

THE BIG E

SEPT 14 - 30, 2018
WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA

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THE NEW ENGLAND CENTER: HOME OF THE BIG E CREAM PUFF, 4-H CLUBS, FUN EVENTS AND CREATIVE ARTS

At the heart of all things creative at The Big E, the New England Center offers contests, demonstrations, and more to celebrate local creativity throughout New England. See the display of entries and winners from the Exposition's annual Creative Arts contests – photography, quilting, knitting, pottery, beading, decorative paintings on fabric, hand weaving and other needlework entries and winners. Check out all the fun, family entertainment on the New England Center Community Stage or watch creativity at work in the Demonstration Corral. Hungry? Be sure to try The Big E's famous Cream Puffs, offered only in The New England Center and outside the Food Court!

The Big E Bakery

Fairgoers are in for a treat as our new bakers perfect the age-old recipe for The Big E's special Cream Puff! Each morning, our homemade cream and golden shells are prepared with care from scratch. Take a big bite into our signature delight! The take-out window is open early in the morning and late at night. Cream Puffs & Éclairs can also be found at the Food Court. Eat them now or bring home a box in our new easy-to-carry boxes!

Creative Arts Show

Skilled and novice artisans alike are encouraged to show off their talents and compete for the esteemed blue ribbon in numerous creative arts competitions. Fiber and fabric arts, pottery, quilting, sewing, photography and more will be displayed in the New England Center. Get inspired for your next project or be impressed by the skill and dedication of fellow craftspeople!

Fiber and Fabric Arts

Fiber and Fabric Arts categories encompass everything from sewing, quilting, crocheting and needlework, to rug hooking, hand spinning, beading, and wearable apparel! Admire the detail in each quilt on display or the intricate needlework of a hard-working New Englander.

4-H in Action

Stop by the New England Center 4-H pods to watch hard working members' demonstrations on topics of agriculture, technology, health, food safety, public speaking and more. Members from all six New England states design and present their 4-H program achievements and activities to over a million Big E attendees. There will be a photo gallery display to represent 4-H youth talent. Check out the New England Center Community Stage to watch 4-H'ers' musical or informational performances.

FUN

New England Center Community Stage

The New England Center Community Stage is the hub of all things ranging from 4-H'er performances to dance groups and music recitals. Don't miss out on performances by Noah Lis or shows for Ms. Senior

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Massachusetts Pageant. Make sure to stop by and see radio personality Howie Carr for a live broadcast Sept. 20 from 1-7pm. Check the daily schedule or visit TheBigE.com for performances you won't want to miss!

Demonstration Corral

Volunteers display their talents in creating eye-catching pieces at the Demonstration Corral. Witness a display with the Ludlow Planners, of the First Church in Ludlow, crocheting plastic bags into something functional, like a sleeping mat for the homeless! Stop by for demonstrations in embroidery, quilting, knitting and much more.

If competing isn't your style, become a part of our Demonstration Corral to share your love of the arts and join our Creative Arts volunteer team. To join, visit TheBigE.com and register online or call (413) 205-5015.

CONTESTS AND COMPETITIONS

Make it with Clay Contest

Tuesday, Sept. 18 – 8:30am-Noon • Display open to public Noon-7pm

Clay items fitting within a 20" x 20" space will be judged based on the quality of work, design and originality and quality of finish. Winners in each of the three divisions will win a cash prize.

King Arthur Flour Baking Contest

Thursday, Sept. 20 – 10am-Noon • Display open to the public Noon-6pm

Contestants must use King Arthur Flour to make either cookies or bars and bring their finished product to the New England Center. They must also provide a UPC code from the bag of flour and their recipe. The contest is open to all bakers of all ages.

Massachusetts Maple Sugar Cooking Contest, sponsored by *Massachusetts Maple Producers Association*

Tuesday, Sept. 25 – 10am-Noon • Community Stage

The Massachusetts Maple Producers Association is back for the fourth year in a row. Contestants must use Mass. Maple products to make their favorite snack or appetizer and must provide a UPC label and an original recipe when they come. Participants must be 18 years of age or older.

Woodturning Contest

Wednesday, Sept. 26 – 8:30am-Noon • Display open to public Noon-7pm

Grab a lathe and submit your turned wood to be judged based on quality of work, design and originality, quality of finish and material selection. Winners in each of the three divisions will win a cash prize.

The Big E Paper Airplane Contest

Thursday, Sept. 27 – Judging 10am-5pm

Make the most accurate and/or artistic paper airplane, no larger than 8 ½ x 11 inches, to win a cash prize. Materials will be available the day of the contest to construct and decorate your paper airplane! Age classes are 5-8 years old, 9-13 years old, 14-18 years old and adults.

For more details on competitions and rules visit the TheBigE.com

The Big E runs through Sept. 30 in West Springfield, Mass. and is jam-packed with food, entertainment, and so much more! Visit TheBigE.com to sign up for emails and connect on social media to be the first to get exclusive information. Join us with #BigEMoments.