

MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

Aug. 22-Sept. 2, 2024

Creative Activities

Superintendent..... Tony Schwandt, St. Paul, Minn.
Secretary..... Arlene Restad, Eagan, Minn.
Board Member, 6th District..... Kirk Peysar, Aitkin, Minn.

Creative Activities Rules

1. **ENTRIES.** Open Monday, May 6. Entries close for all divisions Tuesday, July 30, at 4:30 p.m. No exceptions.
 - A. **ONLINE REGISTRATION.** All entries MUST be registered. Entries close on Tuesday, July 30, at 4:30 p.m. No entries will be accepted after closing date. No entry fee required.
 1. Exhibitors will receive an instantaneous email confirmation after competing the online process. Exhibitors must have a copy printed out or readily available to view on a mobile device during specified drop-off dates as proof of your registration; when delivering your exhibits.
 2. Refer to the "How to Enter Exhibits" document on the creative activities web page for detailed information and entry procedures. Visit the Minnesota State Fair website to begin the registration process: competition.mnstatefair.org
 - B. **MAIL-IN REGISTRATION.** Must be in our office (not postmarked) by Tuesday, July 30, at 4:30 p.m. No entries will be accepted after closing date. All entries MUST be registered. Follow procedure below:
 1. On an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper, include 1) first name, last name, address and phone number; 2) list of exhibit class number(s) and a description for each exhibit.
 2. Mail to: Competition Department - c/o: Creative Activities, Minnesota State Fair, 1265 Snelling Ave. N., St. Paul, MN 55108.
 3. You will receive a paper confirmation of your entries via USPS mail.
 4. Exhibitors must have a copy printed out or readily available to view on a mobile device during specified drop-off dates as proof of your registration; when delivering your exhibits.
 - C. **ALL ENTRIES MUST BE REGISTERED.**
2. **ELIGIBILITY.**
 - A. **Entry limit for Divisions 1-5.** No more than one entry will be permitted in any class by one exhibitor. A single exhibitor may register (sign up online) for no more than 25 classes TOTAL in Divisions 1-5 (needlecraft, garment making, handcrafts, collections and senior citizen).
 - B. **Entry limit for Division 6.** A single exhibitor may register (sign up online) for up to 30 classes in Division 6 (baked goods). An exhibitor who registers for more than 20 classes in Division 6 will need to narrow down to a maximum of 20 entries that they will deliver. Special contests (classes 1090-1092) are included in the registration limit. Family members and/or people living at the same address (household) may register and enter exhibits in the same class as long as each entry is prepared separately; multiple entries from the same batch are not allowed.
 - C. **Entry limit for Division 7.** A single exhibitor may register (sign up online) for up to 30 classes in Division 7 (canning). An exhibitor who registers for more than 20 classes in Division 7 will need to narrow down to a maximum of 20 entries that they will deliver. Family members and/or people living at the same address (household) may register and enter exhibits in the same class as long as each entry is prepared separately; multiple entries from the same batch are not allowed.
 - D. Entries in creative activities are limited to bona fide living residents of Minnesota and must be the work of the exhibitor completed within three (3) years preceding the 2024 State Fair.
 - E. Exhibits that have won a first-place at a previous Minnesota State Fair are not eligible for entry, except in baked products and canning divisions.
 - F. Entries are open to any individual 14 years of age or older as of the first day of the fair (exception: some of the special contests have different age requirements; see individual special contest rules).
 - G. Exhibit represents a recreational hobby and is not used as any means of livelihood, directly or indirectly, as determined by the State Fair staff. In case of protest, refer to state statutes document.
 - H. Winners in classes designated "Sweepstakes" are selected from first-place winners in qualifying classes.
 - I. Management reserves the right to refuse entry to unusually large or heavy exhibits that are difficult to handle and display. Pre-approval by superintendent is required for large exhibits.

- J. No tree skirts, plastic needlepoint canvas, pillowcases, tied quilts, plastic milk cartons, cans, aprons, dish towels, dishcloths, pot holders, napkins, diamond art or art made from kits, wedding gowns or baptismal gowns, yard art, photography, drawings on paper, wreaths, doilies or any type of taxidermy will be accepted in any category.
- K. "Not otherwise specified (NOS)" classes are only for such entries that have no regular classes listed. If there is an existing class where an entry fits, it cannot be entered in NOS and will be moved by staff or judges to the appropriate class to be judged against like entries. This decision is final based on judge and staff assessment.
- L. The Minnesota State Fair is not responsible for any lost or damaged entries. This is an at-will exhibit, and staff takes every precaution possible to ensure each exhibit is treated with care. The Minnesota State Fair does not insure any exhibit entered in the Creative Activities Building. If an exhibitor feels it is necessary, they must purchase insurance at their own expense.

3. DELIVERY OF EXHIBITS.

- A. Entries in needlecraft, garment making, handcrafts, collections and work of senior citizens will be received Saturday, Aug. 10, from 10 a.m.; to 5 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 11, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Monday, Aug. 12, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. All entries must be received by Monday, Aug. 12, at 7 p.m. All entries must be registered PRIOR to delivery. Quilts and rugs entered in County Sweepstakes Contests will be received up to Wednesday, Aug. 14; at noon. Delivered to the Creative Activities Building.
- B. Entries in canned and preserved foods will be received Saturday, Aug. 10, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, Aug. 11, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Delivered to the Creative Activities Annex on the west side of the building.
- C. Entries in baked products will be received Saturday, Aug. 17, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. ALL baked products should be delivered to the Creative Activities Annex on the west side of the building.
- D. Due to limited storage space, early drop-off is limited only to those who are unable to deliver their exhibits during the designated dates above. Early drop off begins Wednesday, July 31, through Wednesday, Aug. 7 (excluding Saturday and Sunday), from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Admin Too Building (located at 1312 Cosgrove Ave. on the fairgrounds). No items will be accepted before July 31. NO EXCEPTIONS.
 - 1. All items must be registered prior to early drop-off. A printed copy of the email confirmation MUST accompany early deliveries; exhibitors must attach to each exhibit: 1) exhibitor number, 2) class number, 3) description of entry.
 - 2. No heavy items or exhibits requiring special handling will be accepted for early delivery (this includes furniture, oversized items, canoes and boats). If you are not sure your piece will be accepted for early delivery, call the competition office PRIOR to delivery, 651-288-4417. No baked goods are accepted for early delivery.
 - 3. All exhibits MUST BE REGISTERED prior to being delivered.
- E. Competitors who send exhibits by mail or express should do so at least three weeks before the opening day of the fair. Address to: Superintendent of Creative Activities, Minnesota State Fair, 1265 Snelling Ave. N., St. Paul, MN 55108.
 - 1. The sender's name and address must be plainly written on the outside of the package and also placed on a card inside.
 - 2. A LIST OF THE EXHIBITS BEING SENT MUST BE ENCLOSED.
 - 3. Department clerks will classify entries, prepare entry tags and attach them to each exhibit sent.
 - 4. ONLY USPS, UPS or FedEx deliveries will be accepted. Directions for return shipment of exhibits post-fair should be given, and money or checks (payable to: Minnesota State Fair) must be enclosed to cover cost of returning entries to exhibitor. Do NOT send stamps. RETURN OF EXHIBIT: See #5, D.
 - 5. **ALL ENTRIES MUST BE REGISTERED PRIOR TO BEING SENT.**
- F. **Do NOT bring in props to accompany the exhibit. They will not be used and are at risk of being misplaced.**

4. JUDGING.

- A. All judges' decisions are final.
- B. Errors or omissions to the published results, premium checks or scorecards must be sent in writing within 10 days after the fair closes to competition@mnstatefair.org.
- C. Judging of all exhibits (except entries in the baked products division) will be conducted Monday, Aug. 12 to Monday, Aug. 19. Should any exhibit be entered in the wrong class and the error be discovered before the judging, the superintendent may make proper correction in the entry.
- D. A duplicate scorecard will be returned to the exhibitor for each scored exhibit to help make the reasons for decisions apparent. The sweepstakes winner is chosen from the first-place winners within a category.

- E. Judges are instructed not to award ribbons unless entries are deemed worthy of merit. If no competition exists and an exhibit is not worthy of a first-place ribbon, the judge may award a second or a third place ribbon per their judgment. In large classes, ALL entries are evaluated, but only the top 25 will be scored and receive a returned scorecard.
 - F. Only finished or mounted work will be accepted. Wall hangings and pictures must have a means of hanging them. Any exhibit displaying exhibitor's name must be covered by stitched cloth or heavy tape.
 - G. Soiled entries and any entry that is damp or wet will not be judged.
 - H. Every effort will be made to display entries in an attractive arrangement and per display space available. The State Fair reserves the right to reject any exhibit offered if it is objectionable in any way, if it requires an excessive amount of space, or if the capacity of the department has been reached. Due to the number of entries, all entries may not be displayed.
 - I. Results will be available near the office in the Creative Activities Building during the fair and at [mnstatefair.org](https://www.mnstatefair.org). No results will be given over the phone prior to the start of the fair.
5. **RETURN OF EXHIBITS.**
- A. Exhibits can be picked up from the Creative Activities Building on Wednesday, Sept. 4, from 1-7 p.m., and Thursday, Sept. 5, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. No exhibits returned before Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 1 p.m. For detailed information review the "Delivery and Return Procedures" document available on the Minnesota State Fair website under General Information at <https://www.mnstatefair.org/competitions/creative-activities/>
 - 1. When dropping off exhibit(s), you will receive a yellow confirmation sheet. Bring the yellow confirmation sheet when picking up your exhibit(s).
 - 2. If you are unable to pick up your exhibit(s) on these days, you must make arrangements with the competition department at 651-288-4417 on or AFTER Sept. 10, 2024.
 - 3. **CANOEES and BOATS** cannot be left behind. We do not have space to store any oversized exhibits. If you are unable to pick up your canoe, boat or oversized exhibit during the specified return dates, they will be left in the building and at risk of damage.
 - B. All entries must be picked up by Dec. 2, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. AFTER such date, the State Fair reserves the right to destroy or dispose of non-claimed items at its discretion. Each person who enters an item at the State Fair does so on the condition and with the understanding that he or she forfeits any and all legal rights and claims to his or her entered items that are not picked up by the deadlines described in this section.
 - C. Premium checks and scorecards will be distributed at the same time entries are available for return to exhibitors. Premium checks not picked up during those dates will be mailed to exhibitors at the address listed on their entry form. You may also donate any premiums won to the Minnesota State Fair Foundation 501(c)(3) to support their mission of preserving and improving the historic Minnesota State Fairgrounds and buildings, and supporting State Fair agricultural, scientific and educational programs.
 - D. **UPS or USPS boxes accepted for return of entries.** All express and parcel post charges must be prepaid by the sender. Directions for return shipment should be given, and money or check (made out to Minnesota State Fair) must be enclosed to cover cost of returning exhibits to the exhibitor. **DO NOT SEND STAMPS.** No exhibits will be shipped back to a P.O. box.

Division 2: Garment Making

Garment Making Rules

1. **GARMENTS.** No crocheted garments, wedding gowns, wedding attire, First Communion, full-length dresses or costumes. Only street-length dresses accepted. Garments must be new and clean. This pertains to adult, junior and children's garments.
 - A. Junior Group - Sewn by juniors (14-18 years old).
 - B. Children's Garments - Sizes 3 to 12 (2-12 years old).
 - C. Infant and Toddler Garments - Sizes 0 to 2. Garments to be judged on smocking should be entered under embroidery.
 1. No baptismal, wedding or formal gowns.

Judging Criteria - Garments

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| General Appearance..... | 40 |
| <i>Character or Style, Design, Color and Texture, Trimming, Condition of Garment</i> | |
| Materials Used..... | 10 |
| <i>Fabric and Findings, Cleaning Qualities</i> | |
| Workmanship..... | 50 |
| <i>Cut, Stitching, Seams, Hems, Finishes, Etc.</i> | |
| | 100 |

Premiums for Garment Making

2024 First-Place Premium
\$8

Sweepstakes (unless otherwise indicated)
\$10

Class Listing for Garment Making

Accessories

- 400 Purses and clutches
- 401 Other bags (totes, backpacks, book bags, etc.)
- 402 Hat or cap
- 403 Sweepstakes, accessories
(classes 400-402)

Adult Garments

- 404 Blouse or shirt, women's (needlecraft not eligible)
- 405 Coat, lined
- 406 Dress, knit fabric
- 407 Dress, not knit
- 408 Ensemble (dress & jacket/coat or skirt & jacket/coat)
- 409 Sleepwear (robes, pajamas, nightgowns)
- 410 Traditional international or native attire (no costumes)
- 411 Shirt, man's sport
- 412 Skirt
- 413 Slacks, pants or jeans
- 414 Sleeveless shift or jumper
- 415 Sportswear, men's or women's active wear, 1 or 2 pieces
- 416 Sport, outerwear jacket
- 417 Blazer, lined or unlined

- 418 Jacket, unlined
- 419 Jacket, lined
- 420 Suit, woman's or man's, tailored, wool
- 421 Suit, woman's or man's, tailored, other fabric
- 422 Vest
- 423 Vintage patterns prior to 1980, documentation of pattern used must be included
- 424 Historic reproduction clothing, documentation of historic pattern must be included
- 425 Repurposed garment: woman's or man's made from existing fabric and fiber items to create a new garment.

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- 426 Sweepstakes, adult garments
(classes 404-425)

SP9200 American Sewing Guild

Will award a rosette and a 1-year membership (\$50 value) in adult garments to the self-constructed wearable garment demonstrating quality construction and application of techniques that has been embellished by hand- or machine-stitching. The embellishment may include (but is not limited to) appliqué, fabric manipulation, beading or use of trims. Embellishments already in/on fabric are not considered original. The embellishment(s) on the entry garment must be made by the person entering the garment into competition. Judging criteria will include construction technique; adult garments (classes 404-425 combined).

SP9201 Treadle Yard Goods

Will award a rosette and a \$50 gift certificate to winner of Sweepstakes, adult garment (class 426).

Junior Group (Sewn by Juniors 14 - 18 years old)

- 427 Blouse or shirt, woman's or man's
- 428 Coat or jacket
- 429 Dress or jumper
- 430 Skirt or pants
- 431 Sleepwear (robes, pajamas, nightgowns)
- 432 Repurposed garment - made from existing fabric and fiber items to create a new garment.
- 433 Sportswear/activewear: sweats, hoodies, rompers, overalls

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- 434 Sweepstakes, junior group
(classes 427-433)

SP9202 American Sewing Guild

Will award a rosette and a 1-year membership (\$50 value) in junior garments to the self-constructed wearable garment demonstrating quality construction and application of techniques that has been embellished by hand- or machine-stitching. The embellishment may include (but is not limited to) appliqué, fabric manipulation, beading or use of trims. Embellishments already in/on fabric are not considered original. The embellishment(s) on the entry garment must be made by the person entering the garment into competition. Judging criteria will include construction technique; junior group (classes 427-433 combined).

SP9203 Awarded by Juanita Reed-Boniface in memory of Dick Boniface,

\$30 cash prize to first-place and a \$20 cash prize to second-place to the best articles made of all wool from the adult and junior garment (classes 400-433 combined).

SP9204 Treadle Yard Goods

Will award a rosette and a \$50 gift certificate to winner of Sweepstakes, junior group (class 434).

SP9205 Treadle Yard Goods

Will award a rosette and a \$50 gift certificate to judge's choice best repurposed garment in the adult garment and junior group (classes 425 and 432 combined).

Children's Garments

- 435 Coat, lined or unlined
- 436 Dress, cotton or cotton blend
- 437 Dress with pinafore or jumper with blouse
- 438 Dress, any other fabric including knits
- 439 Hat or cap
- 440 Traditional international or native attire (no costumes)

- 441 Pajamas, nightgown or robe
- 442 Sportswear, 1, 2 or 3 pieces (rompers, jog sets, top & bottom sets, etc.)
- 443 Child's vintage pattern prior to 1980, must show documentation of pattern used.
- 444 Shirt, boy's, woven fabric
- 445 Knit shirt or top
- 446 Blouse or shirt, girl's
- 447 Skirt
- 448 Repurposed garment - made from existing fabric and fiber items to create a new garment.
- 449 Trousers, slacks or overalls
- 450 Winter sportswear, outerwear and jackets

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- 451 Sweepstakes, children's garments
(classes 435-450)

SP9206 Treadle Yard Goods

Will award a rosette and a \$50 gift certificate to winner of Sweepstakes, children's garment (class 451).

Infant and Toddler Garments

- 452 Bib
- 453 Bonnet or cap, crocheted
- 454 Bonnet or cap, knitted
- 455 Booties
- 456 Dress, sewn
- 457 Dress, hand-knit
- 458 Dress, crocheted
- 459 Playsuit
- 460 Afghan, knit, no larger than 42 in. x 42 in.
- 461 Afghan, crocheted, no larger than 42 in. x 42 in.
- 462 Embroidered crib quilt or spread
- 463 Sleepwear
- 464 Sweater or jacket, crocheted
- 465 Sweater or jacket, knitted
- 466 Jacket, sewn
- 467 3-piece ensemble, knitted
- 468 3-piece ensemble, crocheted
- 469 3-piece ensemble, sewn
- 470 Not otherwise specified

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- 471 Sweepstakes, infant and toddler garments
(classes 452-470)