



Competitive Exhibits Guide

August 12 - 18, 2025

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Mission

The Arlington County Fair is a non-profit volunteer-driven organization that embraces a diverse community by educating, entertaining, and showcasing the best of Arlington.

Volunteers

In addition to Board Members, Department Superintendents and Department Judges donate their time to help the event run smoothly. Department Superintendents are essential as they are able to manage and monitor the entries for Competitive Exhibits. If you would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities with Competitive Exhibits with the Fair, please contact us at compexhibits@arlingtoncountyfair.us.

Access/Inclusion

The Arlington County Fair is committed to promoting participation by providing reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities, as described in the Americans with Disabilities Act, upon request. To make arrangements for access to Fair attractions and activities, please email the Fair at info@arlingtoncountyfair.us with "Subject: Access/Inclusion," no later than Friday, August 7, 2026 to make arrangements.

2026 Fair Dates and Times

FAIR HOURS	Indoor Hours	Outdoor Hours
Wednesday, August 12	N/A	5 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Thursday, August 13	N/A	5 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Friday, August 14	4 p.m. – 10 p.m.	2 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Saturday, August 15	10 a.m. – 9 p.m.	10 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Sunday, August 16	11 p.m. – 7 p.m.	11 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Please Note: The times listed above are subject to change and weather dependent.

Competitive Exhibits Schedule

Registration and Exhibit Drop-Off

- All items **except Baked Goods** should be delivered Wednesday, August 12, 2026, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- If possible, baked goods submissions from Department II should be delivered the morning of Thursday, August 13, 2026 from 7:30 a.m. - 9 a.m. No submissions will be accepted after 9 a.m.

- Competitive Exhibits will open to the general public on the evening of Friday, August 15, 2025 and close on the afternoon of Sunday, August 16, 2026 at 1 p.m. at the start of the awards ceremony.
- The awards ceremony honoring Department Grand Champions and Grand Reserve Champions will take place at the Indoor Stage on Sunday, August 16, 2026 at approximately 1 p.m.
- Entries may be picked up on Sunday, August 16, 2026 after the Awards Ceremony between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Competitive Exhibits Registration

Online registration is the most efficient way to enter the Fair’s Competitive Exhibits. The entry form is available online on the Fair website (www.arlingtoncountyfair.us). **Please note the following:**

- Each entrant will be required to have an email address in order to register for the competition, including minors (i.e., those under age 18). Parents/guardians may register minors under their email address but, please keep in mind, that there will be only one unique exhibitor number, which will be applied to all entries under the account. Alternatively, parents/guardians may establish email addresses in order to enter minors into the competition to receive a unique exhibitor number for entries.
- Each entrant may enter multiple entries under one exhibitor number. However, it’s important to review the “General Rules” in this Guide when doing so.
- Changes may be made to entries up until the last day to register online, which is Monday, August 10, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. If you have any questions, you may contact the Competitive Exhibits Committee at compexhibits@arlingtoncountyfair.us.

There will be a reasonable accommodation made for those who do not have the ability to complete the online registration process in advance. We recommend those who need in-person registration arrive early on their appropriate registration day to allow sufficient time to complete the required entry paperwork.

- Entries will be accepted onsite on Wednesday, August 12, 2026 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 - Please note, we ask that submissions for the **Baked Goods competition only** be registered on the morning of Thursday, August 13, 2026 between 7:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. Please bring your entries to the gym at Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 Second Street South.
 - If you plan on **entering more than one item**, we also recommend that you arrive as early as possible during the registration window to allow sufficient time for entry processing.
 - During the drop-off process, you will be asked to provide the email address you used for pre-registration as verification.
- **Any entries for any Department brought after 9 a.m. on Thursday, August 13, 2026 will be considered late, and late entries will not be accepted for judging.**

- After registration, all entries must be tagged, recorded, and checked-in with the proper Department Superintendent before the exhibitor may leave. Exhibitors cannot arrange entry after it is checked-in.
- Exhibitors should retain their claim check(s) in order to retrieve their submission(s) after the Award Ceremony.
- If you are unavailable during the onsite registration time frame, you may designate another individual to submit entries on your behalf provided you have completed online registration in advance.

Entry Pick-Up

- All entries must remain at the Fair until the Awards Ceremony has ended. Official entry pick time is Sunday, August 16, 2026 following the Awards Ceremony from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Claim Checks will be required at pick up to verify items go home with the correct owner.
- Please arrange for someone else to pick up your entry and/or awards if you are unavailable. Please note, those designees will need to have the appropriate claim check(s).
- We are not able to hold or store any entries after pick-up on Sunday, August 16, 2025. **Any unclaimed items will be donated, recycled, composted or discarded. We are also unable to mail ribbons or awards to participants after the fair has ended.**

General Rules

1. Participants must read and abide by all competition rules in order to enter items in the Arlington County Fair. There will be volunteers on hand at registration to help you should you need assistance.
2. If you have any questions before the Fair, please email compexhibits@arlingtoncountyfair.us with a detailed message and a member of the Competitive Exhibits Committee will follow up with you.
3. Please note that Departments may have additional rules that apply specifically to their area. All rules should be reviewed prior to registration. It is the duty of the entrant to ensure compliance with all rules, including those pertaining to area of residence and listed throughout this guide. Entries that do not comply may be disqualified at any point or an award may be revoked due to a rule violation.
4. Entries will only be accepted from residents of Arlington County, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, the City of Alexandria, and the City of Falls Church, and students who attend schools in Arlington County, the City of Alexandria, and the City of Falls Church.
5. Items to be entered must have been produced solely by the individual who enters; this includes children's entries.
6. Items may only be entered in the specific classes listed in this Guide. Most Departments have an "Exhibitor's Choice" Class for those items that do not fit the given Classes.
7. **Each exhibitor may only enter one item per Class.**

8. No entries may be sold at the Fair, nor may any “professional” (one who accepts remuneration for the design of, or finished work, or who teaches that subject) enter. Individuals who sell their products at the Arlington County Fair are not permitted to enter that product.
9. No entries will be accepted for display only.
10. The Fair reserves the right to refuse or not display items deemed unfit or objectionable.
11. Items must not have been entered in a previous Arlington County Fair and must have been produced in the year since the prior Arlington County Fair.
12. Reasonable security will be taken to safeguard entries; however, it is expressly understood and agreed between the exhibitor and the Arlington County Fair that the Fair will incur no liability or obligation for damaged, lost, or stolen property (entries). Any insurance desired on any entry must be carried by the exhibitor.
13. Please follow size limits, quantities needed, and other Department specific rules, as listed. Items not conforming to these specific Department/Section/Class rules will be disqualified – if you have a question, ask the Department Superintendent.
14. Exhibitors under 18 must include their specific age at the time the submission was completed, grown or made (not at the time of competition), or they will be disqualified. This information is important for judges to be able to determine which Division the entry should be allocated towards.
15. Please do not label your entry with your name. Your entry will be identified by an entry or exhibitor number.

Judging

Our judges are certified competition judges and/or experts in their respective fields. To avoid any conflict of interest, our Judges, Superintendents, and Arlington County Fair Board members are not allowed to submit items for competition.

1. Decisions of the judges are final. All judges are certified and/or highly qualified experts in their respective fields.
2. In consultation with Department Superintendents, Judges reserve the right to combine or divide classes or sections where deemed appropriate.
3. In consultation with Department Superintendents, Judges may recommend that a submission be recategorized to more accurately evaluate the item.
4. Each Department has a “Judging is based upon” statement available for review.
5. Judges will award Premium ribbons beginning with a First Place/Blue Ribbon based on the quality of the submissions present rather than absolute standards for the class or division.
6. An entry will be disqualified and an award not given if the entrant is not in compliance with the rules for that specific category including regarding residence.
7. Entries improperly tagged or not conforming to Class, Section, and/or Departmental size or display standards may be disqualified or not evaluated during judging.

Explanation of Terms

An “Exhibitor” is a person who enters something in a “Class” (listed as a three or four-digit number), under a “Section” in a “Department.” For example, to enter green beans, use Department VI: Herbs, Fruits, Nuts, and Vegetables, under SECTION D: VEGETABLES, Class #635. Look for an amount after the class description – e.g. “Class #635 Beans, Green, 8 pods.” This means you must bring eight (8) green beans to enter. “Division” is a letter, designating your age group. These are listed below.

DIVISION A: ADULT

DIVISION T: TEEN (13 TO 17)

DIVISION Y: YOUTH (7 TO 12)

DIVISION C: CHILD (6 AND UNDER)

Awards

CLASS AWARDS: Premium Ribbons will be awarded in each Class, in each age division (e.g. “A,” for Adult) by judges beginning with a Premium/Blue Ribbon based on the quality of submissions present at time of judging.

SECTION AWARDS: A Champion ribbon and a Reserve Champion may be awarded in each age division in each Section (e.g. SECTION A: SINGLE FLOWER BLOSSOMS) by judges as merited. These are chosen from the Blue Ribbon winners of the Classes in that Section. Group entries are not eligible for Section or Department awards.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS: A Grand Champion ribbon and a Reserve Grand Champion ribbon will be awarded in each Department in each age division by judges as merited. Grand Champions and Reserve Grand Champions are chosen from the Champion Section awards. In addition, Department Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion winners in all the age divisions will receive a certificate and/or award at the Awards Ceremony.

The Ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, August 16, 2026 at approximately 1 p.m. at the indoor stage. **All Department Grand and Reserve Grand Champion award winners are encouraged to attend.**

THEME AWARDS: Judges will award ribbons for the best representation of this year’s theme as they deem appropriate.

Departments

Department I: Honey, Beeswax, and Food Preservation

Honey and Beeswax Rules

1. PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL GENERAL RULES AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS GUIDE.

2. Containers (submit one, no labels other than exhibitor number): Extracted Honey—only 1-pound traditional glass or plastic honey containers are allowed (e.g. Queenline or Gamber style); Comb Honey—in a section window carton, plastic round, or a clear plastic box; Chunk or Creamed Honey—any suitable jar holding at least 8 ounces; Beeswax—at least 8 ounces, any shape block, in clear package (e.g., plastic wrap); Frame of Honey—in enclosed case (judges may open case, provide tools if needed); Black Jar—any jar, with jar exterior painted black (e.g., use a can of spray paint from craft/variety/hardware store) or wrapped in paper to hide contents (ensure judges can still open the lid).
3. Candles: molded tapered or dipped—pure natural beeswax only (no added scent or color), submit pair (leave pair of dipped candles connected at wick); ornamental—colored beeswax permitted, and submit one.
4. Self-care product (submit one, no label): lip balm, lotion, soap, or related product made with beeswax, honey, and/or propolis; suitable container, include 3x5-inch card listing purpose, ingredients, and quantity/percent of ingredient(s) from the hive.
5. Exhibitor's Choice: Any honey, beeswax, or beekeeping-related item (no live bees); include a brief description on a 3x5-inch card.
6. Professionals (please follow the Beekeepers' Association rules) may enter this Department, but please place a "P" after your Exhibitor number.

Judging Will Be Based Upon:

SECTION A: Extracted Honey—density, freedom from crystals, cleanliness (no dirt, lint, wax, or foam), and absence of fermentation, flavor, accuracy of fill, and container appearance.

SECTION B:

- Comb Honey—appropriate weight, uniformity in color and thickness of comb, cleanliness, absence of uncapped cells and watery capping, plus freedom from granulation and pollen.
- Cut Comb—parallel, uniform, firm-sided cuts, and absence of ragged edges and wax flakes, plus same criteria as comb honey.
- Chunk Honey—same criteria as comb honey, cut comb, and extracted honey.
- Creamed Honey—fineness of crystals, uniformity and firmness, cleanliness, flavor, color, accuracy of fill, and freedom from foam.

SECTION C:

- Pure Beeswax—color, uniformity, aroma, texture, cleanliness/absence of impurities, and absence of cracking or shrinkage.
- Pure Beeswax Candles— similarity of taper pairs, creativity of ornamental design, plus same criteria as pure beeswax.

SECTION D:

- Black Jar—sole criteria is flavor.
- Frame of Honey—same criteria as comb honey.
- Self-Care Product—appeal, cleanliness, utility, creativity/uniqueness, accuracy of fill.
- Exhibitor's Choice—quality of product or craftsmanship; utility or creativity of design, effective/economical use of materials.

SECTION A: EXTRACTED HONEY

CLASSES

- 100 Light
- 101 Medium
- 102 Dark

SECTION B: COMB, CUT COMB, CHUNK, AND CREAMED HONEY

CLASSES

- 103 Comb Honey, round section
- 104 Comb Honey, square section
- 105 Cut Comb
- 106 Chunk Honey
- 107 Creamed Honey

SECTION C: BEESWAX PRODUCTS

CLASSES

- 108 Pure Beeswax, example (1)
- 109 Pure Beeswax Candles, tapers molded (pair)
- 110 Pure Beeswax Candles, tapers dipped (pair)
- 111 Pure Beeswax Candle, ornamental or rolled (1)

SECTION D: BEEKEEPER SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

CLASSES

- 112 Black Jar of Honey
- 113 Frame of Honey
- 114 Self-Care Product
- 115 Exhibitor's Choice

Food Preservation Rules

1. PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL GENERAL RULES AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS GUIDE.
2. Containers: All jars must be in clear glass, standard canning for all entries, except vinegar. Submissions must have new rings and lids and must be free of rust. NO OTHER JARS WILL BE ACCEPTED.
3. Seals: All entries must be sealed with two-piece commercial lids. Leave rings on. Paraffin is NOT acceptable. Judges will not sample entries whose seals appear faulty and those items will be disqualified.
4. REQUIRED: All jars must be labeled with the name of the product, the canning method, the length of processing time, pounds of pressure (if applicable), altitude, and date of preservation. Items will be disqualified or not evaluated if an incorrect or unsafe method has been used. Unlabeled jars will not be accepted.
5. Judges reserve the right to open all entries for tasting as part of the evaluation process.
6. Jams and jellies MUST be made from fresh fruits and/or herbs.
7. No artificial coloring may be used in any entry.
8. No previously frozen ingredients are permitted.

Judging Will Be Based Upon: Judges will be looking for clean, perfectly sealed regulation jars; fullness of the jar; proper headspace, uniformity, size, shape, and color of the product; clear liquids, no sediment or cloudy; deep, true colors; proper consistency of jellies and jams; clarity of jellies; crispness or firmness of pickled products; well-developed flavors in taste-tested products.

SECTION F: JAMS

CLASSES

- 117 Apple
- 118 Berry
- 119 Cherry
- 120 Grape
- 121 Peach
- 122 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION G: JELLIES

CLASSES

- 123 Apple
- 124 Berry
- 125 Cherry
- 126 Grape
- 127 Peach
- 128 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION H: PICKLES AND RELISHES

CLASSES

- 129 Sweet Pickles
- 130 Dill Pickles
- 131 Bread & Butter Pickles
- 132 Vegetable Pickles, no cucumber
- 133 Fruit Pickles (spiced fruit)
- 134 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION I: SAUCES AND SALSAS

CLASSES

- 135 Corn Relishes
- 136 Chutney
- 137 Catsup
- 138 Barbeque Sauce
- 139 Spaghetti Sauce
- 140 Salsa, please identify
- 141 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION J: CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

CLASSES

- 142 Fruit
- 143 Vegetables
- 144 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION K: VINEGARS

CLASSES

- 145 Infused White Vinegar
- 146 Apple Cider Vinegar
- 147 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION L: DRIED FOODS

CLASSES

- 148 Fruits
- 149 Vegetables
- 150 Meats and Jerkies
- 151 Exhibitor's Choice

Department II: Decorated Food Products and Baked Goods

1. PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL GENERAL RULES AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS GUIDE.
2. To ensure peak flavor and freshness, we recommend that Baked Goods entries be brought in Thursday morning, August 13, 2026 between 7:30 and 9 a.m. No entries accepted after 9 a.m.
3. All entries must be on white disposable plates or a cardboard base covered with white paper, except for pies which must be in a disposable aluminum pan.
4. To reduce food waste, exhibitors should reduce their submissions to the following quantities where possible:
 - a. Cookies, brownies, candies, muffins, biscuits, cupcakes, and bars need to only submit 4 samples of their item
 - b. Cakes (not being judged for decoration only), pies, and loaves may submit only half an item if the exhibitor wishes
5. A copy of the complete recipe neatly printed or typed on a recipe card must accompany each entry. This will not be returned or shared during exhibition but is to help inform judges and will not be returned.
6. **No item that requires refrigeration (e.g. cream cheese filling, whipped topping) will be allowed.**
7. Decorated cakes (whole) are to remain for the duration of the Fair. Only the decorations will be judged. DO NOT cut decorated cakes. Cake forms may be used for decorated cakes only.
8. Following judging, Baked Goods will be left exposed for viewing by attendees to the Fair rendering them unsafe/unacceptable for consumption; accordingly, they will be composted at the end of the Fair. Awards and comments cards must be picked on Sunday, August 16.

Judging Will Be Based Upon:

- 50 points Flavor
- 25 points Appearance
- 25 points Texture

SECTION A: BREAD

CLASSES

- 200 Yeast Bread

- 201 Quick Breads
- 202 Biscuits (6)
- 203 Cornbread
- 204 Muffins (6)
- 205 Other
- 206 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION B: CAKES

CLASSES

- 207 Angel Food
- 208 Carrot
- 209 Chocolate
- 210 Fruit
- 211 Pineapple Upside Down
- 212 White
- 213 Yellow
- 214 Pound
- 215 Cheesecake
- 216 Cupcakes (6)
- 217 Other
- 218 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION C: PIES

CLASSES

- 219 Fruit
- 220 Pecan
- 221 Pumpkin
- 222 Chocolate
- 223 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION D: COOKIES

CLASSES

- 224 Bar
- 225 Brownies
- 226 Chocolate Chip
- 227 Holiday
- 228 Cookies, plain or with nuts
- 229 Gingerbread Cookies
- 230 Oatmeal or Cereal
- 231 Peanut Butter
- 232 Unbaked
- 233 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION E: CANDY

CLASSES

- 234 Caramels
- 235 Fudge

- 236 Brittle
- 237 Toffee
- 238 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION F: DECORATED CAKE

CLASSES

- 239 Non-Professional
- 240 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION G: MIX

CLASSES

- 241 Any item made with creative use of a mix
- 242 Gingerbread House

Department III: Art Needlework

1. PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL GENERAL RULES AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS GUIDE.
2. Any item made from a kit (pattern and materials pre-assembled), must be marked with "K" preceding the class number. Any item designed by the exhibitor (not according to a published pattern) may be marked with an "O" before the class number. For items made following a pattern do not add a letter before the class number.
3. The item should have been completed no earlier than two (2) years before the Fair.
4. Entries must be clean, and free from any soil or pet hair.
5. For items in Section C – Fiber Arts, provide a sufficient sample to display variations in color and texture (suggest one skein for yarn).

Judging Will Be Based Upon:

Design and pattern, workmanship, degree of difficulty, use of colors, use of materials, and overall appearance.

SECTION A: KNITTING

CLASSES:

- 300 Baby Blanket
- 301 Afghan/Bedspread/Tablecloth
- 302 Multi-piece Set (including at least 2 related small items, e.g., baby set, hat, and scarf, scarf, and gloves)
- 303 Dress or Coat
- 304 Outfit for baby or young child (e.g. dress, romper, top, and pants)
- 305 Socks
- 306 Hat
- 307 Mittens or Gloves
- 308 Scarf
- 309 Sweater (infant or child)
- 310 Sweater or Vest – short-sleeved or sleeveless
- 311 Sweater – Cardigan

- 312 Sweater – Pullover
- 313 Shawl/Cape/Capelet/Shrug/Poncho
- 314 Felted Item (bag, hat, other item)
- 315 Holiday Decoration
- 316 Toy, Doll, or Stuffed Animal
- 317 Exhibitor’s Choice (Item not listed above)

SECTION B: CROCHETING

CLASSES

- 318 Baby Blanket
- 319 Afghan/Bedspread/ Tablecloth
- 320 Multi-piece Set (including at least 2 related small items, e.g., baby set, hat and scarf, scarf and gloves)
- 321 Wearing Apparel (adult or teen)
- 322 Wearing Apparel (infant or child)
- 323 Bag
- 324 Collar or other worn accessory
- 325 Hat
- 326 Scarf
- 327 Shawl/Cape/Capelet/Shrug/Poncho
- 328 Pillow
- 329 Placemat or Doily
- 330 Holiday Decoration
- 331 Toy, Doll, or Stuffed Animal
- 332 Exhibitor’s Choice (item not listed above)

SECTION C: FIBER ARTS

Note: Depending on the number of entries, the judges may group entries into multiple Classes and or Sections for the purpose of awards. Provide a sufficient quantity for judges to evaluate workmanship – suggested skein of at least 25 yards for yarn or a length of fabric adequate to display the dyeing technique.

CLASSES

- 333 Spinning (Specify materials and technique)
- 334 Hand Dyed Yarn (Specify materials and techniques)
- 335 Hand Dyed or Printed Fabric (Note: tie-dyed tee shirts should be entered in Department IV: Crafts and Fine Arts)
- 336 Completed items made from materials spun and/or dyed by the exhibitor (for example an item knit, crocheted, or woven from dyed yarn or sewn of fabric dyed by the exhibitor.)
- 337 Exhibitor’s Choice – Fiber art technique not specified above

SECTION D: FINE NEEDLEWORK

Note: Depending on the number of items entered in each Class, the judges may group entries into multiple Classes and or Sections for the purpose of awards.

CLASSES

- 338 Lace and Tatting (specify technique on entry tag)
- 339 Needlepoint (any item)

- 340 Crewel Embroidery (any item)
- 341 Counted Thread/Counted Cross Stitch (specify technique on entry tag)
- 342 Embroidery/Surface Stitching – using silk and/or cotton floss (any item)
- 343 Exhibitor’s Choice – fine needlework technique not specified above

SECTION E: QUILTING

CLASSES

- 344 Apparel
- 345 Hand Applique Quilt – quilted by exhibitor
- 346 Machine Applique Quilt – quilted by exhibitor
- 347 Applique Quilt – commercially quilted
- 348 Miniature Quilt or Doll Quilt (30” by 30” or less and blocks of 3” or less)
- 349 Bed Quilt – pieced and quilted by exhibitor, hand quilted
- 350 Bed Quilt – pieced and quilted by exhibitor, machine quilted
- 351 Bed Quilt – pieced and quilted by exhibitor, longarm machine quilted
- 352 Bed Quilt – pieced by exhibitor, quilted by another person or company
- 353 Pillow (any technique)
- 354 Table Runner/Placemat (any technique)
- 355 Wall Hanging/Lap Quilt (specify on tag whether quilted by exhibitor)
- 356 First Quilt (for beginners just completing their first quilt)
- 357 Group Quilted item (not eligible for Section awards)
- 358 Holiday Decoration
- 359 Accessory (e.g., bag)
- 360 Exhibitor’s Choice (May include a combination of techniques listed above – specify on entry tag)

SECTION F: MIXED MEDIA

CLASSES

- 361 Braided Rug
- 362 Hook Rug, Pillow, or Wall Hanging (made with crochet hook)
- 363 Latch Hook Rug, Pillow, or Wall Hanging
- 364 Loom-Woven Item
- 365 Punch Needle Item
- 366 Exhibitor’s Choice – technique not listed above

SECTION G: SEWING

CLASSES

- 367 Active Sports Clothing – men or women
- 368 Women’s Clothing – day wear
- 369 Men’s Clothing – day wear
- 370 Infant or Children’s Clothing
- 371 Formalwear
- 372 Costume (Halloween, square dance, ballet, period, etc.)
- 373 Lingerie or Sleepwear
- 374 Outdoor Wear (coat, vest, parka, etc.)
- 375 Tailored Garment

- 376 Sewn Accessories (purse, hat, apron, etc.)
- 377 Sewn Item other than wearing apparel (e.g. curtains, baby items)
- 378 Sewn Doll, Toy, or Stuffed Animal
- 379 Exhibitor's Choice – items not listed above

Department IV: Crafts and Fine Arts

1. PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL GENERAL RULES AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS GUIDE.
2. No entry may be larger than 36" x 24" due to space limitations.
3. All entries must be ready to display, with hangers if meant to be hung, or on a base, easel or stand if meant to stand on a surface.
4. For paintings and fine arts, all entries must be ready to display in a mat with a backing board or frame or on a base or stand if meant to stand alone. All pieces to be hung must have an attached wire or hanging equipment ready to hang. Push pins may be used. Efforts to avoid damage will be made.
5. Please attach the entry tag so that the tag hangs over the top right-hand corner. Indicate the top of the artwork with an arrow on the back.
6. Items made from kits or adapted designs (e.g. charts or patterns) must be designated on the entry tag with a "K" (kit) or "A" (adapted) before the class number.
7. All ceramic entries MUST be kiln-fired and size may not exceed 18" x 24".
8. Only 3 pieces of a set may be entered and must be firmly secured together with clear or masking tape, and all lids and loose parts must be securely affixed by tape, either masking or clear.
9. No dry footing. Pieces must be completed on the back or bottom.
10. No props (such as candles, flowers, or plants) are allowed.
11. All entries must be original, no copies, and no paint by numbers.
12. Entries must be finished – no wet paintings, please!
13. Special Rules for SCRAPBOOKING:
 - a. Entries may be of any scrapbook album style from which individual pages can be removed; album page maximum size 12" x 12".
 - b. An entry is an individual page – the exhibitor must remove the individual page from the album – no pages still in an album/binder/book will be accepted. If the page is complete on both sides, the exhibitor MUST cover the side not being judged. NO two-page spreads or multiple sheets will be considered for judging.
 - c. Commercially designed and produced "theme" pages are NOT allowed.
 - d. Techniques and tools (stamped designs, decorative punches, embossing, computer "handwriting" and/or art, hand coloring of photos, etc.) will be allowed, but are expected to enhance the photographs, journaling, and memorabilia.
 - e. Pictures/photographs and memorabilia MUST be attached to an actual scrapbook page.
 - f. Entries must NOT have been published or displayed in any magazine, idea book, or website. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to obtain permission to use any copyrighted material (including, but not limited to, poetry or writings, photographs, graphic designs, or artwork).

Judging Will Be Based Upon:

Color and design, workmanship, use of materials, overall appearance, and creativity. As well as craftsmanship, color harmony/contrasts, originality, choice of design and adaptability, technique and use of materials, and composition.

SECTION A: ARTS

CLASSES

- 400 Painting, Acrylic
- 401 Painting, Oil
- 402 Aqua Media (Watercolor/Tempera/Gouache/Brushed Ink)
- 403 Drawing (Charcoal/Pencil/Ink/Crayon)
- 404 Pastels (Soft/Oil/Semi-hard)
- 4042 Mixed Media
- 405 Metal Sculpture
- 406 Wood Sculpture
- 407 Stonework Sculpture
- 408 Clay Sculpture
- 409 Glass Sculpture
- 410 Models (cars, planes, LEGO®, etc.)
- 411 3d Printed Sculpture
- 412 AI-Generated Art
- 413 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION B: PRINTMAKING

CLASSES

- 4131 Relief: includes Woodcut/Linoleum cut
- 414 Intaglio: Engraving/Etching
- 415 Lithography
- 416 Silk Screening
- 417 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION C: PAPER BASED ARTICLE

CLASSES

- 418 Origami
- 419 Papier-mâché
- 420 Cards/Stamping
- 421 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION D: JEWELRY

CLASSES

- 422 Metalsmithing (brass/copper/sterling silver/gold/stone)
- 423 Beadwork (sewn/woven/strung)
- 424 Hand-made Beads (glass/clay/metal)
- 425 Recycled Jewelry
- 426 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION E: SCRAPBOOKING

CLASSES

- 427 Celebration of an Event (Birthday, Wedding, Holiday, etc.)
- 428 Vacation/Travel
- 429 Pets/Nature
- 430 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION F: CERAMICS

CLASSES

- 431 Underglaze
- 432 Glaze
- 433 Wheel/hand Built
- 434 Exhibitor's Choice

SECTION G: EXHIBITOR'S CHOICE

CLASSES

- 435 Exhibitor's Choice

Department V: Photography

PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL GENERAL RULES AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS GUIDE.

1. All prints must be solely the work of the exhibitor.
2. Due to space limitations, size limits are strictly enforced. Small prints shall be a maximum of 8" x 10" and large prints shall be a maximum of 16" x 20" inches.
3. Prints must be mounted on a thin piece of poster board or heavy construction paper with a minimum of 1 inch of matting showing on all edges. No over mats, no double mats, no foam board, and no frames or glass. Pushpins and/or clips will be used to display photos, damage to the mats may occur.
4. Monochrome prints are defined as prints having no more than two colors, monochrome plus one other color.
5. Hand-colored prints or prints with more than one color (hue) added are considered color prints.
6. "Human interest" is defined as an image depicting a person or persons in an interactive, emotional, or unusual situation, excluding sports action.

Judging Will Be Based Upon:

Technique, overall impact, creativity, composition, lighting, and suitability of the image to the class.

SECTION A: LARGE MONOCHROME PRINTS

CLASSES

- 500 Landscape (views of natural inland scenery)
- 501 Architecture and Design
- 502 Nature
- 503 Domestic Animals and Pets
- 504 Creative
- 505 Human Interest

- 506 Sports Action

SECTION B: LARGE COLOR PRINTS

CLASSES

- 507 Landscape (views of natural inland scenery)
- 508 Architecture and Design
- 509 Nature
- 510 Domestic Animals and Pets
- 511 Creative
- 512 Human Interest
- 513 Sports Action

SECTION C: SMALL MONOCHROME PRINTS

CLASSES

- 514 Landscape (views of natural inland scenery)
- 515 Architecture and Design
- 516 Nature
- 517 Domestic Animals and Pets
- 518 Creative
- 519 Human Interest
- 520 Sports Action

SECTION D: SMALL COLOR PRINTS

CLASSES

- 521 Landscape (views of natural inland scenery)
- 522 Architecture and Design
- 523 Nature
- 524 Domestic Animals and Pets
- 525 Creative
- 526 Human Interest
- 527 Sports Action

SECTION E: OTHER

CLASSES

- 528 Exhibitor's Choice

Department VI: Herbs, Fruits, Nuts and Vegetables

1. PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL GENERAL RULES AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS GUIDE.
2. The correct number of items per Class must be submitted. The number is indicated after the Class name (e.g. "Tomato, Small fruited, under 2", any color, 6).
3. All varieties in a class must be the same. If possible, please specify variety on the entry tag.
4. All vegetable, fruit, and nut entries MUST be on a 6" or 9" white disposable plate, with the exception of the vegetable baskets or entries larger than 9" in length.
5. The Fair reserves the right to remove the tops from "root crops" for attractive display.
6. All Herb entries are to consist of 3 sprays or spikes, except as noted. Maximum specimen height of 12".

7. Herb entries must be in a clear plastic cup no larger than 12 oz.; except Potted "Window Box" type Herb Garden entries.
8. "Largest" specimens are to be of the finest quality.
9. No preserved or previously frozen specimens will be evaluated.

Judging Will Be Based Upon:

Absence of insect damage and soil; size, form, and color typical of variety; and uniformity.

SECTION A: HERBS

SUBSECTION 1: ANNUAL/TENDER PERENNIAL

CLASSES

- 600 Basil, green leaf
- 601 Basil, purple leaf
- 602 Dill
- 603 Flowers, edible, any variety, 3
- 604 Garlic, with stems, 2 bulbs
- 605 Marjoram
- 606 Any variety not listed above

SUBSECTION 2: PERENNIAL

CLASSES

- 607 Chamomile
- 608 Chives, 5 leaf blades
- 609 Feverfew
- 610 Lavender
- 611 Lemon Balm
- 612 Mint, any variety
- 613 Oregano
- 614 Parsley
- 615 Rosemary
- 616 Sage
- 617 Tansy
- 618 Tarragon
- 619 Thyme
- 620 Any variety not listed above

SUBSECTION 3: HERB COLLECTIONS

CLASSES

- 621 Annual Collection - a mixed bunch of annual herbs, 3 or more varieties, total of 9 stems/sprays, in a clear plastic cup (no larger than 10 oz.)
- 622 Perennial Collection - a mixed bunch of perennial herbs, 3 or more varieties, total of 9 stems/sprays, in a clear plastic cup (no larger than 10 oz.)

SECTION B: FRUITS AND NUTS

CLASSES

- 623 Apples, 3

- 624 Berries, any variety, 6
- 625 Figs, 3
- 626 Grapes, 1 bunch
- 627 Peaches, 3
- 628 Peanuts in the shell, 6
- 629 Pears, 3
- 630 Plums, 3
- 631 Any other fruit or nut not listed above.

SECTION C: BASKETS

CLASSES

- 632 Basket of Fruit, Vegetables, and/or Nuts, 8 or more kinds, no props, plain baskets only. Individual entries.

SECTION D: VEGETABLES

CLASSES

- 633 Beans, dried, shelled, any variety, 25 beans
- 634 Beans, fresh, shelled, any variety, 25 beans
- 635 Beans, Green, 8 pods
- 636 Beans, Other, 8 pods
- 637 Beets, any variety, 3
- 638 Cabbage, any variety, 1 head
- 639 Carrots, with tops, 5
- 640 Corn, Indian, husks tied back, 3
- 641 Corn, Popcorn, husks removed, 3
- 642 Corn, Sweet, husks removed, 3
- 643 Cucumbers, Pickling, under 4" long, 3
- 644 Cucumbers, slicing, over 4" long, 3
- 645 Eggplant, 1
- 646 Greens, any variety, 5 leaves
- 647 Jerusalem Artichokes, 3 tubers
- 648 Leeks, entire plant, 3
- 649 Melon, any variety, 1
- 650 Mushrooms, 3
- 651 Okra, 5 pods
- 652 Onions, any single variety, minimum size 2", 3, stems removed
- 653 Oriental vegetable, leafy, 1 head or 5 leaves
- 654 Oriental vegetable, root, 3
- 655 Oriental vegetable, other, same quantity as standard varieties
- 656 Peas, dried shelled, 25 peas
- 657 Peas, any variety, 5 pods
- 658 Peppers, Hot, any single variety, 3
- 659 Peppers, Sweet, any single variety, lobe-end, 3
- 660 Peppers, Sweet, any single variety, tapered end, 3
- 661 Potatoes, Irish, any single variety, 3

- 662 Potatoes, Sweet, 3
- 663 Pumpkin, 1
- 664 Shallots, 3, stems on
- 665 Summer Squash, Green (includes Zucchini), 2
- 667 Summer Squash, Yellow, 2
- 668 Summer Squash, any single variety, 2
- 669 Winter Squash, any single variety, 2
- 670 Sunflower Seedhead, 1
- 671 Tomatoes, Italian paste type, any color, 3
- 672 Tomatoes, Heirloom variety, any color, 3
- 673 Tomatoes, Large, any color, 3
- 674 Tomatoes, Small fruited, under 2", any color, 6
- 675 Heirloom Vegetables/Old Fashioned varieties, (identify variety) same quantities as standard varieties
- 676 Largest Potato, 1
- 677 Largest Pumpkin, 1
- 678 Largest Tomato, 1
- 679 Largest Squash, 1
- 680 Tallest Cornstalk, 1
- 681 Novelty Vegetable, any pleasingly malformed vegetable, 1
- 682 Any variety not listed above, 2

SECTION E: COLLECTIONS

CLASSES

- 683 Summer Vegetable Collection, 4 types, 1 of each kind (e.g. Cucumber, Eggplant, Corn, Pepper, Tomato, etc.)
- 684 Root Vegetable Collection, 4 types, 1 of each kind (e.g. Carrot, Beet, Potato, Radish, Onion, etc.)
- 685 Gourd Collection, 4, all different varieties

SECTION F: OTHER

CLASS

- 686 Exhibitor's Choice

Department VII: Flowers, Arrangements & Potted Plants

1. PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL GENERAL RULES IN THIS GUIDE.
2. Entries must be by individual exhibitors; no groups or clubs are allowed.
3. All entries in SECTIONS A, B, C, and D must be in a 10 to 16 oz., non-returnable clear plastic or glass bottle. Marbles or pebbles may be placed in the bottle for stability. Foliage or blossom should NOT rest
4. on the neck of the bottle. Cotton or bubble wrap may be placed in the bottleneck to position the stem or flower. The specimen should be groomed: This means INSECTS and DEAD, DISEASED OR DAMAGED LEAVES REMOVED AND HEALTHY FOLIAGE LEFT ON the specimen. If in doubt, leave the foliage intact, but never in the water. The Fair has a limited supply of bottles.

5. One specimen per container for SECTIONS A, B, C, and D.
6. SECTION A: SINGLE FLOWER BLOSSOMS: The flower must be disbudded, leaving only one bloom and healthy foliage intact, BUT NEVER IN THE WATER.
7. SECTION B: MULTIPLE FLOWER BLOSSOMS: Flowers are spike, raceme, panicle, umbel, cyme, or corymb forms. A single floret is not allowed.
8. Maximum height and width for SECTIONS A, B, C, and D: 18" from the neck of the bottle.
9. Potted plants (SECTION E) must have been in the exhibitor's care since March 31, 2024. Maximum container size is 10" in diameter. Plants cannot exceed 24" in width and 24" in height.
10. Flower arrangements can be informal or formal. List materials used on a 3x5-inch card that must be attached to the entry.
11. Arrangements must be firmly in place. NO rearrangement of plant material may be made by the exhibitor once the arrangement has been entered. Dried specimens MUST be fully dried.
Arrangements
12. are NOT to exceed 24" wide and 24" tall, with the container no larger than 8" tall. No leaves in the water. No sprayed or dyed leaves or flowers.
13. Entrants may provide a mirror not to exceed 5" to assist in the display.

Judging Will Be Based Upon:

SECTION A-D: Condition, form, size, color, and freedom from blemishes. Leaves should be clean and foliage groomed, dead or damaged leaves removed, and healthy foliage left intact.

SECTION E: Symmetry of form, balance of pot and plant, foliage condition, freedom from blemishes, and grooming.

SECTION F: Color harmony, overall design, condition, container suitability, and originality.

SECTION A: SINGLE FLOWER BLOSSOMS

CLASSES

- 700 Coneflower, any color
- 701 Coreopsis
- 702 Cornflower
- 703 Cosmos, single or double
- 704 Dahlia, less than 3"
- 705 Dahlia, greater than 3"
- 706 Daisy, single or double
- 707 Marigold, under 1"
- 708 Marigold, 1" to 3"
- 709 Marigold, over 3"
- 710 Nasturtium
- 711 Rose, miniature
- 712 Rose, single specimen
- 713 Rudbeckia
- 714 Scabiosa
- 715 Strawflower
- 716 Sunflower

- 717 Zinnia, under 1"
- 718 Zinnia, 1" to 3"
- 719 Zinnia, greater than 3"
- 720 Annual not listed above
- 721 Perennial not listed above
- 722 Heritage Flowers, old fashioned varieties (identify variety)

SECTION B: MULTIPLE FLOWER BLOSSOMS

CLASSES

- 723 Achillea (Yarrow)
- 724 Ageratum
- 725 Asclepias
- 726 Begonia
- 727 Canna
- 728 Celosia, Crested
- 729 Celosia, Plumed
- 730 Daylily
- 731 Dianthus
- 732 Gladiolus
- 733 Impatiens, any color foliage, with blossom, may be rooted in water
- 734 Lantana
- 735 Petunia, double
- 736 Petunia, single
- 737 Rose, spray
- 738 Salvia, Blue
- 739 Salvia, Red or other color
- 740 Sedum
- 741 Snapdragon
- 742 Sunflower, multi-stemmed variety
- 743 Annual not listed above
- 744 Perennial not listed above
- 745 Heritage flowers, old fashioned varieties (identify variety)

SECTION C: FLOWERING PLANTS GROWN FOR FOLIAGE

CLASSES

- 746 Amaranthus
- 747 Artemisia
- 748 Coleus, Fringe Leaved
- 749 Coleus, Standard Leaved
- 750 Decorative Grass Stalk
- 751 Any variety not listed above

SECTION D: SPECIMEN BRANCHES

- 752 Aucuba
- 753 Boxwood
- 754 Conifer

- 755 Crape Myrtle
- 756 Deciduous Branch
- 757 Hydrangea
- 758 Ilex (Holly)
- 759 Magnolia
- 760 Mahonia
- 761 Pyracantha
- 762 Flowering Shrub/Tree, must be in flower

SECTION E: POTTED PLANTS

SUBSECTION 1: FOLIAGE PLANTS (Grown primarily for leaves and do not have to be in bloom at the time of entry).

CLASSES

- 763 Begonia
- 764 Bonsai
- 765 Bromeliad
- 766 Cactus
- 767 Caladium
- 768 Coleus
- 769 Dish Garden, minimum 3 different varieties
- 770 Fern
- 771 Hanging Basket
- 772 Jade Plant
- 773 Peperomia
- 774 Sansevieria
- 775 Succulent
- 776 Specimen Foliage or Topiary
- 778 Foliage Specimen plant not listed above.

SUBSECTION 2: BLOOMING PLANTS These are grown for their bloom and must be in flower at the time of entry.

CLASSES

- 779 African Violet
- 780 Begonia
- 781 Geranium
- 782 Hanging Basket
- 783 Hibiscus
- 784 Impatiens
- 785 Orchid
- 786 Blooming Specimen plant not listed above.

SECTION F: FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

SUBSECTION 1: HOMEGROWN FLOWERS AND PLANT MATERIALS

CLASSES

- 787 “Mother Nature’s Best”—a mixture of native flowers and plants. The plant list is available online at www.vnps.org and at the Arlington County Office of the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service.
- 788 “In the Pink” – an all pink flower arrangement
- 789 “Fireworks” – interpretive design using summer flowers
- 790 Minimum of 3 types of annuals
- 791 Minimum of 3 types of perennials
- 792 All dried arrangement
- 793 Miniature A – maximum height and width 7", including container
- 794 Miniature B – maximum height and width 4", including container
- 795 “Pollinators’ Heaven” – must contain 3 or more samples of pollinators’ favorites, such as Sunflower, Rudbeckia, Salvia, Zinnia, Coneflower, Cosmos, Lantana, etc.

SUBSECTION 2: COMMERCIALY GROWN FLOWERS AND PLANT MATERIALS

CLASSES

- 797 “Mother Nature’s Best” – a mixture of native flowers and plants. The plant list is available online at www.vnps.org and at the Arlington County Office of the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service.
- 798 “In the Pink” – an all pink flower arrangement
- 799 “Fireworks” – interpretive design using summer flowers
- 800 Minimum of 3 types of annuals
- 801 Minimum of 3 types of perennials
- 802 All dried arrangement
- 803 Miniature A – maximum height and width 7", including container
- 804 Miniature B – maximum height and width 4", including container
- 805 “Pollinators’ Heaven” – must contain 3 or more samples of pollinators’ favorites, such as Sunflower, Rudbeckia, Salvia, Zinnia, Coneflower, Cosmos, Lantana, etc.

SECTION G: OTHER

CLASS

- 806 Exhibitor’s Choice

Department VIII: Educational Exhibits

1. Department VIII is only open to competition for submissions from participants aged 18 and under.
2. Table displays must be tri-folds 24"x36"
3. Exhibit is not to extend beyond the height or width of the display board/tri-fold.
4. Display may include sound or motion

Judging Will Be Based Upon:

Exhibit’s ability to stimulate thought, teach facts, or show a process.

Exhibits are judged against a standard as defined on the scorecard detailed below and are not judged in competition with one another.

SECTION A: EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS

CLASS: 807

EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS DISPLAY SCORECARD

DESIGN	40 points
Color	
Pleasing to the eye	5 points
Effectively used	3 points
Lettering	
Easily read	5 points
Style suitable to message	2 points
Illustration	
Part of message or just eye catching	5 points
Layout	
Simple and orderly	5 points
Organization of parts	2 points
Good spacing	3 points
Neatness	5 points
Reflects planning	5 points
ORIGINALITY, CREATIVITY, AND NEATNESS	20 points
Shows imagination	10 points
New idea or innovative way to present familiar one	10 points
EDUCATION VALUE	40 points
One main idea	10 points
Message effectively and accurately presented	10 points
Message elicits viewer response	10 points
Message appropriate for intended audience	5 points
Chart/graph is titled	5 points
TOTAL	100 POINTS

Breakdown of Points

Blue: 100 - 85

Red: 84 - 60

White: 59 - 1