



JUNE 19-JULY 12
PLEASANTON 26

2026 ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR

EDUCATION & SCHOOL PROJECTS ENTRY GUIDE

No Entry Fee!

***Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline:
Wednesday, April 15 @5:00 p.m.***

Admission Tickets for Exhibitors (upon submission of entries)

- Majority of entries are **physical: One (1) admission ticket** (regardless of the number of entries) to the 2026 Alameda County Fair via email in mid-May.
- Majority of entries are **virtual: Two (2) admission tickets** (regardless of the number of entries) to the 2026 Alameda County Fair via email in mid-May.

Admission Tickets and Parking Passes for Teachers (upon submission of entries)

- Teachers submitting entries **on behalf of at least ten students**: Majority of entries are physical: **Two (2) admission tickets and One (1) parking pass** via email in mid-May.
- Teachers submitting entries **on behalf of at least ten students**: Majority of entries are virtual: **Four (4) admission tickets and Two (2) parking passes** via email in mid-May.

Alameda County Trailblazer Award

Awarded in each of the following grade levels: K-5, 6-8, & 9-12

Points will be awarded as follows:

Special Award (10), Best of Show (7), Best of Class (5), Judge's Favorite (3), 1st Place (1)

\$1,000 for the top School

\$500 for the top Teacher

\$250 for the top Teacher (3-D Art only)

****NEW** Student Champion Award:**

Top student **physical and virtual** entries will be selected in each grade category.

K-5: \$25, 6-8: \$50, 9-10: \$75, 11-12: \$75

Awards to be presented in the fall

For Questions, please contact:

entries@alamedacountyfair.com

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com with any questions and to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.



Delivery Information

Saturday, April 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Deliver to the Alameda County Fair Receiving Office

Located to the left of the Stable Cafe

(Enter through Gate 12 on Valley Avenue)

Release Information

Wednesday, July 15, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 16, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Building R

Enter through Gate 12 on Valley Avenue

****Pick Up/Drop Off Service for Teachers****

The Fair will pick up and/or drop off for schools and/or teachers.

Entries will be **picked up** at schools (date determined by location)

April 21, April 22, & April 23

Entries will be **returned** to schools/teacher-determined location (including home)

(date determined by location)

July 15, July 16, & July 17

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com for details and to sign up for this service.

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com with any questions and to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.



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Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com with any questions and to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.

Education Department Rules

The submission of an entry constitutes agreement to these rules.

1. Eligibility:

- a. The competition is open to Alameda County schools and programs (contact us for questions about eligibility outside of Alameda County).
- b. The exhibitor must prepare all entries within one year of the opening date of the Fair.
- c. Items that have been shown at previous Alameda County Fairs are not eligible and will be disqualified.
- d. With submission of entry registration, exhibitor (or teacher) confirms their ability to deliver entry to the fair on the posted delivery date(s) and time(s). Late entries will not be accepted.
- e. **No late entries will be accepted.** Any entry not submitted by 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 25 will be displayed virtually.

2. Entry Information:

- a. **Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.**
- b. The Fair will provide an exhibit tag using the information provided on the Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.
- c. Exhibit tags will be printed as entered on the Teacher Entry Spreadsheet. Any changes to the entry title or category must be emailed prior to the posted spreadsheet deadline. Once the deadline has passed, no changes may be made to the title or category entered and the entry will be judged as entered.
- d. There are two options for entry:
 - i. Virtual Entry:
 - Teachers upload entries into a provided Google Drive Folder.
 - Entries do not need to be matted or mounted.
 - Entries will be displayed virtually and accessed via QR code at the Fair.
 - Virtual Entry Upload Deadline: Friday, May 1.
 - ii. Physical Entry:
 - Teachers use the Pick-Up Service or deliver entries to the Fair.
 - Any physical entry must have the exhibitor's name, school & teacher names, and entry title indicated on the back of the entry.
 - Display guidelines must be followed.
 - Entries will be displayed physically in Buildings C (grades 9-12), O (Ag Mechanics entries), or Building R (grades TK-8).

3. Display, Handling, & Presentation of Entries:

- a. The Fair Association reserves the right to refuse any entry or refuse to display any entry considered not to be in the best interest of the Fair. No entry will be accepted where an exhibitor prescribes conditions under which they will exhibit. Once submitted, all exhibits are under the direct control of the Fair Association and cannot be removed until the specified release day.
- b. Greatest care will be exercised in handling exhibits, but the Fair Management, Alameda County Fair Association, and the County of Alameda will not be held liable for loss, theft, or damage of any kind from any cause.
- c. While entries will be secure, most items will not be displayed behind glass or in cases.
- d. **Please be aware of all requirements including size, weight, and mounting instructions. Items that do not adhere to those requirements may be displayed virtually.**
- e. Due to space limitations, some larger-sized entries may be displayed virtually.
- f. Entries that use any form of preprinted page will be displayed virtually.
- g. Entries for students in grades TK-8 will be displayed in Building R. Entries for students in grades 9-12 will be displayed in Building C. All Ag Mechanics (wood, metal, etc.) entries will be displayed in Building O.
- h. Upon submitting an entry for physical display at the Fair, the exhibitor (or teacher) agrees to pick up the entry after the fair on the posted release date.

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com with any questions and to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.



4. Judging & Awards:

- a. Entries are judged using the Danish System of Judging, where exhibits are judged against a scorecard. Multiple 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards may be given. Every entry will receive a placing and a ribbon.
 - i. All 1st place winners in a class will compete against each other for the Best of Class and all Best of Class winners within a division will then compete against each other for Best of Show. Judges may choose to omit Best of Class and Best of Show awards if there are no qualifying entries.
- b. Qualified judges are selected by the Alameda County Fair. Judging decisions are final.
- c. Sponsored Awards (see Page 18 for available sponsored awards)
 - i. Sponsored awards will be awarded from eligible entries. Each entry may only win one sponsored award.
 - ii. The Fair does not guarantee the payment of Sponsored Awards as they are secured in good faith.
- d. **Alameda County Trailblazer Award**
 - i. Only schools located in Alameda County are eligible for this award. Schools must have at least 10 students entering the 2026 Fair to be eligible for this award.
 - ii. Entries must be submitted by the Teacher using the Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.
 - iii. Awards will be calculated based on total points earned
 - Special Award (10 points), Best of Show (7 points), Best of Class (5 points), Judge's Favorite (3 points), 1st Place (1 point)
 - iv. Awards will be given for the following grade levels (K-5, 6-8, & 9-12)
 - **\$1,000 for the top School**
 - **\$500 for the top Teacher**
 - **\$250 for the top Teacher submitting 3-D Art**
 - v. **Student Champion Award**
 - **K-5 (\$25) 6-8 (\$50), 9-10 (\$75), & 11-12 (\$75)**
 - One standout entry from physical and virtual entries will be selected in each grade category.
- e. Ribbons will be handed out at entry pick up or Fair drop-off. When the exhibit tag indicates that a ribbon has been won, the ribbon is often not displayed—any ribbons won will be received after the Fair is over.

5. Entry Pick-Up

- a. Exhibits may not be removed prior to the release day(s).
- b. Exhibits may be picked up by anyone who has your claim check. Items not picked up on the regular delivery date will be sent home with the entering teacher when possible
Any unclaimed entries or ribbons will be discarded one month after the close of Fair.

Entry Deadline:

Wednesday, April 15

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet:

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet

Entry Pick Up / Drop Off:

The Fair will pick up and/or drop off for schools and/or teachers.

Entries will be **picked up** at schools (date determined by location)

April 21, April 22, & April 23

Entries will be **returned** to schools/teacher-determined location (date determined by location)

July 15, July 16, & July 17

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com for details and to sign up for this service.

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com with any questions and to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.



Ag Mechanics School Projects

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline (for Ag Mechanics entries only): Friday, May 22

Entries will be displayed in Building O.

Division 909 – Metal Work

	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12	
Class #	21	31	41	Any Metal Work Entry

Division 910 – Wood Turning

	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12	
Class #	21	31	41	Any Wood Turning Entry

Division 911 – Wood Working

	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12	
Class #	21	31	41	Furniture (bench, chair, table, etc.)
Class #	22	32	42	Any Other Wood Working Entry

- Entries in the Ag Mechanics divisions are eligible to be sold during the Fair via an online silent auction. If the student would like to offer their entry for sale, please indicate the sales price and student mailing address on the Teacher Entry Spreadsheet. There will be a 5% commission on each sale to cover auction costs. Please take the commission into account when determining the sales price.
- The Auction will close on the final date of the Fair (Sunday, July 12). Checks for sold entries will be mailed to the student address provided on the Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.

Ag Mechanics Project Pick Up / Drop Off:

The Fair will pick up and/or drop off wood projects for schools and/or teachers with 10+ entries.

Ag Mechanics Entries will be **picked up** at the school:

Wednesday, May 27

Entries will be **returned** to schools/teacher-determined location (including home)
(date determined by location)

July 15, July 16, & July 17

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com for details and to sign up for this service.

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com with any questions and to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.



Arts & Crafts School Projects

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 914 – Arts & Crafts (Physically Submitted Arts & Crafts Entries)

Division 998 – Virtual Arts & Crafts (Virtually Submitted Arts & Crafts Entries)

	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12	
Class #	21	31	41	3-D Art, Except Ceramics
Class #	22	32	42	Ceramics
Class #	23	33	43	Mosaic, Collage, Assemblage
Class #	24	34	44	Any Other (crafts, woodburning, etc.)

Special Rules

- Items may be flat or 3-Dimensional.
- All flat Physically Submitted entries **must** be either laminated or mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock.
- Flat art maximum size is **16” x 20”**.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Division 998 (Virtually Submitted, judged, and displayed entries) should be saved using the following model:
 - DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
 - Example: 998_42_KariEstabrook_CeramicPig

Celebrating 250 Years of America

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 928 – Celebrating 250 Years of America (Physically Submitted Entries)

Division 987 – Celebrating 250 Years of America (Virtually Submitted Entries)

	Grades 6-12	
Class #	11	Celebrating 250 Years of America Crafts
	12	Celebrating 250 Years of America History/Social Studies/Heritage
	13	Celebrating 250 Years of America Photos
	14	Celebrating 250 Years of America Painting & Drawing

Special Rules:

- Items may be flat or 3-Dimensional.
- All flat Physically Submitted entries **must** be either laminated or mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock.
- Flat art maximum size is **16” x 20”**.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Virtually Submitted, judged, and displayed entries should be saved using the following model:
 - DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
 - Example: 987_13_KariEstabrook_AmericanaPhoto

Entry Pick Up / Drop Off:
 The Fair will pick up and/or drop off for schools and/or teachers.
 Entries will be **picked up** at schools (date determined by location)
April 21, April 22, & April 23
 Entries will be **returned** to schools/teacher-determined location (date determined by location)
July 15, July 16, & July 17
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Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

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Community, Heritage, & Sustainability

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 927 – Community, Heritage, & Sustainability (Physically Submitted Entries)

Division 986 – Community, Heritage, & Sustainability (Virtually Submitted Entries)

Grades

6-12

Class #	11	Community/Civic Engagement
	12	Eco-Friendly Crafts
	13	History/Social Studies/Heritage
	14	Sock Monkeys

Special Rules:

- Items may be flat or 3-Dimensional.
- All flat Physically Submitted entries **must** be either laminated or mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock.
- Flat art maximum size is **16” x 20”**.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Virtually Submitted, judged, and displayed entries should be saved using the following model:
 - DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
 - Example: 986_12_KariEstabrook_UpcycledCraft

Fair or Featured Commodity Themed Art School Projects

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 926 – Fair or Featured Commodity Themed Art (Physically Submitted)

Division 988 – Virtual Fair or Featured Commodity Themed Art (Virtually Submitted)

Fair Theme: Celebrate Summer Featured Commodity: Carrots

Grades

6-12

Class #	11	Fair or Featured Commodity Themed Painting or Drawing
Class #	12	Fair or Featured Commodity Themed Any Other Project (Crafts, Creative Writing, Poster, etc.)

Special Rules:

- Items may be flat or 3-Dimensional.
- All flat Physically Submitted entries **must** be either laminated or mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock.
- Flat art maximum size is **16” x 20”**.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Fair Themed Art Entries should showcase the 2026 Alameda County Fair Theme: **Celebrate Summer**.
- Featured Commodity: **Carrots**.
- Virtually Submitted, judged, and displayed entries should be saved using the following model:
 - DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
 - Example: 988_11_KariEstabrook_CarrotPainting

Entry Pick Up / Drop Off:

The Fair will pick up and/or drop off for schools and/or teachers.

Entries will be **picked up** at schools (date determined by location)

April 21, April 22, & April 23

Entries will be **returned** to schools/teacher-determined location (date determined by location)

July 15, July 16, & July 17

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Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

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Group Projects

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 915 – Group Projects (Physically Submitted Group Projects)

Division 999 – Virtual Group Projects (Virtually Submitted Group Projects)

Grades		
6-12		
Class #	11	Arts & Crafts Group Projects
Class #	12	Any Other Group Project

Special Rules

- Items may be flat or 3-Dimensional.
- All flat Physically Submitted entries **must** be either laminated or mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock.
- Flat art maximum size is 18” x 24”.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Division 999 (Virtually Submitted, judged, and displayed entries) should be saved using the following model:
 - DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
 - Example: 999_11_KariEstabrook_CoralReefGroupProject

Home Economics School Projects

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 913 – Home Economics (Physically Submitted Home Economics Entries)

Division 984 – Virtual Home Economics (Virtually Submitted Home Economics Entries)

Grades		
6-12		
Class #	11	Clothing/Clothing Accessories
Class #	12	Interior/Fashion Design Drawings
Class #	13	Any Other (bags, pillows, quilting, etc.)

Special Rules

- Entries must be clean, neat, and ready for display.
- Items that are soiled or showing wear will not be accepted, judged, or displayed.
- All quilts and wall hangings should include a sleeve to accommodate a cross pole for hanging.
- All Physically Submitted interior/fashion design entries must be mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock.
- Maximum size for interior/fashion design entries is **16” x 20”** and may be displayed virtually due to space limitations.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Division 984 (Virtually Submitted, judged, and displayed entries) should be saved using the following model:
 - DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
 - Example: 984_11_KariEstabrook_Pajamas

Entry Pick Up / Drop Off:
 The Fair will pick up and/or drop off for schools and/or teachers.
 Entries will be **picked up** at schools (date determined by location)
April 21, April 22, & April 23
 Entries will be **returned** to schools/teacher-determined location (date determined by location)
July 15, July 16, & July 17
 Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com for details and to sign up for this service.

Students With Intellectual, Developmental, & Physical Differences School Projects

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 921 – Physically Submitted Entries by Students with Intellectual, Developmental, & Physical Differences

Division 980 – Virtually Submitted Entries by Students with Intellectual, Developmental, & Physical Differences

	Grades	
	6-12	
Class #	11	ELL/RSP/SDC Students
Class #	12	CLS/FLS Students
Class #	13	Neurodivergent Learners

Special Rules

- Entries must be clean, neat, and ready for display.
- All flat Physically Submitted entries **must** be either laminated or mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Division 980 (Virtually Submitted, judged, and displayed entries) should be saved using the following model:
 - DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
 - Example: 980_11_KariEstabrook_CatPainting

Literature Inspired Art School Projects

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 922 – Literature Inspired Art (Physically Submitted Literature Inspired Art Entries)

Division 985 – Virtual Literature Inspired Art (Virtually Submitted Literature Inspired Art Entries)

	Grades	
	6-12	
Class #	11	Literature Inspired Art

Special Rules

- Items may be flat or 3-Dimensional.
- All flat Physically Submitted entries **must** be either laminated or mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock.
- Flat art maximum size is **16" x 20"**.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Division 985 (Virtually Submitted, judged, and displayed entries) should be saved using the following model:
 - DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
 - Example: 985_11_KariEstabrook_VeryHungryCaterpillarFruit

Entry Pick Up / Drop Off:

The Fair will pick up and/or drop off for schools and/or teachers.
Entries will be **picked up** at schools (date determined by location)

April 21, April 22, & April 23

Entries will be **returned** to schools/teacher-determined location (date determined by location)

July 15, July 16, & July 17

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com for details and to sign up for this service.

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com with any questions and to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.

Painting & Drawing School Projects

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 923 – Painting (Physically Submitted Painting Entries)

Division 996 – Virtual Painting (Virtually Submitted Painting Entries)

	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12	
Class #	21	31	41	Watercolor
Class #	22	32	42	Oil/Acrylic
Class #	23	33	43	Painting, Other Media
Class #	24	34	44	Painting, Mixed Media

Division 924 – Drawing (Physically Submitted Drawing Entries)

Division 997 – Virtual Drawing (Virtually Submitted Drawing Entries)

	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12	
Class #	21	31	41	Pencil
Class #	22	32	42	Colored Pencil
Class #	23	33	43	Ink
Class #	24	34	44	Drawing, Mixed Media
Class #	25	35	45	Drawing, Other Media

Division 925 – Combination of Painting & Drawing (Physically Submitted Combo of Painting & Drawing Entries)

Division 989 – Virtual Combination of Painting & Drawing (Virtually Submitted Combo of Painting/Drawing)

	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12	
Class #	21	31	41	Combination of Painting & Drawing

Special Rules

- Flat art only. Please enter 3-D art pieces under Arts & Crafts.
- Maximum size: **18" x 24"** including frame (only canvas artwork should be framed).
- All flat Physically Submitted entries **must** be either laminated or mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock.
- Only canvas artwork may be framed and must be ready to hang with picture wire.
- Any non-canvas artwork that is framed may be displayed virtually if space is limited.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Charcoal, pastel, and pencil drawings should be protected for handling by spraying with inexpensive hairspray or a similar spray fixative.
- Division 996, 997, & 989 (Virtually Submitted, judged, and displayed art) should be saved using the following model:
 - DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
 - Example: 996_34_KariEstabrook_PinkRose

Entry Pick Up / Drop Off:

The Fair will pick up and/or drop off for schools and/or teachers.
Entries will be **picked up** at schools (date determined by location)

April 21, April 22, & April 23

Entries will be **returned** to schools/teacher-determined location (date determined by location)

July 15, July 16, & July 17

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com for details and to sign up for this service.

Photography School Projects

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com with any questions and to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.

Division 918 – Traditional Photography

	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12	
Class #	21	31	41	Any Traditional Photography Entry

Division 919 – Digital Photography (Physically Submitted/Printed Photos)

Division 990 – Digital Photography (Virtually Submitted Photos)

	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12	
Class #	211	311	411	Action
Class #	212	312	412	Architectural
Class #	213	313	413	Candid, Animal or People
Class #	214	314	414	Nature Study & Landscape
Class #	215	315	415	Portrait, Animal
Class #	216	316	416	Portrait, People
Class #	217	317	417	Scenes
Class #	218	318	418	Still Life
Class #	219	319	419	Special Effects/Composite
Class #	220	320	420	Commercial/Advertising Project
Class #	221	321	421	Fair or Featured Commodity Theme (Celebrate Summer or Carrots)
Class #	222	322	422	Abstract
Class #	223	323	423	Photoshopping Abstract
Class #	224	324	424	Macro/Bokeh (extreme close-up)
Class #	225	325	425	Warped Perspective (fisheye, tilt-shift, etc.)
Class #	226	326	426	Color Emphasis
Class #	227	327	427	Triptych

Special Rules

- Traditional Photography: Photos shot on film and developed by the exhibitor using wet chemical processing.
- **Physical photo size must be 8x10 mounted on 11x14 mat board or heavy cardstock. Photos may not be framed.**
- Photos may not be entered in more than one class. Duplicate photos will be disqualified.
- Black & White and Color prints will be combined for judging.
- Minor edits to photos in all categories are allowed, including cropping, red-eye removal, and brightness adjustment.
- Triptych is 1 entry consisting of 3 images stacked or custom created in Photoshop and must all fit on one 11x14 mat board.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Division 990 (Virtually Submitted, judged, and displayed photos) should be saved using the following model:
 - DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
 - Example: 990_314_KariEstabrook_PinkRose

Entry Pick Up / Drop Off:
 The Fair will pick up and/or drop off for schools and/or teachers.
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July 15, July 16, & July 17
 Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com for details and to sign up for this service.

STEAM

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 912 – STEAM (Physically Submitted STEAM Entries)

Division 983 – Virtual STEAM (Virtually Submitted STEAM Entries)

	Grades	
	6-12	
Class #	11	Science Projects
Class #	12	Math Art
Class #	13	Graphics--Computer Generated
Class #	14	Graphics—Hand Generated (i.e., Calligraphy)
Class #	15	Any Other STEAM Projects

Special Rules

- This division is for entries related to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math).
- Exhibits may include a poster board with a maximum size: 22” x 30” or educational displays (cardboard or foam board bi-fold or tri-fold). Maximum size for all other entries: 16” x 20”.
- All flat Physically Submitted entries **must** be either laminated or mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Division 983 (Virtually Submitted, judged, and displayed entries) should be saved using the following model:
 - DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
 - Example: 983_12_KariEstabrook_MathArt

Entry Pick Up / Drop Off:
 The Fair will pick up and/or drop off for schools and/or teachers.
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July 15, July 16, & July 17
 Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com for details and to sign up for this service.



Virtual Miscellaneous Categories (Grades 6-12)

Entries in these categories are submitted, judged, and displayed virtually.
No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 991 – Drafting

Class: 11 – Any Drafting Entry

Division 992 – Digital Drawing & Painting

Class: 11 – Any Digital Drawing and/or Painting Entry

Division 993 – Website Development

Class: 11 – Any Website Development Entry

Division 994 – Video/Animation

Class 10: Music Video

Class 11: Documentary

Class 12: Commercial

Class 13: Short Film

Class 14: 2-D Animation

Class 15: 3-D Animation

Class 16: Stop Motion Animation

Division 995– Creative Writing (Poetry & Short Stories)

Class 21: Grades 6-8

Class 31: Grades 9-10

Class 41: Grades 11-12

General Information for all Virtual Categories:

1. Entries will be submitted, judged, and displayed virtually via QR code.
2. Entries do not need to be matted, mounted, labeled, or conform to size restrictions.
3. All entries will receive comments from the judges and ribbons.
4. Exhibitors will receive one free general admission ticket upon submission of the entry (one free ticket per exhibitor, regardless of the number of entries in this and non-virtual categories).

Website Development:

1. The home page must have the exhibitor's name and date last updated or posted. There should be at least three exhibitor-created pages (in addition to the home page) linked to the home page.
2. All non-original work (pictures, clip art, ideas, text, etc.) must be cited on the page they appear.
3. Websites must be public from the entry deadline through the end of the Fair.

Videos:

1. All work must be original and follow copyright laws.
2. Only the first 10 minutes of the video is guaranteed to be judged.

Creative Writing:

1. Creative Writing Only (poems, short stories, etc.). Reports will not be accepted or judged.
2. Only the first two pages are guaranteed to be judged.

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com with any questions and to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.

Elementary School Projects Special Rules

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Physically Submitted Entries:

All Categories:

- Entries must be clean, neat, and ready for display.
- Spray adhesives and rubber cement do not hold well. Use dry mount or permanent adhesives when possible.
- Please include the student's first and last name, school, and teacher on the back of all entries.

Creative Writing:

- Creative Writing with an artistic element (watercolor poetry, for example) may be submitted physically provided it is either laminated or properly mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock.
- Physically Submitted Creative Writing is limited to one page.

Painting & Drawing:

- Maximum size: **11" x 14"** (only canvas artwork should be framed & must be ready to hang with picture wire).
- Any non-canvas artwork that is framed may be displayed virtually if space is limited.
- All flat Physically Submitted entries **must** be either laminated or mounted on mat board or heavy cardstock. We will hang entries using museum putty which needs a sturdy backing to protect artwork. *If entries are not laminated or mounted with sturdy backing, they may be displayed virtually.*
- Charcoal, pastel, and pencil drawings should be protected for handling by spraying with inexpensive hairspray or a similar spray fixative.

Science Projects:

- Science projects may include a poster board (maximum size: 18" x 22") or educational displays (cardboard or foam board bi-fold or tri-fold).

Virtually Submitted Entries:

All Categories:

- Entries should be saved using the following model:
DivisionNumber_ClassNumber_FirstNameLastName_EntryTitle
- Example: 973_14_KariEstabrook_WatercolorCat

Creative Writing:

- Creative Writing entries should be submitted digitally via PDF into the Google Drive folder provided.
- Only the first two pages of creative writing will be judged.
- Creative writing only. Reports will not be accepted or judged.

Entry Pick Up / Drop Off:

The Fair will pick up and/or drop off for schools and/or teachers.
Entries will be **picked up** at schools (date determined by location)

April 21, April 22, & April 23

Entries will be **returned** to schools/teacher-determined location (date determined by location)

July 15, July 16, & July 17

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com for details and to sign up for this service.

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com with any questions and to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.

Elementary School Categories

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 930 – Elementary Arts & Crafts (Physically Submitted Elementary School Arts & Crafts Entries)

Division 970 – Virtual Elementary Arts & Crafts (Virtually Submitted Elementary Arts & Crafts Entries)

	Grades	Grades	
	TK-2	3-5	
Class #	01	11	3-D Arts & Crafts Entries
Class #	02	12	Collage & Assemblage

Division 931 – Elementary Community, Heritage, & Sustainability (Physically Submitted)

Division 971 – Virtual Community, Heritage, & Sustainability (Virtually Submitted)

	Grades	Grades	
	TK-2	3-5	
Class #	01	11	Community/Civic Engagement
	02	12	Eco-Friendly Crafts
	03	13	History/Social Studies/Heritage

Division 932 – Elementary Creative Writing (Physically Submitted Elementary School Creative Writing Entries)

Division 972 – Virtual Creative Writing (Virtually Submitted Elementary School Creative Writing Entries)

	Grades	Grades	
	TK-2	3-5	
Class #	01	11	Poetry & Short Stories

Division 933 – Elementary Painting & Drawing (Physically Submitted Elementary School Painting & Drawing Entries)

Division 973 – Virtual Painting & Drawing (Virtually Submitted Elementary School Painting & Drawing Entries)

Physical Entry: Maximum size: **11" x 14"** (only canvas may be framed)

	Grades	Grades	
	TK-2	3-5	
Class #	01	11	Drawings—Pencil and/or Colored Pencil
Class #	02	12	Drawings—Pen (Marker, Ink, etc.)
Class #	03	13	Drawings—Any Other (Crayon, Pastel, etc.)
Class #	04	14	Paintings—Watercolor
Class #	05	15	Paintings—Acrylic/Oil
Class #	06	16	Paintings—Any Other (Tempera, Spray Paint, etc.)
Class #	07	17	Combination of Painting & Drawing
Class #	08	18	Bubble, Resist, Sponge, etc. Painting & Drawing
Class #	09	19	Directed Painting or Drawing

Division 934 – Elementary STEAM Projects (Physically Submitted Elementary STEAM Entries)

Division 974 – Virtual STEAM Projects (Virtually Submitted Elementary STEAM Entries)

	Grades	Grades	
	TK-2	3-5	
Class #	01	11	Science Projects
Class #	02	12	Math Art
Class #	03	13	Any Other STEAM Entries (computer science, photography, rockets, etc.)

Teacher Entry Spreadsheet Deadline is April 15

Please email entries@alamedacountyfair.com with any questions and to request a Teacher Entry Spreadsheet.

Elementary School Categories Continued

No Entry Fee. No Entry Limit.

Division 935 – Elementary Group Projects (Physically Submitted Elementary School Group Projects)
Division 975 – Virtual Elementary Group Projects (Virtually Submitted Elementary School Group Projects)

	Grades	
	TK-5	
Class #	11	Elementary School Group Project

Division 936 – Elementary Fair or Featured Commodity Themed Projects (Physically Submitted)
Division 976 – Virtual Elementary Fair or Featured Commodity Themed Projects (Virtually Submitted)

Fair Theme: Celebrate Summer Featured Commodity: Carrots

	Grades	Grades	
	TK-2	3-5	
Class #	01	11	Elementary School Fair or Featured Commodity Themed Painting or Drawing
Class #	02	12	Elementary School Fair or Featured Commodity Themed Any Other (Crafts, Creative Writing, Poster, etc.)

Division 937 – Elementary Literature Based Art (Physically Submitted Elementary Literature Based Art)
Division 977 – Virtual Elementary Literature Based Art Projects (Virtually Submitted Elementary Literature Based Art)

	Grades	
	TK-5	
Class #	11	Elementary School Literature Based Art

Division 938 – Physically Submitted Entries by Students with Intellectual, Developmental, or Physical Differences
Division 978 – Virtually Submitted Entries by Students with Intellectual, Developmental, or Physical Differences

	Grades	
	TK-5	
Class #	11	ELL/RSP/SDC Students
Class #	12	CLS/FLS Students
Class #	13	Neurodivergent Students

Division 939 – Elementary Celebrating 250 Years of America (Physically Submitted Elementary Projects)
Division 979 – Virtual Elementary Celebrating 250 Years of America (Virtually Submitted Elementary Projects)

	Grades	
	TK-5	
Class #	11	Celebrating 250 Years of America Crafts
Class #	12	Celebrating 250 Years of America History/Social Studies/Heritage
Class #	13	Celebrating 250 Years of America Photos
Class #	14	Celebrating 250 Years of America Painting & Drawing

Education/School Project Sponsored Awards

We appreciate our generous sponsors for the awards for the 2026 Alameda County Fair!
All eligible entries will automatically be considered. Winners will be contacted via email in May.

Alan & Missy Rubinstein

Best Action Photography \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Floral Photography: \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Macro/Bokeh Photography \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)

California Watercolor Association

California Watercolor Award \$50 - 4 awards: grades 6-8 (physical & virtual) & 9-12 (physical & virtual)

Deb Bailey

Best Ceramic Piece \$20 (3 awards: grades 6-8, 9-10, & 11-12)

Gary & Nancy Oehrle

Best Portrait of a Person \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Still Life \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)

Laurel Seymour-Beebe & Ken Beebe

Sponsor's Favorite \$20 (2 awards available)

Livermore Art Association

Best Acrylic/Oil Painting \$20 (4 awards: grades TK-5 & 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Black & White Drawing \$20 (4 awards: grades TK-5 & 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Color Drawing \$20 (4 awards: grades TK-5 & 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Combination of Painting & Drawing \$20 (4 awards: grades TK-5 & 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Commodity/Fair Themed Painting or Drawing \$20 (2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Commodity/Fair Themed Painting or Drawing \$20 (2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)

Micheli Family

Best Animal Photo \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Most Artistic Photography \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)

Norman Bailey

Best Woodworking \$20 - grades 6-12

Richard & Wanda Finn

Best Black & White Photography \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Landscape Photography \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Mountainscape \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Old Time House or Building Photography \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)
Best Seascape \$20 - 2 awards: grades 6-12 (physical & virtual)

Tri-Valley Writers CWC Tri-Valley Branch

Best Creative Writing \$20 (4 awards: grades TK-5, 6-8, 9-10, & 11-12)

Awards are secured in good faith. Awards are subject to change. The Fair does not guarantee sponsored awards.

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