

2026 TULARE COUNTY FAIR – FINE ART & PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW

ENTRY TIMELINE:

Entry Deadline..... Friday, August 21, 2026.

All registrations must be submitted Online by midnight (Pacific Daylight Time).

Entry Delivery.....ONE DAY ONLY Thursday, September 3 10am - 6pm. Home Arts building

Judging (Closed)..... Friday, September 4.

Artwork Released..... Monday, September 21 10:00am - 6:00pm.

Entry Fee: FREE

Judging: All judging will be blind and held in a closed session. The decision of the judges is final.

FINE ART SHOW - AMATEURS & PROFESSIONALS

1. **ART SHOW ENTRIES:** Open to all Tulare County and surrounding Counties artists aged 18 and over.
2. ALL ENTRIES MUST HAVE BEEN COMPLETED WITHIN THE PAST 2 YEARS AND MUST HAVE BEEN EXECUTED BY ENTRANT. Works previously shown at the Tulare County Fair are not allowed. **No** reproductions or works created in a manner that violates another artist's copyright will be accepted.
3. **Professionals** will **not** be allowed premiums.
4. Paper borne works **MUST** be framed and under glass, acrylic sheet or equal. Maximum size of 60" in any dimension. Oversize works may be accepted at the discretion of the Department Chair. Use of metal frames is at the artist's risk. **No Glass frames, as they will not be accepted.**
5. All hanging work must be **wired with screw eyes or "D" rings and picture cable, no saw tooth hangers will be accepted.** The maximum weight of any frame is twenty (20) pounds. **NO GLASS FRAMES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**
6. **Insurance is the responsibility of the artist.** The utmost care will be given to all entries; however, the Tulare County Fair accepts no responsibility for loss or damage of any kind to any entry. Your signature on the entry form indicates your acceptance of all rules.
7. **OIL OR ACRYLIC PAINTINGS:** All paintings must be on canvas board, Masonite, etc. and framed. Paintings on stretched canvas need not be framed but must be properly finished. Adequate eye screws or D rings with screws and picture cable are required. **NO SAW TOOTH HANGERS OR GLASS FRAMES WILL BE ACCEPTED.** The exhibitor's name, phone number and address must be on the back of the painting. No wet painting will be accepted. Maximum weight is **20** pounds. **The work must be an original design executed by an artist.**
8. **WATERCOLOR, GRAPHICS, PRINTS, PHOTOGRAPHS and COMPUTER ART:** All entries must be framed and **under plastic**, acrylic sheet or equal; and with sturdy backing. Backing, adequate eye screws and picture cable are required. **NO SAW TOOTH HANGERS OR GLASS FRAMES WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Exhibitor name, phone number and address must be on the back. Maximum weight is **20** pounds. The work must be an original design executed by an artist. Etching, silk screen, lithograph, etc.

9. **PRINTMAKING:** Work must be original design executed by artist. Exhibitor name, phone number and address must be on the back
10. **SCULPTURE:** Not to exceed fifty (20) pounds. Stands to be provided by exhibitor. Oversize works may be accepted at the discretion of the Department Chair.
11. **STAINED GLASS:** Entrants must provide adequate hanging support, where applicable.
12. Entry Display Tags will not be re-printed if changes occur in the entry title.
13. Excessively fragile works, as deemed by the Department Chair, will not be accepted.
14. Entries being picked up by someone other than the artist must have a **SIGNED LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION FROM THE EXHIBITOR PLUS THE ENTRY CLAIM CHECK. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
15. No employee of this department will be permitted to enter any exhibit for judging or shall be an exhibitor or sign an entry form as an agent in any division or department in which the exhibitor is a chairman, judge, contractor, or paid employee.
16. Management reserves the right to reject any entry that is deemed to be of a quality not beneficial to the fair or of a subject or tone not suitable for a family event. Management further reserves the right to disqualify any exhibitors who conduct themselves in an unseemly or discourteous manner. No refund of any fees or payment of any awards will be made to individuals so disqualified.

AWARDS

Best of Show (Division 200) - \$50 & Rosette

Best of Show (Division 201) - Rosette

Best of Class (Division 200) - \$25.00

Best of Class (Division 201) - Rosette

1ST – 5TH Place Ribbons Each Class

DIVISION 200 Amateur Fine Arts

DIVISION 201 Professional Fine Arts

Class

- 1 Pastels (Oil, Chalk, Pencil)
- 2 Sculpture
- 3 Clay, Thrown or Hand Built - (A set will be considered one entry.)
- 4 Computer Art (No Photography)
- 5 Glass, Stained
- 6 Chinese Calligraphy & Painting
- 7 Graphics, Charcoal, Pencil, Pen & Ink, Specify
- 8 Lapidary Arts and Jewelry (Must be original design and executed by artist)
- 9 Mixed Media, Specify
- 10 Painting, Oil
- 11 Painting, Acrylic
- 12 Painting, Watercolor, Gouache, Tempera
- 13 Portraits
- 14 Weddings
- 15 Landscapes
- 16 Original Printmaking

- 17 Any Other Not Listed, Specify
- 18 Commercial Art/Graphic Design
- 19 Recycled Art must be made with at least 60% recycled materials.
- 20 Seniors, 55 & over, any Media
- 21 Watercolor, Gouache, Tempera, Printmaking
- 22 Fair Theme, (*"Built on Freedom, Raised on Tradition. 250 Years of America – 175 Year of California Heritage"*)

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW EXHIBIT

1. Photos must have been taken by the exhibitor but may have been processed by photo finishers.
2. **List each entry separately on your entry form.**
3. Prints shall be a minimum of 8"x10" and no larger than 16"x 20". All prints must be flush mounted or flush mounted with no more than a 1" border on photography mounting board or foam core (**no construction paper or other flimsy products**) with Industrial strength male Velcro strips (NO DOTS) on each mounting board back corner, on all 4 sides, and a strip in the middle for security. You must also supply the matching female Velcro strip. It is recommended that **spray adhesive** be used to attach photographs to the mounting board. Exhibitors name, phone number, address, class name and print title **must** be listed on the upper left corner of the back of each mount. To display an effective photo, exhibit the colors used for mounting boards have not been limited. **No framed prints will be allowed.** Exhibits not properly prepared to hang will **not** be accepted.
4. Photographs must be taken within the past two (2) years (unless otherwise stated)
5. If a photograph has been digitally enhanced or altered, it must be entered in digitally enhanced class. A photograph is considered digitally enhanced/altered if major changes were made to the print. If a photograph was taken with a digital camera but only minor changes were made brightness or contrast adjustments, red eye reduction, etc.), it would be entered in the regular photography classes. Fair personnel will exercise all possible care in handling of the prints but assumes no responsibility for loss or damage, **whatever the cause.**
7. The Tulare County Fair reserves the right to use any prints exhibited for publicity purposes.
8. The fair management reserves the right to reject any entry that is of poor quality, not properly mounted, or if the print or mount is dirty. Management also reserves the right to reject any entry that is deemed to be of a quality not beneficial to the fair or of a subject or tone not suitable for a family event. Management further reserves the right to disqualify any exhibitor who conducts themselves in an unseemly or discourteous manner. No refunds of any fees or payment of any awards will be made to individuals so disqualified.

9. The judges shall have the authority to disqualify or transfer to the correct Division or class any exhibit that is not a true representation of the Division or class in which it is entered. They shall award 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and Honorable Mention according to merit; and if without merit, no award shall be made. This rule applies whether there are one or more entries in the class.
10. **NON-PROFESSIONAL (Amateur):** One who engages in photography as a hobby or for the love of the work, whose return from sales, if any, do not exceed the cost of the materials for the articles sold and who are not otherwise compensated on account of engaging in this work except cash prizes or premium awards. **No Professional Photographs will be accepted in amateur divisions.**
11. **INSERT INSTRUCTION ON MATTING: VELCRO/MATTING MUST BE USED ON ALL FOUR CORNERS OF YOUR ENTRY FOR HANGING?**
12. **Entry Limit:** 2 entries per exhibitor per class, maximum of 20 entries per exhibitor combined. Exhibitors will only be paid premiums for 2 entries per class.



AWARDS

Best of Show (Division 202 & 203) \$50 & Rosette

Best of Class (202 & 203) \$25.00 & Rosette

1ST – 5TH Place Ribbons Each Class

DIVISION 202 – AMATEUR BLACK/WHITE

DIVISION 203– AMATEUR COLOR

All prints must be flush mounted or flush mounted with no more than a 1" border on photography mounting board.

Class

- 1 Animals – Domestic/Farm/Pets
- 2 Animals – Creatures (not domestic/farm) mammals, birds, amphibians, zoo, etc.

- 3 Architectural – city scape/streetscapes
- 4 Barns
- 5 Cell Phone
- 6 Digitally Enhanced – (Composites, Digital Manipulation)
- 7 Nighttime – (Milky way, Solar Eclipse)
- 8 Flowers/Plant Life
- 9 Still Life
- 10 Landscape – Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter
- 11 Group- Informal
- 12 Group - Formal
- 13 Underwater
- 14 Micro-Organism
- 15 Portrait - Formal
- 16 Portrait - Informal
- 17 Photojournalism – In one shot tell a story
- 18 Reflections – mirror image types
- 19 Seascape/water-scapes/water -waterdrops
- 20 Sports
- 21 2025 Tulare County Fair, Any
- 22 Mechanical - (Planes, Trains & Automobiles)
- 23 **Fair Theme** (*“Built on Freedom, Raised on Tradition. 250 Years of America – 175 Year of California Heritage”*)
- 24 Signage- Vintage
- 25 Special Effects

<h2 style="margin: 0;">PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW EXHIBIT</h2>

1. Limited to two (2) entries per class with a total of Twenty (20) entries per exhibitors combined from each division.
2. Prints shall be a minimum of 16”x 20” and no larger than 16”x 20”. **All prints must be flush mounted on photography mounting board with Industrial strength male Velcro strips (NO DOTS) on all 4 sides and crossed in the middle for security.** You must also supply the matching female Velcro strip. **The more Velcro the better.** Exhibitor’s name, phone number, address, class name and print title must be listed on the upper left corner of the back of each mount. **Framed prints will not be accepted.**
3. If a photograph has been digitally enhanced or altered, it must be entered in digitally enhanced class. A photograph is considered digitally enhanced/altered if **major changes** were made to the print. If a photograph was taken with a digital camera but only minor changes were made (brightness or contrast adjustments, red eye reduction, etc.), it would be entered in the regular photography classes.

4. The display of business cards or signage is prohibited but may be given to the art director. Fair generated exhibit tags will identify all entries. Limit your name to 30 characters.
5. Only ribbons will be giving for professional divisions, as they make sale their item for profit.
6. All exhibitors entered in Professional Photography must make at least part of his or her livelihood from photography. **Professional may list their price for sale.**
7. If you would like to exhibit under your business, you must enter items under business name. Limit your name to 30 characters.
8. No Amateur photographs will be accepted in the Professional divisions.

AWARDS

Best of Show (Division 204 & 205) – Rosette

Best of Class (Division 204 & 205) Rosette

1st- 5th Place Ribbons Each Class

DIVISION 204 – PROFESSIONAL BLACK/WHITE

DIVISION 205 – PROFESSIONAL COLOR

Class

- 1 Animals – Domestic/Farm/Pets
- 2 Animals – Creatures (not domestic/farm) mammals, birds, amphibians, zoo, etc.
- 3 Architectural – city scape/streetscapes
- 4 Barns
- 5 Cell Phone
- 6 Digitally Enhanced – (Composites, Digital Manipulation)
- 7 Nighttime – (Milky way, Solar Eclipse)
- 8 Flowers/Plant Life
- 9 Still Life
- 10 Landscape – Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter
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