

Fine Arts Guidelines

General Guidelines –

The 4-H Member should:

- Learn art skills & techniques
- Use a variety of media
- Learn good design elements and principals
- Investigate, explore and discover their own individuality
- Learn about history, styles and a variety of cultures in art, artists in the area and art careers.
- Be able to tell the judge what was learned
- Have fun creating
- Share ones art skills with others
- Be aware that some art materials can be hazardous
- Level of difficulty must increase each year in the project as skill level advances.

Exhibition Guidelines

- All works must be original – NO KITS
- One best exhibit for each class as listed in the fair book
- Neatness and general clean appearance of project is very important
- Two-dimensional work should be framed, matted or mounted and ready to hang.
- Paintings must be framed. Frame does not have to be wood . . . must be ready to hang . . . glass is optional.
- Be prepared to discuss your work with the judge, where you idea came from, how it developed and what you learned.

Drawing

- Suggested Media – pencil, ink, charcoal, chalk pastels, oil pastels, crayon, mixed media, and other.
- Get familiar with materials used for drawing, different kinds of pencils, media and paper.
- Try different styles of drawing, contour, gesture, modeled.
- Use perspective, overlapping size, space, placement, details, texture, color and value change, converging lines.
- Composition, place the drawing on the paper using good design
- Light and shade – observe light and the shadows it makes. Start out adding shade and shadows from one light source.

Multi-cultural Art

- Learn about the culture that project is about.
- Decide on medium that would best express the culture your project is representing
- Study about artists and look at their art work form the culture your project is from.

- Learn about games, language, poems, stories, good and other things about the culture you are studying.

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Painting

- Suggested Media – Acrylic, oil, tempura, watercolor, mixed media, and any other media.
- Experiment and be familiar with the media you are working with
- Develop a brushstroke, feel confident about holding and using a brush. Try thin, thick, straight, curved, angled and other brush possibilities
- Learn basic color work, color wheel, value, warm and cool colors, mixing colors.
- Practice different techniques for the media you're working in-graded wash for watercolor, glazing for oils and acrylics.
- Try painting on different surfaces, canvas, canvas board, wood or flat glass for oil and acrylics. The best surface for watercolors is water color papers, try different types.
- Learn the proper way to care for materials.
- Work on good composition.
- Try new techniques like dry-brush, superimposing colors, wet-on-wet.
- Be familiar with different color schemes and other color vocabulary.

Calligraphy/Lettering

- Suggested media, any media suggested under drawing and painting or other media.
- Learn about materials and equipment used
- Learn basic lettering styles and practice
- Do lettering with different equipment, pens, brushes, calligraphy markers.
- Experiment with your own creative lettering styles.
- Find out about good poster design and layout.
- Learn about greeting card layout page layout and cover layout.
- Learn about grids and borders.

Cartoons

- Learn about supplies, tools and techniques.
- Practice heads and facial proportion and expressions.
- Do a caricature.
- Practice whole figures and body action.
- Give an animal human characteristics.
- Add captions to your artwork if you desire.

Pottery

- Learn about preparation of clay and what tools and equipment are needed.
- Do projects in pinch, coil, slab techniques when hand-building.
- Practice forming techniques on potter's wheel.
- Find out about the different stages clay goes through and what can be done.
- Glaze your clay project, if possible.

- Try other techniques such as sand casting, carving, or molded forms, or combine techniques.
- Learn different decorating techniques.

Print Making

- Learn what print making is.
- Find out what materials can be used for making prints and what can be printed on.
- Make simple prints using objects like stamps. Make your own stamps out of plaster, erasers, or fruits & vegetables.
- Do styrofoam, string or glue line print
- Try a mono-print on glass.
- Make a stencil and print with it.
- Do multi colored print.

Computer & Electronic Art

- All projects should be original and not copies from a program.
- Try using an electric light pen or mouse to draw pictures on the screen.
- Learn how to produce points, lines, curves, shaded areas, the basic elements of drawing.
- Make artistic images and store them in memory, print a picture with them.
- Work with color selections.

Creative Writing

- Must be typed.
- Grammar, spelling and punctuation are important.
- Read and get familiar with different styles of writing and authors.
- Create a basic poem or a simple short story, with a beginning, middle and end.
- Ideas should have a main theme.
- Try different styles of poetry.
- Learn basic journalism, what, when, why, who and how.
- Write stories in different approaches and styles. Practice dialogue.

Photography

- Learn about equipment and supplies needed.
- Find out how a camera takes pictures and how to hold and aim a camera.
- Take proper care of camera, prints and negatives, then learn mounting techniques.
- Videos, prints and slides should be in focus and have a main subject.
- Learn about different types of cameras and film.
- All prints need to be neatly mounted and labeled if appropriate.
- See the fair book for the number of prints required.

Sculpture

- Acquire knowledge about the tools, materials and techniques of sculpture.
- Know the difference between abstract and realistic sculpture.
- Try a subtractive sculpture out of plaster or Styrofoam blocks.

- Make an additive sculpture out of clay or paper mache.
- Do a metal construction or another type of construction.
- Create a mobile.
- Try a wood or wire sculpture.
- Build a sculpture out of armature.