear of clutter? Is the lighting appropriate?

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see [Notes](#)).

## Plants

Fair book description: single image featuring plants, flowers, leaves, trees, etc

### Pointers:

- Use a variety of angles to capture different perspectives of the plants.
- Do not allow environment of plants become the focus or a distraction.

### Considerations:

- Is the subject is too small in proportion to the rest of the photo?

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see [Notes](#)).

## Architectural

Fair book description: single image featuring man-made structures such as buildings, bridges, etc. No sculptures or garden art.

### Pointers:

- Use a variety of angles to capture different perspectives of the subject.
- This category is all about the lines of construction and perspective.

### Considerations:

- Is this photo truly architectural? Just because an item is “man-made” does not make it a good fit for this category.

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see [Notes](#)).

## Other Interesting subject

Fair book description: single image featuring subjects of interest that do not fit in the above classes.

### Pointers:

- A unique shadow on a wall or other object, perhaps the curves or lines of a vehicle, some fairs have a “found art” category and this might be a place for those subjects.

### Consideration:

- Does this photo fit in another class? This is not a “catch all” to get an additional entry.

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see [Notes](#)).



## Texture

Fair book description: single image featuring the texture(s) of an object or subject, with emphasis on use of light, angle, and composition

Pointers:

- What you “feel” with your eyes. Close your eyes and “feel” the subject of the image, if you can’t “feel” it it probably is not texture. Often there is also a pattern but not always.

Considerations:

- Fluid items do not constitute texture, ripples on a pond or a series of waves are transient, you may feel the water but not the “texture”.

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see [Notes](#)).

## Still Life

Fair book description: single image featuring an arrangement of objects (incapable of movement on their own), **which are arranged by the photographer**, with emphasis on the use of lighting and composition.

Pointers:

- This is an intentionally “created” image exemplifying the impact of light and shadow on three dimensional objects.

Considerations:

- This class is not “found art” like waiting for the light to fall through a crack in a canyon wall (see fair book description above).

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see [Notes](#)).

## Action /Movement

Fair book description: single image capturing a subject that is in motion

Pointers:

- The image should show a subject in motion against a background that is not. Either the subject or the background is sharp in contrast to the other depicting the motion or movement. Example: taillights of a vehicle moving away from the photographer may be streaks of light against a sharp background.

Considerations:

- When nothing is in focus or everything is in focus action or movement may not be captured. Is the action or movement truly captured?

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see [Notes](#)).



## Panoramic

Fair book description: single image of any subject, produced in panoramic format either in the camera or by cropping, where the panoramic ratio adds to the effect of the image.

### Pointers:

- Many “landscapes” may be better as panoramas. Remove clutter or unnecessary space.
- Sometimes a boring picture can be enhanced by a panoramic cropping.
- Can be taken with Panoramic setting on camera, cropped after printing, or an “assembled” image.

### Considerations:

- Make sure the horizon is straight.

**Special Preparation:** Photos must be at least twice as long in one direction as they are in the other direction. Otherwise, general preparation rules apply (see Notes).

## Series or Story

Fair book description: Multiple print images (maximum 20) of any size or shape that depict a series (several images on one topic) or tell a story (showing several steps of an event or activity) mounted on one story board not to exceed 16” x 20”. Captions are optional. Photo album pages or memory book pages are not allowed.

### Pointers:

- Make sure photos have similar proportion or are intentionally dissimilar. Placement & balance in the presentation of series or story should complement or add to the entry.
- Make sure any assemblage and labels are neatly done.
- Consider combining all photos into one larger photo print, it can be easier to finish the final display.

### Considerations:

- Lighting can be tricky such as when capturing a building renovation or moving project. Lighting is an important aspect in photography and to the overall impression of the exhibit.
- Images from multiple print sources can be distracting. Evaluation includes the overall impression of the exhibit.

**Special Preparation:** May include photos of any size mounted on a single board not to exceed 16”x20”. Otherwise, general preparation rules apply (see Notes).



## Creative Process

Fair book description: Single image that has been changed or altered through either film or digital processing or printing techniques. Includes computer enhancement beyond basic corrections of cropping, color and brightness correction, and red eye removal. **Both the original image and the final image must show on the front of the exhibit.** Must include an explanation of the creative techniques used.

### Pointers:

- This category is a great opportunity for members to “play” with their photographs.
- The class is meant for members to explore tools and techniques, however merely pushing a button to apply a preset digital filter at the computer or camera level is not using the actual tools used to create the effect.
- The majority of exhibits that are brought to the fair for entry are not mounted properly and therefore cannot be judged or displayed. Please carefully follow the guidelines in the fair book (see special preparation description below).

### Considerations:

- This is a category that offers huge success opportunities to members, however there are typically lower numbers of exhibits entered.
- Consider combining both photos into one larger photo print. It can be easier to display.
- Remember to thoroughly complete the explanation card! It is difficult to judge well without good explanations of the creative process.

Special Preparation: Original image may be 4”x6”, final image (no less than 5 inches on the shorter side of photo). Final exhibit, **showing both photos mounted on the front**, must not exceed 16”x 20”. Explanation on back either on exhibit entry card or attached to exhibit.

## Special effects

Fair book description: single image showing a special effect **achieved with the camera during the capture of the image.** I.e.: camera angle, light, subject placement, filters, focus alterations, etc. Must include an explanation of the special effect techniques used.

### Pointers:

- Rarely a “found” subject but rather an intentional manipulation or adaptation **during image capture.**

### Considerations:

- This is not digital manipulation or after capture work, that belongs in Creative Process!

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see Notes).



## Darkroom Skills

Fair book description: single image produced by the member using darkroom developing or printing techniques (not computer manipulation). Must include an explanation of techniques used.

Considerations:

- This class is intended for photos produced from film using darkroom developing techniques.

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see Notes).

## Creative uses

Fair book description: one item showing the use or display of images in a creative manner. Images and the item must be the work of the member. Possibilities include: transfer to fabric, statuettes, 3-D display, note cards, page from photo album or memory book, etc

Pointers:

- Neatness really matters here because it really is about the “use”

Considerations:

- This class is intended for exhibits featuring a photo you took and then used in a creative way. The exhibit must be created by the member (not ordered from vendors who use your photo to create the exhibit).

Special Preparation: Size determined by the use. No special preparation.

## Scavenger Hunt -

Fair book description: select and mount the required number of images (any size photo; one image per subject or technique; all on one 16” x 20” mount). Images should demonstrate the chosen subjects or techniques from the list below. Label each image with the represented subject or technique.

Subjects: water, color, light, shadow, texture, seasons, shapes, night, emotion, motion

Techniques: depth of field, forced perspective, light sources

*Juniors* need to include 4 different subjects or techniques; *Intermediates* – 6; *Seniors* – 8, and *Clubs* featuring two or more members – 8.

Pointers:

- May consider combining multiple photos into one larger photo print; can be easier to display
- Make sure labels are neat (i.e. not smeared, good penmanship), adequately attached, and applied straight.

Considerations:

- The photos need to be unique to this exhibit and none of them submitted in another class by the member.

Special Preparation: General preparation rules apply (see Notes).



## Selfie (or Self Portrait)

Fair book description: A single image of the photographer made by the photographer. May include others in the photo. Photo should “memorialize” a time and or place for the photographer and an explanation MUST be included on the entry card.

### Pointers:

- It still needs to be a GOOD photo, and have a “story” to go with it.

### Considerations:

- Exhibits in this class need to follow good photography guidelines. Blurry photos, poor choice of background, and photo “bombers” may not be the best exhibit.

## Innovation

This class is for intermediate and senior 4-H members to share a creative and innovative exhibit that does not fit well in the other classes. Often these exhibits will include a technological component. The exhibit must be related to the project but is otherwise open for you to share your skills and talents. Examples may include the use of technology to add another dimension to your project such as illumination or interactivity or drone photography that gives an usual view of the subject. Or it may be a creative writing relating to the project, or a blog where you share your learning and project work adventure. The Innovation Class Evaluation Form and Explanation Card are to be used for this class.

## Celebrate our World: 2017 Japan

To celebrate the diversity in our world, each year the Oregon 4-H project areas will focus attention on the cultures of a different country or region of the world. This special emphasis allows members to focus on learning about the country/region and the skills and techniques unique to that culture. Photos may be inspired by the culture also. The standard Photography Explanation Card and Evaluation Form are to be used for this class.

### Notes:

**Disclaimer:** Class list is not meant to be exhaustive of all possible categories of every photo taken. It is limited and occasionally a student will have a photography that does not fit in a given class category well.

**Judging:** The category that the photo is entered will determine what the judge is looking for. In other words, if the photo is entered in “People” and is a gorgeous picture of a sunset but a poor picture of a person, the photo will do poorly.

**General Preparation Rules:** Shortest side of photo must be at least 5”, final display size must be at least 8”x10”, no bigger than 16”x20”. Must be mounted or mounted & matted.