Memorandum

TO:	District 7 County Extension Agents 4-H Coordinators
SUBJECT:	2024 Junior/Intermediate Photography Contest

4-H ONLINE DEADLINE:

- Contestant – 4-H ONLINE (Opens April 22nd & Closes May 6th)
- Photographs

FEE: $10.00 for first photo
$3.00 for each additional photo
No refunds

Any entries made after the closing date of 4-H Online will incur a $50 late fee in addition to the original contest fee.
(Pending late entry is approved based on timeline needed for contest preparation)

Please find the Guidelines, Rules, and Regulations for this event on the following pages. Please contact the District 7 Office if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Garry Branham
District Specialist – 4-H & Youth Development

Missy Olofsson
4-H Program Assistant

DISTRICT 7 JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST
GUIDELINES, RULES AND REGULATIONS

AGE DIVISIONS
The following contestant ages are as of August 31, 2023:
- JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE AGE – age 8 and in the 3rd grade to 8th grade
- SENIOR – NO SENIORS at District Contest

REGISTRATION & FEES – ALL MUST REGISTER ON 4-H ONLINE
- $10.00 for first photo
- $3.00 for each additional photo
- No refunds

All contestants must be entered on 4-H Online DO NOT send money to the District Office, payments will be done utilizing the 4-H Online registration system.

There will be NO REFUNDS for entries that don't show up to the contest. If you miss the registration deadline you will be required to pay the late registration fee.

ENTRIES
4-Her's will have to select entry categories on 4-H Online.

Number of Entries:
A county may have three entries per division/class for a total of 45 entries per county. However, an individual 4-H member may enter only one photo per category.

Eligibility of Entries:
All photos must have been taken by 4-H members between the dates of **January 1, 2023,** and the time of entry. Photos may be submitted only one time and in only one division and class to the district photography contest.

Contestants Participating at District Roundup:
Photography contest participants are not required to attend District 4-H Roundup. All Blue Ribbon photos will be displayed at Roundup in May.

Proper Entry of Photograph

Each entry must accept a Release Statement during entry online to ensure proper entry. Certain entries will be retained for marketing and promotional purposes. **All entries will be submitted electronically at the time of contest registration through 4-H Online.**

**Please make sure photos are entered in the correct category.

It is extremely important that 4-H members, project leaders, parents, and county Extension agents review the descriptions of each category very carefully. Do not enter photographs into categories that are duplicates from other categories or ones that do not clearly meet the category description.

TEXAS 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST 2023-2024 CATEGORIES

It is extremely important that 4-H members, project leaders, parents, and County Extension Agents review the descriptions of each category very carefully. Do not enter photographs into categories that are duplicates from other categories or ones that do not clearly meet the category description. Photographs that do not meet the description of the category will be disqualified.

ANIMALS - DOMESTIC
Photos focusing on the various animals that have been tamed and made fit for a human environment. To be considered domesticated, the animal must have their behavior, life cycle, or physiology systemically altered as a result of being under human control for many generations.
Examples: Chickens, cows, dogs, cats, hamsters, horses, pigs, sheep, goats, etc. All waterfowl (ducks and geese) should be entered in Animals - Wildlife.

ANIMALS - WILDLIFE
Category focuses on animals not typically tamed or domesticated and commonly found in the wilderness or bodies of water throughout the country and world. Photos can be of wildlife in nature, zoos, and/or petting zoos.
Examples: Birds, deer, elephants, snakes, whales, etc.

CATCH-ALL
Photos that do not fit into one of the other categories.
Not allowed: A duplicate photo also entered in another category.

DETAILS & MACRO
Getting in close is the name of the game for this category. The goal is to zoom in close on an object to see its finer details or to make small objects appear life-sized or larger that we do not normally get to see with the naked eye.
Examples: Insect eyes, veins on a leaf, a reflection in a water droplet, etc.

ELEMENTS OF DESIGN
Images use of graphic elements of design. Photos that showcase line, shape, pattern, form, texture, perspective, etc. Photo can consist of any subject matter.
Examples: Line, pattern, perspective, shape, etc.
Not allowed: Digital creations or graphic designs made in software such as Photoshop, InDesign or Illustrator.

ENHANCED
A single photo that has been technically manipulated to be an abstract, panoramic, stitched or composite image. Others variations are allowed as well.
Examples: Software edited composites and creations, images greatly manipulated with a variety of filters, photos with artistic borders, photos stitched into a panoramic, etc.

FOOD
A still life specialization of photography, aimed at producing attractive photographs of food for use in such items of advertisements, packaging, menus and/or cookbooks.
Examples: Cakes/pies, Easter eggs, fruits and place settings, ingredients, sandwiches, Thanksgiving dinner, etc.
Not allowed: A photo of alcohol beverages.

LANDSCAPE & NATURE (NON-ANIMAL)
The focus of this category includes landscapes, outdoor scenics, nature images, sunsets, urban landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, and farms. Images focus on the beauty of the outdoors.
Examples: Gardens/landscapes, outdoors, scenics, etc.
Not allowed: Primary subject is a person or wildlife.

LEADING LINE
This image composition technique features lines that draw the viewer's eye from point A to point B, which is the primary subject.
Example: A river that begins in the foreground and draws your attention to a photogenic bridge in the background.

LONG EXPOSURE
Also known as time-exposure or slow-shutter, this technique involves using a long-duration shutter speed. It can be used to sharply capture stationary elements of an image while blurring, smearing, or obsuring the moving elements. It is also used in low-light conditions.
Examples: fireworks, moving water, light trails, Milky Way, light painting, night or low-light conditions, etc.

MOTION/ACTION
The capture of movement within a single photo. The subject appears stopped or "frozen".
Examples: Ferris wheel spinning, sporting events, horse running across a field, etc.

PEOPLE
Photos focus from all walks of life, parenting and family, children, babies, models/fashion, sports, and couples. All individuals in the photos must have provided consent and permission as a subject. If requested, a release will be needed from the photographer and subject.
Examples: Babies, families, kids, portraits, models/fashion, etc.

PLANT/FLORA
Photos of interesting, unique, and beautiful flowers and flora. Photography can occur outdoors or indoors. Photo subject should be that of a single flower, plant, bush, tree, etc. Large collections of plant/flora should be considered for entry into the Landscape & Nature category.
Examples: A rose, an upward shot of a tree, etc.

SHADOW/SILHOUETTE
A silhouette is an outline that appears dark (typically a single color) with little or no details/features against a brighter background. Recording patterns of light and shade for a desired effect or emphasis is the definition of a shadow. The silhouette or shadow must be the primary subject and focus of the image.
Examples: shadows/silhouettes of people, plants, animals, structures, architectures, or natural structures.
Not allowed: reflections

THEME (New)
The 2023-2024 theme is "Abandoned". Photographs capturing the essence of forgotten or neglected places, things, or structures; emphasizing its worn and forsaken nature.

Please take all necessary safety precautions around abandoned buildings/structures.

JUDGING CRITERIA

The judge determines the placing's of the photos. Their decision on all entries is final.

Each photograph will be judged against the following set of judging criteria, and not against photographs of your peers. Based on these criteria for each photograph, the participant will be awarded either a blue, red, white, or a participation ribbon.

The elements for judging the photographs will be:

IMPACT	Impact is the sense one gets upon viewing an image for the first time. Compelling images evoke laughter, sadness, anger, pride, wonder or another intense emotion. There can be impact in any of these twelve elements.
CREATIVITY	Creativity is the original, fresh, and external expression of the imagination of the maker by using the medium to convey an idea, message or thought.
TECHNICAL	Technical is the quality of the image itself as it is presented for viewing, which includes the following aspects: • allowable amounts of retouching and adjustments (removal of red eye, cropping, minor straightening) • sharpness and correct color balance. • lighting, which includes the use and control of light. The use of lighting whether natural or man-made and its proper use to enhance the image. • Posing and capturing of the image
COMPOSITION	Composition is important to the design of an image, bringing all of the visual elements together in concert to express the purpose of the image. Proper composition holds the viewer in the image and prompts the viewer to look where the creator intends. Effective composition can be pleasing or disturbing, depending on the intent of the image maker.
SUBJECT MATTER	Subject Matter should always be appropriate to the story being told (i.e. category the photo is entered into) in an image. Subject matter also includes the center of interest for the photograph or where the maker wants the viewer to stop and they view the image.
STORY TELLING	Story Telling refers to the image's ability to evoke imagination. One beautiful thing about art is that each viewer might collect his own message or read her own story in an image.

NEGATIVES

Contest officials reserve the right to request the negative, disk or print to verify authenticity.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, Texas AgriLife Extension Service, District 7 office and/or its employees/agents involved with the contest will not be held liable for missing, mislabeled, damaged or non-displayed photographs. By entry the 4-H member accepts this release.

AWARDS

Blue, Red and White quality awards will be given to entries based on the individual quality of the photograph. Best of Class awards will be presented to one photo in each division. The Best of Show award will presented to the one photo that demonstrates outstanding achievements in quality.

ADDITIONAL SELECTIONS:

As stated in the section titled *Proper Entry of Photograph*, certain entries may be retained for marketing and promotional purposes. We have selected photos over the years to become the cover of our District Food Show Cookbook Cover, on District Fashion Show materials and on Horse Show materials. Remind your 4-H members to be mindful of these and other 4-H events when taking their photos and they could be chosen!!

COPYRIGHT AND CONTENT
Photos that are deemed obscene, vulgar, sexually oriented, hateful, threatening, or otherwise violate any laws are strictly prohibited. The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program respects the rights related to copyright laws and intellectual property. All photos should be based on a 4-H -members original photograph taken by the 4-H member. Use of a photo from other sources/people without permission is not allowed and will lead to disqualification of the photo and possibility all entries by the 4-H member. The Texas 4-H and Youth Development reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.

MODEL AND PROPERTY RELEASES
Any 4-H member submitting a photograph acknowledges that they have sufficient written permission of any recognizable locations or people appearing in their photograph(s). This permission is hereby granted to both the photographer and the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program to publish and use as needed. Written documentation should be retained by the 4-H member and will be requested by the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program if needed.