



**JUNE 19-JULY 12**

**PLEASANTON 26**

# **2026 ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR ADULT FINE ARTS ENTRY GUIDE**

**Entry Fees:**

**\$10 per entry**

**(2-D Art, 3-D/Sculpture, AI Art, Photography, & Plein Air Painting Contest)**

**\$7 per entry**

**(Poetry & Virtually Displayed Entries)**

**\$5 per entry**

**(Poems and Photos at the Fair)**

***Entry Deadline: Wednesday, May 13 @ 5:00 p.m.***

For most categories. Please see the following page for details.

**Click [HERE](#) to enter!**

Each exhibitor who submits an image or entry for judging will receive an e-ticket (one per exhibitor regardless of the number of entries) good for one admission to the 2026 Alameda County Fair.

Tickets will be sent to the e-mail on file prior to the opening date of the fair.

Tickets are good for any day the Fair is open.

For Questions, please contact:

**[entries@alamedacountyfair.com](mailto:entries@alamedacountyfair.com)**

or call 925-426-7611 to leave a message



**JUNE 19-JULY 12**  
PLEASANTON 26

# 2026 Adult Fine Arts Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 10	May 11	May 12	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16
			Entry Registration & Image Upload Deadline 5:00 p.m.			
May 17	May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23
			Notification for Round 2 Selection (via email)			
May 24	May 25	May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30
			Entry Registration & Image Upload Deadline for Virtually Displayed Entries			
May 31	June 1	June 2	June 3	June 4	June 5	June 6
			DELIVER ENTRIES: Selected for Round 2 (By Appointment 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)	DELIVER ENTRIES: Selected for Round 2 (By Appointment 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)	DELIVER ENTRIES Selected for Round 2: 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 pm	DELIVER ENTRIES: Selected for Round 2 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 pm
June 7	June 8	June 9	June 10	June 11	June 12	June 13
June 14	June 15	June 16	June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20
					Opening Day	
June 21	June 22	June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27
Entry Registration Deadline 5:00 p.m. Plein Air Painting Contest	Fair Closed	Fair Closed		Plein Air Painting Contest 12:00-6:00 p.m.		
June 28	June 29	June 30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4
	Fair Closed	Fair Closed				
July 5	July 6	July 7	July 8	July 9	July 10	July 11
	Fair Closed	Fair Closed				
July 12	July 13	July 14	July 15	July 16	July 17	July 18
Last Day of Fair	Entry Registration & Submission Deadline for Photos at the Fair and Poems at the Fair		Release of All Entries 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Release of All Entries 9:00 am to 1:00 pm		



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## Adult Fine Arts Department Rules

**The submission of an entry constitutes agreement to these rules.**

1. Eligibility & Entries:
  - a. The competition is for residents of California who are at least 18 years old as of January 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - b. Each exhibitor may submit a maximum of 6 entries in each division.
  - c. Entries must be made, personally, by the exhibitor. Original work only. No kits, direct copies of original work, classroom assignments, or group work are permitted.
  - d. All entries must be completed within two years of the opening date of the Fair.
  - e. Entries registered in any prior Alameda County Fair are not eligible for entry and will be disqualified.
  - f. Exhibitors may not submit the same entry at two or more fairs that require them to be on exhibit at the same time unless prior written approval has been obtained from both fairs.
  - g. No flat glass pieces will be accepted. All glass entries that are not 3-D, self-supporting, and under 30 pounds must be entered in the adult still exhibits department in the stained/fused glass division.
  - h. Exhibitors are solely responsible for reading the competition guidelines and rules as well as entering their items in the correct Divisions & Classes. While staff will try to catch any rule violations regarding hanging, framing, matting, etc. upon delivery, it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to ensure that their entry is in accordance with the rules within this entry guide.**
  - i. No refunds will be issued for items incorrectly entered by the exhibitor, for failure to upload images, or for entries juried out during round 1 or round 2 the judging process.
  - j. All state and local rules apply.
  - k. With submission of entry registration, the exhibitor confirms their ability to deliver their entry to the fair on the posted delivery date(s) and time(s). All entries that pass the first round of judging must be wired and ready to hang when delivered to the fair. \*See page 14 for acceptable wiring\*
  - l. Fair-provided exhibit tags will be printed as entered. Any changes to the entry title or category must be emailed prior to the posted registration deadline. Once the deadline has passed, no changes may be made to the category entered and the entry will be judged as entered.
2. Juried Exhibition:
  - a. The Adult Fine Arts Department is a juried exhibition. Not all entries are accepted for physical display at the Fair. All entries must be registered online with required images uploaded by the registration deadline. Entries will first be judged from the uploaded images and given a score from each judge. Scores will be combined, with the top percentage of scores in each category being invited for physical display at the fair. Entries will then be judged in person and placings will be awarded. Judging decisions are final.
  - b. Qualified judges are selected by the Alameda County Fair and are recognized authorities in the art world.
  - c. Exhibitors whose entries have been selected for round two, in person judging will be contacted via email on May 20. Exhibitors will receive a separate email for each entry that has been selected for round 2 of judging.
  - d. Entries accepted for round two may not differ from the uploaded image in any way or the entry will be disqualified. The Fair watermarks online images. If a watermark is added by the exhibitor, the entry must be printed with the watermark included for the second round of judging and during display at the Fair.
3. Judging & Awards:
  - a. Entries are judged using the American System of Judging where exhibits are judged against each other. Best of Class, Silver, Fair Theme, and Honorable Mention awards may be awarded in each class at the discretion of the judge(s).
  - b. Jury selection is final. The judges' decisions are final and cannot be protested.
  - c. Exhibitors whose entries are juried out during round 2 judging will be notified by email on Monday, June 8.
  - d. Awards will be posted by the winning entries hanging at the Fair. Exhibitors will not be notified.
  - e. Each entry is restricted to one cash prize. Exhibitors may earn multiple awards. However, only their top two awards per class will earn a cash prize. Cash awards will be available during entry release.
  - f. During the Fair, fairgoers vote for their favorite piece in each of the Fine Art divisions. Public Favorite Awards will be posted by the winning entries during the closing weekend of the Fair.
  - g. Purchase Awards: The Alameda County Fair may purchase pieces from the exhibit. These purchases will become part of the Alameda County Fair's permanent collection.



4. Display, Handling, Presentation, & Release 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 entries are under the direct control of the Fair Association and may not 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. Submission of any work constitutes an agreement to this effect.
  - c. Right to Reproduce: The right to reproduce images of any work accepted by the judges is assumed by the Fair Association. This use would be ONLY for publicity and promotion of the Alameda County Fair.
  - d. **Works are hung under cover, outdoors.**
  - e. Fine Art, Poetry, and Photography may be mixed for display within the exhibit area. The Alameda County Fair assumes total design control over the presentation of the exhibit.
  - f. Upon submitting an entry for physical display at the Fair, the exhibitor agrees to pick up the entry on the posted release dates. Failure to pick up the entry may affect selection for display at future Alameda County Fairs.
  - g. Any unclaimed entries or ribbons will be held at the Exhibits Office for one month after the closing date of the Fair. After that point, they will be discarded.
5. Sales:
  - a. The physical entry (including frame) as it is on display is what is purchased by the buyer when art is sold. This must be the original piece and not a copy.
  - b. During entry registration, include price of art or NFS if not for sale.  
We DO NOT offer either POR (Price on Request) or Best Offer as options.
  - c. Average prices run from \$50 to \$2,500. Maximum sales price: \$5,000.
  - d. The Alameda County Fair will retain a 20% sales commission from each sale.
  - e. Any requests for changes to sales prices must be made via email at least one week prior to delivery.
  - f. All sales originating at the Fair must be completed in their entirety before the conclusion of the fair. There are no exceptions to this rule.
  - g. Entrants will be notified of a sale via email. Payment will be mailed within two weeks of the sale.
  - h. All sale funds become the property of the Fair until sold pieces are relinquished to the buyer.
6. Tips & Instructions for Entry:
  - a. You will need a digital photo of your art piece or a PDF for poetry to enter the contest.
  - b. Digital Image Size: The ideal resolution in pixels is 800x800 (length x width). Images that are larger than this need to be resampled (resized) to that size while still maintaining the original aspect ratio. Exhibitors may choose to upload images that do not match the “ideal size”. The maximum storage size limit is 8 MB.
  - c. Division and Class: An entry eligible in more than one Division and/or Class should be entered in the Division and/or Class for which it best qualifies. The Alameda County Fair or judges may disqualify or transfer entries to the correct category (at their discretion). It is not, however, the responsibility of the Alameda County Fair or judges to transfer an entry to the correct class or division.
  - d. **Title: Use a short title as the entry software has a character limit.** Any requests for changes to the entry title must be made via email prior to the entry registration deadline. Titles cannot be changed after the entry deadline has passed and will be displayed as entered on the exhibit tag on display for the duration of the Fair.
  - e. Description: The description should be brief. The description will not be included on the exhibit tag.
7. How to Enter & Upload Digital Images (for Round 1 of Judging):
  - a. Review the Fine Arts Department Entry Guide.
  - b. Go to: <https://alamed.fairwire.com> and Register/Log-In.
  - c. Select the “Create Entries” option.
  - d. Choose the Department/Division/Class for each entry.
  - e. Enter the Title, Description (if desired), and Sale Price (or NFS).
  - f. Complete payment of entry fees. (Entries are not accepted prior to payment of entry fees.)
  - g. After payment, select **UPLOAD MEDIA** and follow the prompts to upload the digital image file that corresponds with the Title/Description. **If you have multiple entries, please carefully look at the Title/Description in the top right-hand corner when uploading the digital images to ensure the image matches the entry.**
  - h. Refunds will not be issued for failure to upload entries.
  - i. Upon receipt of entry fees, an email confirmation will be sent. This will be your receipt for the entry fee. If you have any questions or do not receive an email confirmation, please contact us prior to re-entering to avoid duplicate entries.



## 3-D Art Sculptures

Entry & Image Upload Deadline: May 13 @ 5:00 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)

Wednesday, June 3 & Thursday, June 4 (By Appointment: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Friday, June 5 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 6 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1. Entry Limit: 6 Entries Per Division Per Exhibitor
2. **All entries must be 3-Dimensional and be free-standing/self-supporting.**
3. Any Art Sculpture(s) exceeding 20” high, if accepted, cannot be guaranteed placement in a display case, and may be installed on an uncovered pedestal.
4. Sculptures may not exceed 6’ high and must stand alone (without support from a wall).
5. Weight Limit: 30 pounds.
6. Cash Awards:
  - a. Best of Show - \$300
  - b. Best of Class - \$200
  - c. Silver Award - \$150
  - d. Fair Theme Award -\$150
  - e. Celebrating 250 Years of America Award - \$150
  - f. Honorable Mention – Ribbon only
  - g. Judge’s Favorite – Ribbon only

### **Division 205 3-D Art Sculptures**

Class:	01	Clay
	02	Metal (no jewelry)
	03	Wood
	04	Mixed Media
	05	Other (Glass, Paper, etc.)



## 2-D Art

Entry & Image Upload Deadline: May 13 @ 5:00 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)

Wednesday, June 3 & Thursday, June 4 (By Appointment: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Friday, June 5 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 6 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1. Entry Limit: 6 Entries Per Division Per Exhibitor
2. This division is for 2-Dimensional paintings, drawings, and mixed media. Items that are predominantly textiles should be entered in the Adult Still Exhibits Department.
3. Size Limits: Maximum size is 40” high x 60” wide (including the frame).
4. Weight Limit: 30 pounds.
5. Entries selected for display must be properly wired to hang. **See page 14 for hanging instructions.**
6. All pieces must be original art. Giclées will not be accepted.
7. Computer Generated Art: Drawings/Paintings created by the exhibitor using computer software. Entries must be the original work of the exhibitor.
8. Cash Awards:
  - a. Best of Show - \$300
  - b. Best of Class - \$200
  - c. Silver Award - \$150
  - d. Fair Theme Award - \$150
  - e. Celebrating 250 Years of America Award - \$150
  - f. Honorable Mention – Ribbon only
  - g. Judge’s Favorite – Ribbon only
  - h. Public Favorite - \$50 Gift Certificate from Studio Seven (400 Main St. in Pleasanton)

### **Division 204 2-D Art**

Class:	01	Oil Painting
	02	Acrylic Painting
	03	Aqua Media (Watercolor, Gouache, Tempera, etc.)
	04	Prints (Engraving, Etching, Woodcut, Lithography, etc.)
	05	Pastels
	06	2-D Mixed Media or Collage
	07	Drawing (Graphite, Ink, Pencil, Charcoal, etc.)
	08	Computer Generated Art (Drawing/Painting by hand on a computer)



## Photography

Entry & Image Upload Deadline: May 13 @ 5:00 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)

Wednesday, June 3 & Thursday, June 4 (By Appointment: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Friday, June 5 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 6 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1. Entry Limit: 6 Entries Per Division Per Exhibitor
2. Size Limit: Maximum size 40” high x 60” wide including the frame.
3. Weight Limit: 30 pounds.
4. Entries selected for display must be properly wired to hang. **See page 14 for hanging instructions.**
5. ***All paper photography prints must use a black or white non-decorative frame. No mats are required, but any mats used must be white.***
6. All classes include film as well as digital capture.
7. In Classes 1-5, processing may include adjustments with dodge/burn, sharpen/blur, exposure, and contrast.
8. Class definitions:
  1. Portraiture: A photograph of a person that illustrates the subject’s personal characteristics.
  2. Color Photograph of a Natural Landscape: Natural landscapes are untouched by human activity. These photos are without humans or manmade structures (buildings, bridges, piers, fences, roads, vehicles, etc.).
  3. Color Photograph of Animals/Wildlife
  4. Color Photograph of any subject other than Portraiture, Natural Landscape and Animal/Wildlife.
  5. Monochrome: Black and white photograph or any single color or hue in varying tones.
  6. Alternative Process/Mixed Media: Entries are defined by the photographic, digital, or artistic process. Alternative processes include pinhole, infrared, tintype, daguerreotype, cyanotype, photogram, and toy/plastic camera. Photographic mixed media processes include tinting, painting, pencil, pastel, collage, and digital manipulation. All mixed media entries must remain 2-Dimensional.
9. Cash Awards:
  - a. Best of Show - \$300
  - b. Best of Class - \$200
  - c. Silver Award - \$150
  - d. Fair Theme Award - \$150
  - e. Celebrating 250 Years of America Award - \$150
  - f. Honorable Mention – Ribbon only
  - g. Judge’s Favorite – Ribbon only
  - h. Public Favorite – \$50 Gift Certificate from Way Up Art & Frame (1912 2<sup>nd</sup> St. in Livermore)

### **Division 206 Photography**

Class:	01	Portraiture
	02	Color Photography of a Natural Landscape
	03	Color Photography of Animals/Wildlife
	04	Color Photography of Any Other Subject
	05	Monochrome
	06	Alternative Processing/Mixed Media



## Poetry

Entry & Image Upload Deadline: May 13 @ 5:00 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)

Wednesday, June 3 & Thursday, June 4 (By Appointment: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)  
 Friday, June 5 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
 Saturday, June 6 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1. Entry Limit: 6 Entries Per Division Per Exhibitor
2. Size Limit: Poetry frame size is limited to a maximum of 16” x 20” (length x width).
3. Weight Limit: 30 pounds.
4. Entries selected for display must be properly wired to hang. **See page 14 for hanging instructions.**
5. Cash Awards:
  - a. Best of Show - \$100
  - b. Silver Award - \$50
  - c. Fair Theme Award - \$50
  - d. Celebrating 250 Years of America Award - \$50
  - e. Honorable Mention – Ribbon only
  - f. Judge’s Favorite – Ribbon only
  - g. Public Favorite - \$30 Gift Certificate from Towne Center Books (555 Main St. in Pleasanton)

### Division 207 Poetry

Class:            01    Poetry



## Virtually Displayed Art & Photography

**Entry & Image Upload Deadline: May 27 @ 5:00 p.m.**

1. Entry Limit: 6 Entries Per Division Per Exhibitor
2. Entries in this division will be **displayed virtually** (accessed via QR code posted at the Fair) and are **NOT eligible for sale**.
3. Entries will be judged solely on the uploaded image.
4. All work must be the original work of the exhibitor.
5. Cash Awards:
  - a. Best of Show - \$100
  - b. Silver Award - \$50
  - c. Fair Theme Award - \$50
  - d. Celebrating 250 Years of America Award - \$50
  - e. Honorable Mention – Ribbon only
  - f. Judge’s Favorite – Ribbon only

### **Division 209 Virtually Displayed Art**

Class: 01 2-D Art

### **Division 210 Virtually Displayed Photography**

Class: 01 Photography



## AI Art

Entry & Image Upload Deadline: May 13 @ 5:00 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)

Wednesday, June 3 & Thursday, June 4 (By Appointment: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Friday, June 5 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 6 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1. Entry Limit: 6 Entries Per Division Per Exhibitor
2. This division is for art created using artificial intelligence/editing programs.
3. **Original Work:** All submissions must be original work created by the exhibitor. AI may be used as a tool, but the final piece must reflect the exhibitor’s unique vision and input.
4. **Final submissions must be at least 75% handmade.**
5. **AI Tool Disclosure & Attribution Statement:** Exhibitors must include a description identifying any AI tools or software used in the creation process (e.g., MidJourney, DALL·E, or custom models) as well as stating the role of AI in the artwork. (e.g., “This piece was created using MidJourney for initial concept generation. Final composition and detailing were done manually in Photoshop.”)
6. To limit copyright disputes, exhibitors are encouraged to use AI tools and Systems to create a concept or use AI to assist in their creative problem solving.
7. Exhibitors must upload the original AI Generated Art to compare to their final work.
8. **Systems, picture seeds, or original photos must be copyright-free and must not reflect living artists.** The Alameda County Fair reserves the right to request proof of ownership of the original image, discord server, prompts used, or any other AI tools or system used to create the starting image.
9. Size Limit: Maximum size 40” high x 60” wide including the frame.
10. Weight Limit: 30 pounds.
11. Entries selected for display must be properly wired to hang. **See page 14 for hanging instructions.**
12. **All prints must use a black or white non-decorative frame. No mats are required, but any mats used must be white.**
13. Cash Awards:
  - a. Best of Show - \$100
  - b. Silver Award - \$50
  - c. Fair Theme Award - \$50
  - d. Celebrating 250 Years of America Award - \$50
  - e. Honorable Mention – Ribbon only
  - f. Judge’s Favorite – Ribbon only

**Division 203 AI Art**

Class: 01 AI Art



**Fair Time Competitions**  
**Submission of entry constitutes agreement to all Fine Arts Department rules.**

**Plein Air Painting Contest**

**Entry Deadline: June 21 @ 11:59 p.m.**

**Contest Info:**

**Date: Thursday, June 25**

**Painting: 12:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**Judging: 6:30 p.m.**

1. Entry Limit: 1 Piece Per Exhibitor
2. Each contestant will receive two electronic admission passes (one for the exhibitor and one for a helper) and one parking pass via the email used during registration. Passes will be emailed the week of June 21.
3. Fair gates open at 12:00 p.m. Contestants must check in at the Fine Arts Plaza by 12:30 p.m. The artist's canvas, paper, board, etc. must be stamped by the art staff prior to beginning work.
4. Contestants must bring their own supplies including canvas, art supplies, frame, and wiring supplies.
5. Contestants must be ready to paint on location within the fairgrounds.
  - a. Maximum canvas size: 18" x 24".
  - b. Artwork must be affixed to a firm support board.
6. At the conclusion of the contest, artwork will be brought back to the Fine Arts Plaza for judging.
7. Due to limited space, only artwork selected by the judge will be hung for display during the remainder of the Fair. Exhibitors will assign a sale price or select NFS (Not For Sale).
8. All artists should be prepared to frame their work if artwork is selected for hanging in the winner's display. Artists must be prepared to pick up their unsold art on the published release day.
9. Cash Awards: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$200 + Rosette, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$150 + Rosette, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$100 + Rosette, HM: Rosette

**Division 211 Plein Air Painting Contest**

Class: 01 Plein Air Painting Contest



## Fair Time Competitions

Submission of entry constitutes agreement to all Fine Arts Department rules.

### Photos at the Fair

**Entry & Upload Deadline: July 13 @ 11:59 p.m.**

1. Enter online and upload images by Monday, July 13.
2. Entry Limit: 6 Entries Per Exhibitor
3. Digital image must be original and taken at the 2026 Alameda County Fair.
4. The first, second, and third place winners will automatically be accepted into the 2027 Alameda County Fair Fine Arts Exhibition provided entries are printed at exhibition quality and framed per the requirements of the exhibition as stated in the Department rules.
5. Award winners will be notified by email in late July.
6. Cash Awards: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$25 + Rosette, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$15 + Rosette, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$10 + Rosette.

#### **Division 212 Photos at the Fair**

Class: 01 Photos at the Fair

### Poems at the Fair

**Entry Deadline: July 13 @ 11:59 p.m.**

1. Enter online and upload PDF by Monday, July 13.
2. Entrants will receive date-stamped cardstock. Poems are to be inspired by the 2026 Alameda County Fair.
3. Entry limit: 6 Entries Per Exhibitor
4. The first, second, and third place winners will automatically be accepted into the 2027 Alameda County Fair Fine Arts Exhibition provided they are framed per the requirements of the exhibition as stated in the Department rules.
5. Award winners will be notified by email in late July.
6. Cash Awards: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$25 + Rosette, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$15 + Rosette, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$10 + Rosette.

#### **Division 213 Poems at the Fair**

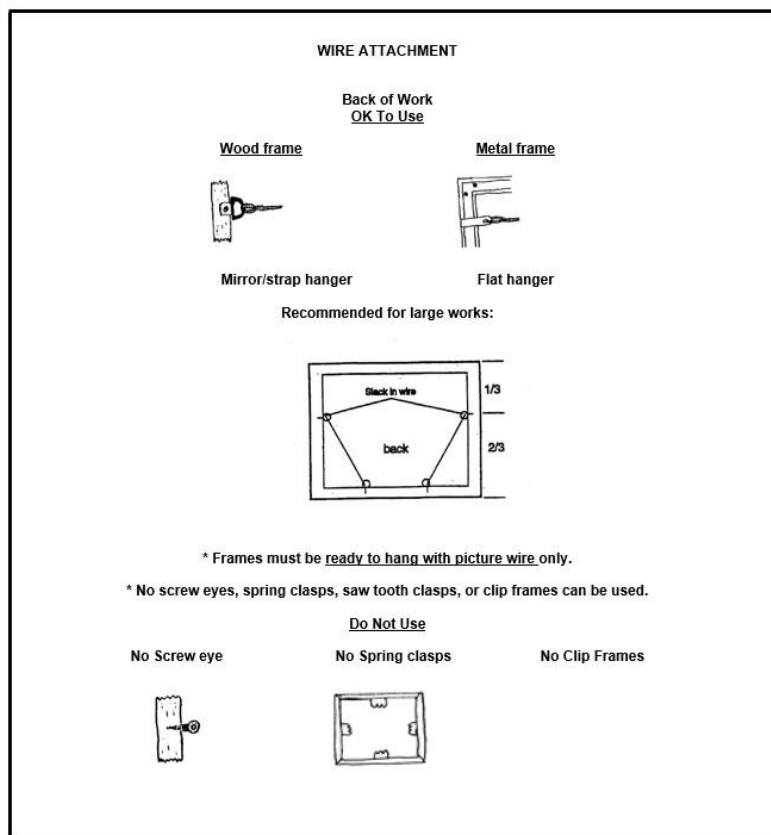
Class: 01 Poems at the Fair



### **Hanging Diagram with illustrations for all Framed Entries:**

These instructions were created to ensure the safety of your work and the Fine Arts Plaza.

We can only accept work for judging which follows these guidelines.  
Please also see individual categories for specific rules and requirements.



### Photography Entries:

*All paper photography prints must use a black or white non-decorative frame.  
No mats are required, but any mats used must be white.*



## Fine Art Department Judges

### DAVE WAGNER: 2-D ART JUDGE:



Dave Wagner's art career began in high school when the Sacramento Comic Press published a series of his humorous cartoons which were included in a traveling show.

He later attended Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, where he did editorial drawings for the student newspaper and earned a BS in Graphic Design in 2000. Upon graduating, he worked as a designer and painter for Douglas Bouman & Associates, a fine art and mural company in San Luis Obispo with a worldwide clientele. Dave was the primary designer and artist for a twelve-piece series of large-scale digital paintings at the Stratosphere Casino in Las Vegas. He was also one of five artists sent to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, to paint wall and ceiling murals at a new Four Seasons Hotel owned by the Royal Family of Saud.

Dave worked for two years as a designer and manager at an event planning and marketing company in Barcelona, Spain. He returned to the U.S. and taught Art and Geography at an inner-city high school in Sacramento.

In 2005, Dave received a generous scholarship to attend the California College of the Arts (CCA) in Oakland and San Francisco. He earned a BFA from CCA in 2007. The CCA Art Faculty selected him to receive his degree With Distinction, one of two students from his department to be so honored.

Dave continued to work on his art while living in Berkeley, and later, the redwood forests in Northern California.

In 2011 Dave headed to New York to attend grad school. The Chinese artist Liu Bolin hired Dave in 2012 to "paint him into a background," as is consistent with Bolin's work. This project was in conjunction with an album cover for the band *Bon Jovi*.

In the Spring of 2013 Dave graduated from the New York Academy of Art with an MFA in painting, with an emphasis in human anatomy. Beginning in 2013 Dave became the Art Instructor and Gallery Director at Northeastern Junior College, in Sterling, Colorado.

In 2016 Dave began teaching at Las Positas College in Livermore, heading their Art Department. Since then, Dave has been practicing painting and drawing, showing locally and nationally, and working on his own projects.



### **PETER WALLIS: 2-D ART JUDGE:**



Peter Wallis is an interdisciplinary artist based out of Fremont, CA. He has worked with students throughout the country, leading visual arts programs at independent schools and nonprofit arts organizations. In 2006, Wallis received his BFA in Illustration, with a double minor in Art History and Drawing from the Maine College of Art in Portland, ME. In 2010, he received his MFA from Goddard College with a focus on Printmaking, Graphic Novels, and Peace Studies. Wallis served as an artist in residence in 2009, with Can Serrat, an international artist residency located in the Montserrat Mountains of Catalonia, Spain. And recently worked as a resident artist at the Stephen Pace House in Stonington Maine in 2024. Wallis' work has been shown at museums and galleries in the U.S. and Canada. He sees arts education as a catalyst for meaningful change in the world. Peter is currently a Teaching Artist at Ability Path working with adults with physical and intellectual disabilities.

### **SYDNEY TANG: VIRTUAL 2-D ART JUDGE:**



Sydney Tang is the curator at the City of Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center. Solely managing the facility's three exhibition spaces, Tang organizes both group and solo shows of Bay Area artists in the Firehouse's main gallery, foyer, and second floor. Prior to this, she worked in the contemporary art industry in Tokyo, Japan, and earned her Master of Arts degree from New York University in Art and Public Policy.



### **CAMERON BRIAN: 3-D ART JUDGE:**



Cameron Brian, owner and gallerist at Transmission Gallery, has over a decade of experience showcasing contemporary art. He has curated more than 100 exhibitions, featuring thousands of works and fostering connections with hundreds of artists. A passionate advocate for the arts, Cameron also taught drawing, figure drawing, woodworking, mold-making, 2D design, and art appreciation.

With an MFA from the San Francisco Art Institute, and a BFA from The College of Santa Fe, Cameron combines academic expertise with hands-on craftsmanship. He is also a skilled designer

focusing on exhibition display, bringing technical precision and artistic vision to every project. His dedication to supporting artists and elevating creative expression is at the heart of his work.

### **GENNY LIM: POETRY & POEMS AT THE FAIR JUDGE:**



Genny Lim is the ninth San Francisco Poet Laureate and a former San Francisco Jazz Poet Laureate. The recipient of lifetime achievement awards from the city of Berkeley and PEN Oakland, she is a second generation, native-born San Franciscan of Hoisan cultural heritage. Lim's English translations of the Chinese poems written by immigrants, largely from the Hoisan region of Southern China, on the barrack walls of Angel Island, were published in the book, *Island: Poetry and History of Chinese Immigrants on Angel Island*, edited together with Him Mark Lai and Judy Yung. The book received the American Book Award and has seen a resurgence of interest, especially among young Asian Americans researching their family histories. It has been widely sourced in recent novels, books, operas, dances and plays on the subject. Her award-winning play, *Paper Angels*, which aired on PBS in

1985, was the first Asian American play presented on the seminal theater series, *American Playhouse*. For Lim's pioneering efforts in shedding light on the history of Chinese immigrants on Angel Island, she was bestowed The Spirit of Angel Island Award by the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation. She has published five poetry collections, *Winter Place*, *Child of War*, *Paper Gods and Rebels*, *KRA!*, *La Morte Del Tempo*. Lim has collaborated with major American musicians and composers, including Max Roach, John Santos, Jon Jang, Francis Wong, Marcus Shelby and Del Sol Quartet. She has served as a former San Francisco Arts Commissioner and is a board member of Before Columbus Foundation.



### GABRIELLE LURIE: PHOTOGRAPHY JUDGE:



Raised in Washington D.C., Gabrielle discovered her passion for photography at the age of 17, immersing herself in the darkroom through high school. After graduating, she pursued her studies at NYU Tisch School of the Arts in New York City, focusing on art history and fine art photography. In 2014, Gabrielle relocated to San Francisco to embark on a career as a freelance photojournalist. By 2016, she joined the staff of the San Francisco Chronicle, where she has since made significant contributions in both still photography and video.

Gabrielle's compelling storytelling earned her finalist recognition in the Pulitzer Prize feature category in 2021 for her poignant coverage of a mother's struggle to save her daughter from drug addiction. Her dedication to documenting the fentanyl crisis garnered another finalist honor in 2022. In addition to her journalism work, Gabrielle actively supports the community as an organizer for the Bay Area Women Photograph group and plays a vital role in managing the Chronicle's internship program.

### PETER SAMUELS: PHOTOGRAPHY JUDGE:



Originally a product still life commercial photographer from Orange County, CA, the bulk of Peter's early career was spent honing his product lighting skills to perfection. Then, in 2009, a dog named Leica arrived in his life; she quickly became his muse, and a new photographic passion was born. He soon learned she was merely a gateway dog as he'd begun photographing more dogs, cats, and horses, and, before he knew it, even farm animals were becoming suspicious. While his time with Leica was sadly cut short, she lovingly inspired a new direction in his work and career - good dog!

Peter's product lighting experience came in handy as he lights animals in a somewhat similar way to his product work, something that has uniquely set his work apart. The result has been attracting clients like Nature's Recipe, Clorox Kitty Litter, The SPCA, Bideawee Pet Hospital, Hush Puppies Shoes, as well as other brands featuring animals in their campaigns, such as Virgin America, Zynga, and San Francisco Veterans Association.

Peter's personal work, Horses, and his Fairy Tale Animals series have received awards from PDN, the APA National Awards, American Photography, and, for four consecutive years (2014-2019), the Communication Arts Photography Annual. After his equine series appeared in the Restoration Hardware catalog as framed artwork, his fine art print sales began to take off, attracting art collectors and animal lovers from all over the globe.



Now based out of San Francisco with his current pup, Ilford (a Beagle, Weiner, splash of Chihuahua mix), Peter thrives on the hi-tech creative renaissance and continually seeks new ways of applying those new tools to strengthen his vision, broaden his audience, and share with the world how special the bond between human and animal can be.

#### Awards

- Graphis Photography Annual 2025, Gold, X2
- Graphis Photography Annual 2024, Platinum Award And Cover
- Communication Arts Photography Annual 2019
- Communication Arts Photography Annual 2018
- Communication Arts Photography Annual 2017
- Communication Arts Photography Annual 2016
- American Photography 2019
- Apa/Sf 2014 1st
- Menlo Charity Horse Show 2014, Artist Of The Year
- Equine Photographers Network 2011, 1st & 2nd
- Apa/Sf 2010 Best Of Show, 2nd
- Apa/Sf 2009 Selected
- Apa/Sf 2008 Selected
- Apa/Sf 2007 1st, 3rd
- Apa National 2006 1st, 2nd
- Communication Arts Photo Annual 2005
- Communication Arts Photo Annual 2003
- Communication Arts Ad Annual 2002
- Addy And One Show 2002
- Graphis Poster 2001

#### Clients

- |                          |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| • 180 Design             | • Gmmb                   | • Saatchi + Saatchi |
| • 7x7 Magazine           | • Goodby Silverstein     | • Smart Money       |
| • Autoclub               | • Hewlett Packard        | • Sonos             |
| • AT&T Wireless          | • Hoffman Lewis          | • Sony Playstation  |
| • Autodesk               | • Htc / Verizon          | • Sony Vaio         |
| • Aztrazeneca            | • Indicate Design Groupe | • Spca              |
| • Bank Of Hawaii         | • Mccann Erickson        | • Sprint            |
| • Blue Shield            | • Method Cleaners        | • Square            |
| • Boom Bang              | • Nike                   | • Symantic          |
| • Citizen-Citizen        | • Nissan                 | • Toyota Motors     |
| • Clorox Kitty Litter    | • Northface              | • Virgin America    |
| • Crispin Porter Bogusky | • One And Co.            | • Visa              |
| • Designory              | • Outside Magazine       | • Volume SF         |
| • Dwell                  | • Pioneer                | • Wired Magazine    |
| • Ebay                   | • Publicis & Hal Riney   |                     |
| • Fcb                    | • Rachel's Yogurt        |                     |



**JUNE 19-JULY 12**

**PLEASANTON 26**

### **DAN KURTZMAN: VIRTUAL PHOTOGRAPHY & PHOTOS AT THE FAIR JUDGE:**



Dan Kurtzman is an internationally published landscape and travel photographer based in San Francisco. His work has been featured in books, magazines, and news outlets around the world, and widely shared through his influential social media platforms.

Dan is the author and editor of a popular three-book series published by Rizzoli, titled *New York City on Instagram*, *San Francisco on Instagram*, and *Los Angeles on Instagram*, which feature stunning images by an array of talented photographers and celebrate some of the best contemporary photography in three of America's great cities.

On Instagram, Dan developed a critical eye for photographic curation through his popular community accounts @wildbayarea and @wildcalifornia\_, where he has showcased beautiful and inspiring images by both established and up-and-coming photographers.

Dan's personal work has been syndicated by Getty Images and featured in publications such as *Outdoor Photographer Magazine*, *Outside Magazine*, *Good Housekeeping*, *SFGate*, and *Marin Magazine*, as well as in news segments by NBC News Bay Area, ABC7 News, and KTVU. His photography has also appeared in books published by Lonely Planet and DK Publishing.

Dan is a graduate of the University of California at Davis and was originally trained as a photojournalist, which he credits with helping him to visualize and anticipate capturing ephemeral moments. He can usually be found chasing fog and light along the California coast or seeking out dynamic landscapes in the Sierra Nevada and American West.

[www.dankurtzman.com](http://www.dankurtzman.com)

[Instagram.com/dankurtzmanphotography](https://www.instagram.com/dankurtzmanphotography)

[Facebook.com/dankurtzmanphotography](https://www.facebook.com/dankurtzmanphotography)



## DEBBIE WARDROPE: PLEIN AIR CONTEST JUDGE



Debbie Wardrope is a Bay Area native and longtime Pleasanton resident who has always loved art and has pursued painting for most of her life, even during her 20-year career in mortgage banking.

Debbie graduated "With Distinction" from the California College of Arts and Crafts (now California College of the Arts) in Oakland with a BFA in illustration. Her work has been recognized through numerous awards. She has exhibited in many group and solo shows, such as Art Expo in New York and has shown her paintings in galleries from Yountville to Carmel. Debbie's work is included in private and corporate art collections around the nation. Locally, both Alameda County and the City of Pleasanton own her original paintings.

Debbie's primary medium is soft pastel, but she also paints in oils and acrylics. Debbie says, "I believe that art should be beautiful, accessible and evoke an emotional response in the viewer. I strive to create images that are immediately recognizable but are frequently overlooked in the rush of everyday life. I love to capture the glory of God's creation through the use of light and color."

A signature member of the Pastel Society of the West Coast, Debbie teaches oil, acrylic and pastel painting classes for adults and art classes for children through the City of Pleasanton and the Town of Danville. She has also done demonstrations and workshops for numerous art associations throughout the Bay Area.

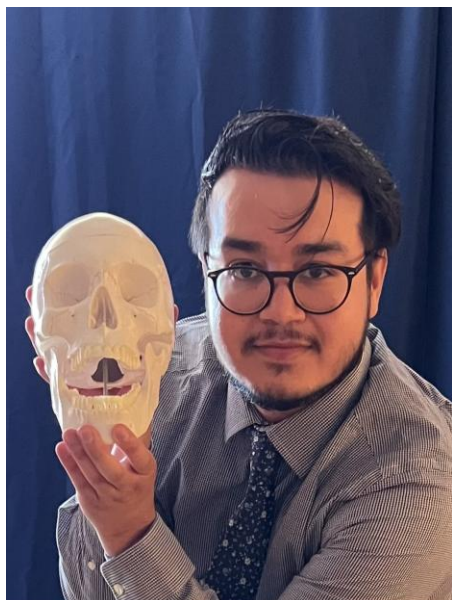
Debbie was honored to be selected by Senator Ellen Corbett to produce a painting representing her district to hang at the state capitol building in Sacramento, CA. The painting, "Pleasanton Evening," was on display in the meeting rooms behind the Senate Chamber for a year. Prints of Debbie's work are on display in numerous businesses including Stanford/ValleyCare Hospital and the Pleasanton Marriott and one of her paintings is featured on the cover of a book titled, "Cruising Down Memory Lane," a collection of stories about Pleasanton. Debbie has also been an art show judge for the Alameda County Fair, the Pleasanton Art League and Delicato Vineyards among others. One of her greatest joys has been working with a team of friends to create three murals at Village of Hope Guatemala.

Debbie's classes were voted "Best of the Best" in 2023 by Diablo Magazine.

Debbie lives in Pleasanton with her husband, daughter and an assortment of rescued dogs and cats. Her work is represented by Studio Seven Arts in Pleasanton. She welcomes commissions.



## GODOY DIAZ: AI ART JUDGE



Godoy Diaz is a passionate artist and educator who brings creativity and accessibility to the arts through dynamic, interactive workshops and classes. Known for curating immersive figure drawing experiences, Diaz introduces participants to a unique blend of traditional drawing techniques and pop culture-inspired themes, making art an unforgettable experience.

As an instructor with the Hayward Area Recreational and Park District (H.A.R.D.), Diaz teaches art to students across all ages. They lead baby classes that foster social skills, sensory engagement, and cognitive development, and they direct a young artist program for ages 5-17+, blending foundational skills with exciting projects. For adult learners, Diaz focuses on the three branches of representational art—idealism, realism, and Impressionism—helping students explore and refine their techniques.

Diaz is also an advocate for using AI tools in ethical and creative ways to enhance artists' quality of life. They believe that AI, when used thoughtfully, can expand opportunities for artists, art businesses, and students facing financial constraints. By integrating AI into their own practice, Diaz demonstrates how technology can support the artistic process, making high-quality resources and tools more accessible to those who may not have traditional support. Balancing a love for art-making with a dedication to teaching and advocacy, Godoy Diaz creates spaces where every artist can find inspiration, growth, and support.

(Bio edited by Chat GPT with the help of a Human.)