2024 Entry Timeline

Entry Deadline ..... **Friday, May 24, by 6 p.m.**

Entry Acceptance Email..... Friday, June 14, by 6 p.m. *(check spam folders)*

Entry Delivery ..... **Friday & Saturday, June 28-29, noon - 6 p.m.**

Award Judging Results..... Viewable in person. Posted online by the second week of fair.

Fair Dates..... July 19 - Aug. 18 *(closed Mondays and Tuesdays)*

Entry Pickup..... **Tuesday, Aug. 20, 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.**
Entries may be picked up by someone other than the exhibitor.

Quick Guide

BY ENTERING YOU ARE AGREEING TO THE TERMS AND RULES PRESENTED IN THIS GUIDEBOOK.
All entries must be original, made by the artist and completed within the last two (2) years.

Entry Fees Per Entry .....**$15 Adult • $6 Young Adult (13-17)** • *Fees are non-refundable.*
Entry Limit.....**Ten (10) per Adult • Two (2) per Young Adult (13-17)**

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Presentation & Display.....**Pages 8-9**
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Contact.....**Visual Arts Department • Valeria Tinoco, Program Coordinator**
visualarts@ocfair.com • Office (714) 708-1718 • (714) 708-1624 (during fair)
OC Fair & Event Center • 88 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

FINE ARTS COMPETITION GUIDE

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RULES & GUIDELINES

1. Local and State Rules govern this competition.
2. Exhibitors are responsible for reading and abiding by the guidelines stated herein.
3. If assistance is needed to determine the Division and/or Class, please contact the Visual Arts Department at visualarts@ocfair.com.
4. **Causes for disqualification.** Disqualified entries will not be displayed and must be picked up when notified.
   - Non-compliance to the competition and OC Fair guidelines will result in disqualification.
   - Entries over the maximum size allowed will not be accepted.
   - Entry cannot differ from the uploaded image.
   - Entries must follow the rules of the Division and Class.
   - Entries that are a copy or similar to an existing artwork will be disqualified.
   - Entries created using Artificial Intelligence (AI), either partially or completely, may not be entered in any Division.
   - Identical work may not be shown in more than one (1) Division or department of the OC Fair
   - Items previously shown in the OC Fair will be disqualified.
5. **Entry fees are non-refundable.**
   - There will be no refunds for any reason.
   - By entering the competition, exhibitor is accepting the no-refund policy.
6. Fine Arts is a juried competition. Not all entries will be accepted.
7. All entries must be original, made by the artist and completed within the last two (2) years.
8. All entries require a photo upload.
9. Display and location of the entry are at the discretion of the Program Coordinator. No entry will be accepted where an exhibitor describes the conditions under which they will exhibit or how the entry must be displayed.
10. Exhibitors are responsible for entering their items in the correct Division and Class.
11. Work must be finished; no incomplete or work in progress, or "wet" canvases will be accepted.
12. Two dimensional works composed of multiple separate pieces (diptychs, triptychs, etc.) are not allowed as one (1) entry unless framed together in one (1) frame within the stated size restrictions.
13. Final acceptance of the entry will be left to the discretion of the Program Coordinator.
14. Due to the family-oriented theme of OC Fair, work dealing with drug use, obscenity, defamatory statements, violence or gang activity, satanic or cult themes or other offensive or objectionable content will not be accepted. This is at the discretion of OC Fair staff.
15. **Hold Harmless**
    Although reasonable efforts will be undertaken to safeguard exhibitors' property against loss, damage or theft, neither the State of California nor the OC Fair & Event Center will be responsible for any loss, damage or theft of exhibitors' property brought on the premises during the period of the OC Fair.
16. Entries not picked up on entry pickup day become the property of the OC Fair and will be disposed of promptly.

ELIGIBILITY

Adult Divisions
Open to California residents ages 18 or older.

Young Adult Divisions
Open to ages 13-17 (by July 19, 2024) who live in Southern California.

ENTRY LIMIT

Adult Divisions.....Ten (10) entries per exhibitor in all classes combined
Young Adult Divisions.....Two (2) entries per exhibitor
The total number of accepted entries is limited to space available.

ENTRY FEES

Adult Divisions.....$15 per entry
Young Adult Divisions.....$6 per entry

- Entry fees are payable online with a credit card (Visa, MasterCard or American Express).
- Entry fees are non-refundable.

OC FAIR EXHIBITOR TICKET

Exhibitors will receive one (1) OC Fair admission ticket at time of entry delivery.
If none of an exhibitor's entries were accepted for exhibition, one (1) free admission ticket will be available for pickup at the Guest Relations Booth located outside the Main (Blue) Gate entrance when the Fair is open.

- Please bring a photo ID to claim your ticket.
- One (1) ticket per exhibitor, not one per entry.
- Ticket is good any day of the OC Fair and does not require a reservation.
- Tickets are provided to participants to view the results of their efforts.
- Tickets must not be re-sold.

PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR WORK FOR ENTRY

Digital photo submission of your entry is required.

- Digital images must be an accurate representation of the entry; misrepresented entries will be disqualified and not exhibited.
- One (1) image for 2D work (drawings, paintings, mixed media, digital art).
- Up to three (3) images per sculpture or ceramic pieces may be submitted to show different views or angles.
- Please do not include a watermark or signature on the digital upload file; judging is to be blind.

Image Format

- .jpeg, .jpg, or .png file formats
- iphone users must change default HEIC camera setting to JPEG, or convert the image.
- RGB color space (CMYK files will be converted to RGB by the system.)
- Be sure that the image is rotated to be in an upright position and orientation.
- Maximum file size: 8 MB (megabytes)

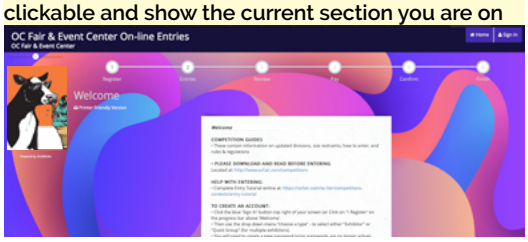
Tutorial Photographing Your Work

HOW TO ENTER

Online Entry Deadline: Friday, May 24, by 6 p.m.

Click on the link to go to the entry homepage ocfair.fairwire.com

The numbered steps along top of page are clickable and show the current section you are on



fairwire.com welcome page

Step 1. Register

- Last year's accounts are no longer valid. All exhibitors must create a new account.
- Entries must be made under the name of the individual whose exhibit it is.
- Do not use business or fictitious names.
- There are no team entries.
- Enter the information carefully and proofread the name, title and description of the entry for punctuation, capitalization and spelling to ensure accuracy on exhibit display labels.
- Descriptions are limited to 120 characters and should include a short statement about the work or the methods and techniques used.
- Email will be used to send important information. Check your spam folders and whitelist emails coming from @ocfair.com.

Step 2. Entries

- Input your entry(s) in the proper Department, Division, Class along with other required information.

Step 3. Cart Review

- Review your entries. You can add, edit, delete, or save your entries.
- When satisfied, click "CHECK OUT" button.

Step 4. Payment

- Enter your credit card information (Master Card, Visa, or American Express).
- An email notification and confirmation will be sent immediately after the online payment is received.
- Check your spam folder if the email confirmation does not arrive shortly after submitting payment.

Step 5. Confirmation

- Sign by typing "YES" in the agreement to terms box.
- DO NOT click the "SUBMIT" button multiple times as you will be charged.
- On the resulting Confirmation page, you can print a receipt and will see a blue "UPLOAD FILES" button.

Step 6. Image Upload

- Click on the "UPLOAD FILES" button to start uploading your images into the system.
- One (1) image for 2D work (drawings, paintings, mixed media, digital art).
- Up to three (3) images per sculpture or ceramic pieces mat be submitted to show different views or angles.

You can log back into your account to see your entries and replace images and description.
For any other changes, contact us; do not re-enter to make corrections as you will be charged.

HELP WITH ENTERING

For additional help, review these detailed step-by-step guides:

- Entry Tutorial
- Photographing Your Work

Phone: During office hours at (714) 708-1718 **E-mail:** visualarts@ocfair.com

PRICING AND SALE OF ENTRIES

Pricing
Entries may be marked NFS (Not For Sale) or For Sale by indicating the selling price $____. Consider painting, printing, materials and framing costs, and your time when pricing.

Prospective Buyers
No sale or acceptance of fees for artwork will be made by the OC Fair. Prospective buyers may fill out an ***Interested in Purchasing Exhibited Art form*** that will be forwarded to the artist at the close of the OC Fair. The OC Fair does not take commission on artwork sold as a result of exhibition in the Visual Arts Competition.

JUDGES

Fine Arts is a juried competition.
Qualified judges will be selected by the Program Coordinator to judge all exhibits. The judges are recognized authorities in the Fine Arts fields.

Reassignment of entry Division or Class
Judges and/or the Program Coordinator have the option of reassigning an entry to a more appropriate Division or Class or may combine Divisions or Classes to create an adequate judging pool. Nonetheless, it is the responsibility of exhibitors to enter work in the appropriate Class.

FIRST-ROUND JUDGING

Fine Art entries will be judged first from your uploaded images to determine if the submitted entry meets the requirements for participation in this competition and the subjective standards for exhibition set by the judges.

- The number of accepted entires are also based on the amount of exhibition space available.
- The judges' decisions are final and cannot be protested.

The exhibitor will be notified by email with the results of the first-round judging.
An email will be sent for each entry. Please check your Spam/Junk folder. Results may also be viewed online at ocfair.com/results.

Acceptance for exhibition
Only accepted artwork is to be delivered on the entry delivery day. First-round judging acceptance does not guarantee acceptance for exhibition. The delivered entry may still be judged out for not complying with the competition rules and guidelines concerning size, weight, framing, and proper hanging hardware.

- Not all entries will be accepted. Due to the high number of entries and limited display space, OC Fair cannot accept all the work submitted. Please understand that this competition is highly competitive.

ENTRY DELIVERY OF FIRST-ROUND JUDGING RESULTS

Delivery Date: Friday & Saturday, June 28-29, noon - 6 p.m.

- Make sure work is properly prepared for exhibition. See pages 9-10.
- One (1) participation ribbon will be given to each exhibitor on entry delivery day.
- Late deliveries will not be accepted.

Entry Delivery

- Enter Gate 8 and follow the marked route.
- Drop off east side of the OC Promenade (building 5 on the map).
- Email alerts will be sent prior to delivery date with detailed information. Check your spam folder for emails.

Claim Checks

- Will be provided when exhibits are delivered.
- Are required to pick up your entry on entry pickup day.
- Entries may be claimed by someone other than the exhibitor.

ENTRY PICKUP

Pickup Date: Tuesday, Aug. 20, 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

- An email alert will be sent prior to pickup date with detailed information. Check your spam folder for emails.
- Claim check or photo ID is required for pick up.
- If you are unable to pick up your items, please arrange for someone to pick them up for you.
- Unclaimed items and ribbons become the property of the OC Fair and will be discarded.

Entry Pickup

- The Visual Arts Gallery, Los Alamitos Building (building 6 on the map.
- Enter through Gate 1 (Main Gate) and follow directional signs.

SECOND-ROUND CONFIRMATION JUDGING

After delivery of accepted first-round judging entries, all entries will then be checked for compliance with the entry guidelines including size/weight limits, framing, proper hanging hardware and quality of the entry.

Judges may, at their discretion, jury out works that do not meet their subjective artistic standards. If your delivered entry is judged out or disqualified, you will receive notification by phone or email to pick up your entry at the Visual Arts Gallery. Claim check or photo ID is required for pickup. Artwork not picked up before the start of the OC Fair will be stored and cannot be released to you until the OC Fair ends (see Entry Pickup).

THIRD-ROUND AWARD JUDGING

The judges will select award winners from accepted entries that were confirmed after delivery.

Adult Divisions
Entries are placed using the American Judging System, where exhibits are ranked one against another.

- First, Second, Third place and Honorable Mention may be awarded in each Class if judges so determine.
- More than one Honorable Mention per Class may be awarded.
- First Place winners will compete for Division Winner.
- Division winners will compete for Best of Show.

Young Adult Divisions
Entries are placed using the Danish Judging System, where each entry is judged on how well it meets a standard rather than how it compares to other entries.

- Entries are judged First, Second or Third place awards.
- There may be more than one First, Second or Third place award per Class.
- All First place awards will then compete, using the American Judging System, for Best of Class.
- Division winners will compete for Best of Show.

Judging Criteria
Entries are judged on originality, creativity, composition, technique, and presentation.

Judges' Award
Additional awards may be made at the discretion of each judge for outstanding entries that exhibit special qualities that the judges feel deserve to be recognized.

Theme Award
Awarded to an entry that best represents the annual OC Fair theme.

Disqualified Entries
If an entry is disqualified after judging is complete, the judge will not change the status of awards given for other entries. Judges reserve the right to remove or disqualify any entry in violation of the rules, in poor taste, or not in accordance with the competition standards.

AWARDS

Includes ribbons and/or prize money (premiums)

Adult		Young Adult	
NEW 2D art Best of Show	$400	Best of Show	$75
NEW Sculpture/Ceramic Best of Show	$400	Division Winner	$35
Division Winner	$200	Best of Class	$25
First Place	$100	Judges' Award	$25
Second Place	$75	Theme Award	$25
Third Place	$50	First, Second, Third	Ribbon
Judges' Award	$25		
Theme Award	$25		
Honorable Mention	Rosette		

- Exhibitors will receive awarded ribbons on entry pickup day.
- Award checks will be made payable to the exhibitor whose name is indicated on the entry form and mailed within thirty (30) business days after the close of the 2024 OC Fair.
- Total premiums of $600 or more to any individual will be paid only after a completed ***Payee Data Record*** form has been received.

Third-Round Judging Results

- All accepted entries will be displayed in the Visual Arts Gallery with any awards received.
- Results will be posted online around the second week of the OC Fair at ocfair.com/results.
- ***Please do not call or email for competition results.***

AWARDS CEREMONY

Sunday, Aug. 18, at noon

- Hosted on the OC Promenade Main Stage.
- Best of Show Award recipients will be invited to attend and be recognized at the ceremony and will receive two (2) tickets to attend.
- Invitations will be sent to the email provided at entry registration.
- All exhibitors and the general public are welcome to attend the ceremony.
- Additional guests should purchase Fair admission tickets in advance.

PRESENTATION & DISPLAY OF ACCEPTED ARTWORK

Proper presentation is critical for the safe display and gallery standards for exhibiting your work and is part of the judging criteria when awarding ribbons. Aesthetics is also a large factor in frame and matte selection, which should complement and not distract from the work. Any accepted work when delivered that is deemed unsafe to display and/or is poorly presented will be disqualified.

1. Size Requirements

Size is measured by the outside dimensions of the frame or piece.

a) 2D Wall Hanging Work

- Work on canvas, board or paper.
- Stretched canvas should be back-stapled.
- Work must be relatively flat with no protruding elements.
- Any ratio within the minimum and maximum size is allowed.

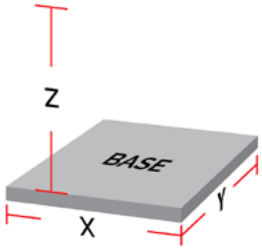
Portrait or Landscape Orientation
Minimum size..... 12 inches by 14 inches
Maximum size ..... 30 inches by 40 inches
Weight limit ..... 20 pounds

Square Orientation
Minimum size.....12 inches by 12 inches
Maximum size .....30 inches by 30 inches
Weight limit .....20 pounds

b) Sculpture

- Work must be well put together (no loose/fragile/sharp pieces that can easily break or are unsafe).
- Work will be placed on a plinth or pedestal.

Maximum base size (X, Y)..... 24 inches by 30 inches
Maximum height (Z)..... 60 inches
Weight limit ..... 100 pounds



c) Ceramics

- A maximum of three (3) pieces can be entered as a set and count as one (1) entry. Multiple pieces must not exceed the maximum dimensions below.
- Work will be placed on a pedestal with Plexi vitrine top. Note: There are a limited number of pedestals on hand.

Minimum size..... 3 inches; short side
Maximum base size (X, Y)..... 14 inches by 24 inches
Maximum height (Z)..... 24 inches
Weight limit ..... 30 pounds

2. Framing 2D Wall-Mounted Artwork

Work may be professionally framed or framed by the artist. Please follow these guidelines:

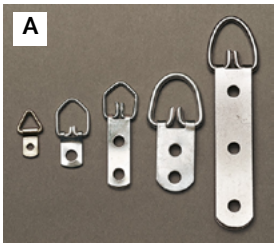
Black frame with white mat

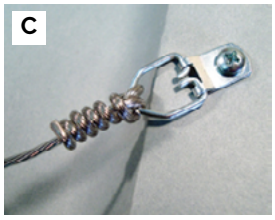
a) Work on paper must be framed.

- Drawing, collage, printmaking & digital artworks on any paper-based media must be framed.
- Plexiglas is preferred over glass.
- Black frames with white mats are highly recommended.

b) Work on canvas, frame is optional.

- Paintings, collage/mixed media works on canvas need to be stretched on stretcher bars or backed with wood, board or other solid substrate that can be properly wired for hanging.





3. Hardware for hanging

Please adhere to the following guidelines so your work will be prepared to safely hang in a busy public venue like the OC Fair.

a) D-Ring hangers

D-Ring hangers are preferred and are available in several standard sizes and weight ratings.

Make sure the frame moulding is thick enough to be able to screw in the D-rings. Drill a small pilot hole for the screw so as not to split the wood frame when fastening the D-Ring.

b) Hanging Wire

A multi-strand braided galvanized steel wire is required (weight-rated for at least two [2] times the weight of the artwork and frame), and the ends of the wire should be secured so they do not poke into the back of the image.

- No sawtooth hangers. The work can easily fall off the wall; therefore, sawtooth hangers are strictly prohibited.
- String, thread, fishing line or material other than wire will not be accepted.

c) Hanging wire is looped through the D-Ring hangers

- Wrap the wire several times around itself and securely knot using a Lark's head knot.

d) Check that the apex of the wire is at least 2 inches below the top of the frame.

- Make sure the wire does not extend outside the frame.

4. Frames containing glass

- Framing with plastic or plexiglass is preferred.
- Artists framing their entry with glass assume responsibility for damage to their own artwork and the artwork of others should the glass break.
- OC Fair staff uses extreme care in handling artwork but assumes no responsibility for damage.

5. Framing tips and informational links

- okeefe-arts-tutorials-framing-1.php
- the-artists-magazine/framing-tips-hardware-facts
- install-picture-frame-wire.html
- howtoframepaintings/ss/hang-painting.htm
- how-to-frame-a-canvas-painting/

6. Labeling

Artwork must be securely labeled on the back of each entry with a printout of the acceptance notification media entry tag.
(Label will be sent in acceptance emails. Check your spam folder).

Adult Divisions

CLICK TO ENTER

Eligibility ..... Open to California residents ages 18 or older. Original work created within the last two (2) years.
Entry Limit..... Ten (10) per exhibitor in all classes combined
Entry Fee ..... $15 per entry

- Rules & Guidelines on page 1 apply.
- Entries require a photo upload. See "Photographing Your Work for Entry" on page 2 for more information.
- Work should be safe to move.
- If accepted, see Presentation & Display of Accepted Artwork on pages 8-9.

DIVISION 501

2D Fine Art

- Maximum size 30 inches by 40 inches. Details on page 8.
- See framing & hanging guidelines on pages 8-9.

Class 01: Painting
Oil, acrylic, encaustic

Class 02: Watercolor
Watercolor, tempera, and gouache

Class 03: Drawing
Pencil, charcoal, pen and ink, pastel

Class 04: Printmaking
Media that uses a plate to transfer an image: relief, woodcut, linocut. intaglio. engraving. drypoint. mezzotint. etching, collagraph

Class 05: Mixed Media
Combination of media and use of cut materials: paper, fabric, found objects adhered to the piece.

Class 06: Digital
Images created entirely on a computer.

DIVISION 502

NEW

Sculpture

3D art made by one of four basic processes: carving, modeling, casting, or constructing.

- Maximum size 24 inches by 30 inches by 60 (height) inches. Details on page 8.
- Work is to be freestanding.
- Two (2) additional views of your entry may be uploaded.
- Upcycled and functional work: see Div. 406 in the Handcrafts Guide in Hobbies & Handcrafts department.

Class 01: Traditional/Representative
Realistic portraits, human figures, animals etc.

Class 02: Contemporary/Abstract
Non-representational

DIVISION 503

Ceramics

- Maximum size 14 inches by 24 inches by 24 (height) inches. Details on page 8
- Work must be clay based.
- Work must be fired.
- Two (2) additional views of your entry may be uploaded.
- A maximum of three (3) pieces can be entered as a set and count as one (1) entry.
- Polymer clay: see Div. 400 in the Handcrafts Guide in the Hobbies & Handcrafts department.
- Mixed media works where clay is not the dominant material: see Div. 410 in the Handcrafts Guide in the Hobbies & Handcrafts department.

Class 01: Hand-Built Ceramics

Class 02: Wheel-Thrown Ceramics
Made primarily with the use of a potter's wheel.

Young Adult Divisions

CLICK TO ENTER

Eligibility ..... Open to youth ages 13-17 (by July 19, 2024) who live in Southern California.
Original work created within the last two (2) years.
Entry Limit ..... Two (2) per exhibitor
Entry Fee ..... $6 per entry

Parents/Guardians: Youth Fine Arts Competition is a juried exhibition. Not all entries will be accepted. Due to the high number of entries and limited space, we cannot accept all of the work submitted. Please understand that this competition is highly competitive. Only entries receiving Blue and Red Awards (see Judging and Awards) will be accepted for exhibition. Entries receiving White Awards will not be exhibited.

- Rules & Guidelines on page 1 apply.
- Entries require a photo upload. See "Photographing Your Work for Entry" on page 2 for more information
- If accepted, see Presentation & Display of Accepted Artwork on pages 8-9.
- For Youth 3D art, clay and ceramics, see the Handcrafts Guide in Hobbies & Handcrafts.

DIVISION 313

2D Art: Ages 13-15

- Maximum size 30 inches by 40 inches. Details page 8.
- See framing & hanging guidelines on Pages 8-9.

Class 01: Drawing
Pencil, charcoal, ink, pastel, and markers

Class 02: Painting
Oil, acrylic, watercolor, tempera, and gouache

Class 03: Mixed Media/Collage
Combination of media and materials, paper, fabric, found objects glued to a surface

Class 04: Digital Art
Artwork created with the use of a computer.

DIVISION 314

2D Art: Ages 16-17

- Maximum size 30 inches by 40 inches. Details page 8.
- See framing & hanging guidelines on Pages 8-9.

Class 01: Drawing
Pencil, charcoal, ink, pastel, and markers

Class 02: Painting
Oil, acrylic, watercolor, tempera, and gouache

Class 03: Mixed Media/Collage
Combination of media and materials, paper, fabric, found objects glued to a surface

Class 04: Digital Art
Artwork created with the use of a computer.

LCAD
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Portfolio development
awards provided from LCAD