

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. 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 5: Work of Senior Citizens (65 and over)

Work of Senior Citizens Rules

1. **GENERAL RULES.** The scorecards for respective categories in which the following classes fall will be used. Exhibits will be displayed in the Creative Activities Building.
2. **NEEDLECRAFT.** Afghans should be no larger than 50 in. x 76 in. No puff, cathedral window, yo-yo or crazy quilts. No commercially preprinted "cheater" fabric. No tied quilts. No aprons, towels, tree skirts, pot holders, plastic canvas, latch hook rugs, macramé, dishcloths, doilies or sewn garments. No handkerchiefs (except in class 944, Tatted item).

Premiums for Work of Senior Citizens (65 and over)

2024 First-Place Premium

\$8

Sweepstakes (unless otherwise indicated)

\$10

Class Listing for Work of Senior Citizens (65 and over)

Handcrafts

- 900 Article of furniture
 - 901 Birdhouse or bird feeder
 - 902 Clock
 - 903 Carving, scale construction
 - 904 Carving, whittling
 - 905 Carving, small figure or animal
 - 906 Carving, bird
 - 907 Carving, chip
 - 908 Wood burning
 - 909 China painting
 - 910 Folk painting on wood
 - 911 Fretwork
 - 912 General woodworking, indoor
 - 913 General woodworking, outdoor
 - 914 Inlay
 - 915 Leather tooled item
 - 916 Metal work item
 - 917 Model construction, working model
 - 918 Model construction, exhibition
 - 919 Wood turning
 - 920 Stained glass, under 1 ft.
 - 921 Stained glass, 1 ft. and over
 - 922 Wood toys
 - 923 Basketry - any type
 - 924 Judge's class
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- 925 Sweepstakes, handcrafts; senior citizens
(classes 900-924)

SP9500 Peterson Memorial Award

Will award a rosette in memory of Ronald "Bud" Peterson, a past winner in wood craftsmanship, to the first-place winner of Wood turning (class 919).

SP9501 Basket Weaving at Textile Center

Will award a rosette, \$25 cash prize to the first-place winner of Basketry - any type (class 923). Prize money included in fair check.

Needlecrafts

- 926 Crocheted afghan
- 927 Crocheted baby afghan, no larger than 42 in. x 42 in.
- 928 Crocheted baby bonnet
- 929 Crocheted baby sweater
- 930 Crocheted baby booties
- 931 Crocheted adult vest or sweater
- 932 Crocheted scarf
- 933 Crocheted, not otherwise specified in above (classes 926-932)
- 934 Knitted afghan
- 935 Knitted baby afghan, no larger 42 in. x 42 in.
- 936 Knitted baby bonnet
- 937 Knitted baby sweater
- 938 Knitted baby booties
- 939 Knitted slippers (no booties)
- 940 Knitted adult vest or sweater
- 941 Knitted scarf
- 942 Machine-knitted article
- 943 Knitted, not otherwise specified in above (classes 934-942)
- 944 Tatted item
- 945 Beadwork, necklace
- 946 Beadwork, any other
- 947 Counted thread picture, less than 150 sq. in.
- 948 Counted thread picture, greater than 151 sq. in.
- 949 Hardanger, picture
- 950 Hardanger, table runner, table topper
- 951 Needlepoint, picture
- 952 Needlepoint, any other (pillow, stocking, box top)
- 953 Hand-embroidered item
- 954 Any other technique using hand and threaded needle, not listed above (long stitch, punch needle, etc.)
- 955 Not otherwise specified (item must use techniques in classes 947-954)
- 956 Pillow, quilted
- 957 Quilted table runner or table topper, no larger than 36 in. x 36 in.
- 958 Quilted article of clothing
- 959 Quilted wall hanging, cotton, sleeve attached, max perimeter of 120 in.
- 960 Quilted wall hanging, cotton, with embroidery, sleeve attached, max perimeter of 120 in.
- 961 Quilted wall hanging, cotton, with appliqué, sleeve attached, max perimeter of 120 in.

- 962 Quilted wall hanging, mixed techniques, with sleeve, max perimeter of 120 in.
- 963 Crib quilt, baby theme, max perimeter of 249 in.
- 964 Quilt, cotton, pieced, max perimeter of 249 in.
No embroidery or appliqué.
- 965 Quilt, cotton, with embroidery, max perimeter of 249 in.
- 966 Quilt, cotton, appliqué, max perimeter of 249 in.
- 967 Quilt, material other than cotton, max perimeter of 249 in.
- 968 Quilt, cotton, pieced, perimeter greater than 250 in.
No embroidery or appliqué.
- 969 Quilt, cotton, with embroidery, perimeter greater than 250 in.
- 970 Quilt, cotton, appliqué, perimeter greater than 250 in.
- 971 Quilt, material other than cotton, must be quilted, perimeter greater than 250 in.
- 972 Quilt, pieced and quilted by group
- 973 Commemorative quilt in honor of milestone, subject featured on quilt top
- 974 Woven stole, scarf or shawl
- 975 Woven wall hanging, must have sleeve
- 976 Rug, loom woven
- 977 Rug, hooked
- 978 Rug, braided
- 979 Toy animal, fabric stuffed, large, 15 in. or over
- 980 Toy animal, fabric stuffed, small, under 15 in.
- 981 Doll, play type, made and dressed by exhibitor of fabric material
- 982 Doll dressed with clothes made by exhibitor
- 983 Doll clothes, set, mounted on foam or cardboard, made by exhibitor
- 984 Not otherwise specified, no crocheted, knitted, needlearts, woven or quilted items
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- 985 Sweepstakes, crocheted items
(classes 926-933)
- 986 Sweepstakes, knitted items
(classes 934-943)
- 987 Sweepstakes, needlearts items
(classes 944-955)
- 988 Sweepstakes, quilting items
(classes 956-973)
- 989 Sweepstakes, woven items and rugs
(classes 974-978)
- 990 Sweepstakes, dolls and toys
(classes 979-984)
- SP9502 Minnesota Quilters Award
Will award \$25 to first-place winner, \$15 to second-place and \$10 to third-place, in all Work of Senior Citizens quilt classes, listed above. Prize money is included in fair check (classes 956-973).
- SP9503 Midwest Machine Knitters' Collaborative
Will award a rosette and \$25 to the first-place winner of Machine-knitted article (class 942).