
SECURITY

You are encouraged to enter your best work. The Competitive Exhibits team (staff, superintendents, judges & volunteers) all recognize the value these hold & all effort is made to provide for their security. Each building has a team of volunteers to watch over the exhibits & to make sure they are not handled or stolen, but because of the volume of entries we get each year, we cannot guarantee the safety of each exhibit.

QUESTIONS

We have tried to create a lot for everything, but if you cannot find an appropriate lot in which to enter an item, please contact the Division Superintendent. They can help you in selecting a lot, or can add any lots as needed. Superintendents' names and telephone numbers are listed in the Exhibitor's Guide. Be sure to contact them before Entry Day. If you are unable to reach the superintendent, the Exhibit Office is here to help. Call us anytime between the hours of 9 am & 5 pm, Monday through Friday or e-mail exhibits@tvsfa.org.

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DIVISION 25 EXHIBITOR'S HANDBOOK

Welcome to the world of Competitive Exhibits! As an exhibitor at the fair, you are entering into a long standing tradition of education & competition that began in the Tanana Valley in 1924.

Your primary source of information about entering an exhibit is through the Exhibitors Guide, available at the Fair Exhibit Office. This handbook will provide you with some additional information as well as judging criteria and sample judging sheets.

ENTRY RULES

- Get your Fair I.D. number & exhibit tags from the Exhibit Office. Fill out Exhibit Tags before you arrive on entry day.
- Pick your Best: You may enter only one exhibit per lot. Note any other entry restrictions listed in the Exhibitors Guide.
- Know your entry days & pick-up days.
- Prepare your entry: Read the paragraph on preparation & presentation and present your exhibit in the best way possible.
- Tell us about your entry: If a class has special instructions, be sure to include this information on a 3"x 5" card attached to your entry.

ENTRY GUIDELINES

- 1 Pick your Best:** You may enter only one exhibit per lot, so choose that item which best demonstrates your skill or knowledge;
- 2 Prepare your entry:** Read the paragraph on preparation & presentation and present your exhibit in the best way possible. Don't wait until the last minute - know what you will enter & have your exhibit tags ready well before entry day;
- 3 Tell us about your entry:** If your division has special instructions, be sure to include this information on a 3"x5" card attached to your entry.

SPECIFIC CLASS INSTRUCTIONS

In the Ceramics Division, pieces must be entirely the work of the exhibitor. They may contain plants, flowers, candles, lampshades, or any other extra props as long as they can be removed for judging.

All entries must have been fired to a temperature in excess of 800 degrees Fahrenheit. This eliminates many modeling clays, which may be entered in other divisions (see Divisions 17, Handicrafts and 12, Creative Arts).

Pottery & ceramics have come to be known as two separate arts. **Pottery** is an item molded by the individual from raw clay, either by hand or on a potters wheel. **Ceramics** is cast from liquid clay known as slip into a preformed mold.

JUDGING AT THE FAIR

Judging at the Tanana Valley State Fair is accomplished through a network of volunteers. Judges are recruited & chosen for their expertise in a particular area, and it is through their generous donation of time & knowledge that we are able to showcase your achievements. Judges are trained by the superintendent & through the Fair Office to follow the guidelines set down by the Fair Association. They are expected to:

- be fair & consistent in their judging;
- provide positive comments & constructive criticism to the exhibitor;
- follow the Fair Association's mission to educate participants through their evaluation.

Each exhibit must have a completed score sheet. These score sheets are for the education of the exhibitor only & are not for public view. An exhibitor may request to see a score sheet for any of their entries by asking the exhibit attendant on duty, asking the superintendent, or requesting assistance through the Fair Office.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Judging in the Ceramics Division is based on the following criteria.

Design to function: no rough areas; no raised texture glazes or unfired stained in contact with food

Balance of design, Color harmony or contrast

Originality: Greenery adaptation (addition to or subtraction from the basic piece)

Workmanship: Uniform thickness of hand-built pieces. Well joined adjoins, no seamlines or other flaws inside or out, no debris or bumps glazed in the bottom inside.

Perfection of technique

Proper use and application of media: no crazing crawling or white streaks where colors meet, no sagging glaze from too heavy an application.

Proper firing: no sharp stilt marks, See the above score sheets for information about pottery judging.

SAMPLE JUDGING SHEET

Division 25 Ceramics & Pottery Scoresheet

Exhibit Tag # ___ ID # _____ Class _____ Lot _____
Judge's Initials _____

FORM, FUNCTION & CRAFTSMANSHIP _____

(50 Points Possible)

A. Does it work for it's intended use?

B. How do the parts work with the whole?

These areas may be considered in judging (if appropriate):

1. handle
2. trim
3. foot
4. overall shape
5. spout
6. bottom
7. other

SURFACE DECORATION & CRAFTSMANSHIP _____

(25 Points Possible)

A. Does it work for the intended use?

B. Design of surface decoration.

Areas that will be considered in judging.

1. drawing/painting
2. glaze quality
3. color
4. other

ORIGINALITY & CREATIVITY _____

(25 Points Possible)

A. Element of humor, surprise, tells a story, emotional impact

MAX POINTS 100

COMMENTS _____

The Tanana Valley State Fair seeks to highlight and enhance appreciation for Interior Alaska by showcasing competitive & commercial exhibits. The Fair educates and entertains all participants by providing oportunities to share a rich variety of individual and community endeavors. The Fair encourages and welcomes involvement by all.