

Open Class Department

Superintendents: Jolynn Feters, Deb DeDecker, Becky Stock & Renee Fiala
Committee: Tracy Casey

1. \$4 Entry Fee per Class. Ribbons only, no premiums.
2. This division is open to all Polk County residents.
3. Exhibitors are permitted an unlimited number of entries per class in this department.
4. All exhibits must be brought to the fairgrounds between 9:00 am - 12:00 Noon, Saturday.
5. All exhibits must remain in open class display for the duration of the fair. All exhibits will be released Thursday at 4:00 -5:00 PM Superintendents will not be responsible for any exhibit after 5:00 pm Thursday.
6. Blue, Red, and White ribbons will be given to all qualified entries. No premiums will be paid in these classes.
7. Best in Class and Best in Division Ribbons will only be awarded if merited and at the sole discretion of the Open Class Judge(s).
8. All exhibits must be fresh and clean.
9. Exhibitors 17 years old and under will be entered as a youth exhibit using the same class numbers, (i.e., Class #OP220-Y). All youth entries must enter their age on the entry tag.

Open Class Horticulture Division

1. Criteria for the exhibition are quality, condition, representativeness, and uniformity.
2. The exhibitor should first select specimens that are as near physically perfect as possible, free from insect and disease injury, and high in quality. Then choose from this selection those specimens which combine the ideal characteristics of the fruit or vegetable, and which are most uniform in size, color, and other characteristics.
3. It is highly recommended that exhibitors prepare their vegetables for the exhibit as described in the publication 4H-462, entitled "Harvesting and Preparing Vegetables for Exhibit" available on the Polk County Fair Website for download or at the Polk County Extension Office.
4. For flower exhibits: all specimen flowers must be grown by the exhibitor. Furnish own containers. Fresh plant material is required unless otherwise specified.

OP200	Vegetables
OP210	Herbs
OP220	Heirloom Vegetables
OP230	Fruits
OP240	Floriculture

Open Class Fine Arts Division

1. The work must be original work executed in the past calendar year. "Original" means that the artist has used his/her concepts, ideas, and techniques for the execution of the artwork. The artist has not copied the ideas, techniques OR exactly duplicated the subject matter of another artist's work. Exception OP 405.
2. All work submitted must have a finished appearance; the media with which it is executed must be completely dry.
3. If the work is two-dimensional, it must not exceed 52" (4 feet, 6 inches) in either length or width. All two-dimensional adult work done with oil or acrylic paint must be presented framed, a canvas stretched on a wooded frame is considered framed; work done in pastels, watercolor, drawings, and prints must be framed, covered with glass or Plexiglas.
4. Three-dimensional work will not be accepted if it exceeds 60" (5 feet) in any direction, is excessively fragile or heavy. Three-dimensional work must be presented on a sturdy base. A Canvas stretched on a wood frame is an acceptable base.

OP400	Painting: oils, tempera, acrylics, watercolor, and mixed media
OP405	Non-Original Painting: Includes paintings done in classes or workshops.
OP410	Scrapbooking
OP420	Drawings: charcoal, pencil, ink, graphite, and pastels
OP430	Prints: commercial print processes such as giclee prints or computer scanned images of photographs are not allowed.
OP440	Sculpture: excessively fragile, heavy, or large sculptures are not acceptable.
OP450	Pottery: handmade earthenware, stoneware, and porcelain. Delicately constructed work requiring more than normal careful handling is not eligible.
OP460	Art Glass: hand-blown glass, stained glass, and reverse glass painting.
OP470	Fiber: weaving, fiber construction, batik, tie-dying, knotting, appliqué, and trapunto.
OP480	Woodworking: Constructed or refinished wood product, including wood burning.
OP490	Other Fine Arts: Exhibit that does not fit in any above categories.

Open Class Foods Division

1. All entries in the Food Department must be the product of the exhibitor, made in the home kitchen, and not a means of livelihood.
2. Any exhibit considered to be a food safety risk or portray a food safety risk will not be accepted, judged, or displayed.
3. All food products/exhibits should be appropriate for human consumption.
4. Food product exhibits must be prepared, baked, or cooked using only food-grade utensils and containers.
5. Products that require refrigeration will not be accepted, judged, or displayed. Meat jerky products are prohibited.
6. The recipe must be included for any prepared food exhibit; credit the source of the recipe.
7. Only food processed in the last calendar year is acceptable. Current USDA and/or Iowa State University guidelines for home food preservation must be used. For more information call the ISU Answer Line at 1-800-262-3804.
8. Preserved food exhibits must include two product samples. One will be opened for evaluation and discarded; the second will be placed on display and returned to the exhibitor. All perishable food products will be discarded when removed from display.
9. Prepared foods should be placed on a firm disposable plate or flat cardboard. Place food product exhibit in an enclosable plastic bag with an entry tag fastened outside the bag.

OP600	Bread
OP610	Pies
OP620	Cookies, Bars, and Brownies
OP630	Preserves
OP640	Canning
OP650	Cake Decoration

Open Class Photography Division

1. **BACKING:** All photographs must be mounted.
2. **PHOTOGRAPH SIZE:** Photographs can be any size up to and including 11" x 14".
3. **MATS:** Matting your photograph is optional.
4. **MEDIA:** We make NO distinction between film or digital photographs.
5. **ENTRY:** Photographer's name, photo title, date, and other text must NOT appear on the front of the entry.
6. **PRESENTATION:** All photos must be unframed. Do NOT cover entry with cellophane, acetate, or glass.
There should be NO hooks or wires attached to the back.
7. **SERIES:** A series is a group of photographs that are related or tell a step-by-step story. Photographs must be mounted together in story order or sequence.

OP300	People and Portraits
OP310	Landscapes and Architecture
OP320	Still Life
OP330	Photo Series
OP340	Black and White or Monochromatic
OP350	Digitally Altered

Open Class Textiles Division

1. All articles entered in this department must strictly be the work of the exhibitor.
2. Articles may not have been exhibited in this department before.
3. The Management will use diligence to ensure the safety of articles after their arrival and placement, but in no case will they be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur.

OP500	Needlework: such as Embroidery, Cross Stitch and Needlepoint
OP510	Handwork: Knitting, Crochet, and Tatting
OP520	Quilting
OP530	Sewing: Clothing
OP540	Sewing: Other