

2026 **ART**

Exhibitor Handbook



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www.sdstatefair.com/participate

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SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE FAIR PARK DIVISION
1060 3RD St. SW
Huron, SD 57350
Phone: 605.353.7340 Fax: 605.353.7348
www.sdstatefair.com



Dear Exhibitors,

Thank you for being a part of the 2026 South Dakota State Fair! We are thrilled to invite you back to Huron for the 2026 South Dakota State Fair on September 2-7! You are important to our fair, whether you are a long-time exhibitor or a first-year competitor. We love to see the Art & Education Building brimming with your accomplishments and talents for fairgoers of all ages to enjoy.

In this book you will find familiar and new avenues of showmanship. Review the guidelines to entering your exhibits for display, judging and exciting prize winning opportunities.

The South Dakota State Fair exists to showcase the best of the great state of South Dakota and bring people together. We thank you in advance for sharing your ideas and talents with us. It is amazing every year to see how much creativity there is in our great state! We will be looking for you at the 2026 South Dakota State Fair.

The South Dakota State Fair will accept Static Exhibit entries between April 1-July 31.

Sincerely,



Take a LEAP to my P·A·D



Genevieve
Print · Art · Design
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SOUTH DAKOTA STATE FAIR EXHIBITORS

ARTS & EDUCATION BUILDING

DEPARTMENT 370: LITERATURE

- Friends of the Huron Public Library \$25 Premium
- Literature Sweepstakes Award Plaque
- Best of Show \$15 Premium sponsored by the South Dakota State Fair

DEPARTMENT 371: ART/ PHOTOGRAPHY

- Lewis Southgate (Huron, South Dakota) \$10 Gift Certificate
- Lewis Southgate (Huron, South Dakota) \$10 Gift Certificate
- Best of Show \$15 Premium sponsored by the South Dakota State Fair

HIGHLIGHTS

- Featured Artists and Authors
- Jr Achievement Award sponsored by the South Dakota State Fair
- Sweepstakes Literature Contest
- Coloring Contests
- Lego Building Contest sponsored by the South Dakota State Fair

EXHIBIT CHECK-IN

- **Department 370 Literature:** Exhibits must be submitted by July 31 to the South Dakota State Fair office or postmarked by July 31 to be eligible for judging.
- **Department 371 Art/ Photography:** Exhibits may be checked in:
 - Friday, August 21– 10 AM to 6 PM
 - Saturday, August 22– 9 AM to 4 PM

EXHIBIT RELEASE/PICK-UP

- **Department 370 Literature & Department 371 Art/ Photography:** Exhibits will be ready for release:
 - Tuesday, September 8 from 9 AM to 5 PM

Mary Helen Wipf, Art & Education Building Superintendent
rmhwipf@gmail.com

STATIC EXHIBIT GENERAL RULES

1. Starting in 2024, entries must be completed online at <https://sdsf.fairwire.com> . A step-by-step video with instructions on how to navigate the online entry platform, ShoWorks can be found here (<https://vimeo.com/922566991/66f0110c64?share=copy>). If you require further assistance after watching the instructional video, please contact the SD State Fair Office. For those with no access to a computer to make entries, please contact the State Fair office for a paper entry form. If using a paper entry form, please keep to 25 entries or less.
2. The South Dakota State Fair office will accept Static entries between April 1-July 31 in all departments except Literature which closes July 1.
3. REFUND POLICY: The fair may refund entry fees paid by an exhibitor if the exhibitor requests the refund in writing two weeks prior to the opening day of the fair and states the reason for requesting the refund. Following that timeframe, NO refunds will be issued.
4. Only one entry may be made in each class unless stated otherwise in rules for that division/class.
5. The entry must be exhibited in the name of the person doing the work and completed since the last South Dakota State Fair entry period between August 17, 2025, and August 22, 2026.
6. Junior is defined as 11-18 years of age prior to the 2026 State Fair. Youth is defined as ages 10 years of age and under prior to the 2026 State Fair. Junior and Youth may also enter in adult categories. Exhibits will be judged according to rules of the division.
7. Computerized entry tags will be mailed to exhibitors. Tags should not be altered. Exhibits having altered tags will not be accepted and will be disqualified.
8. For exhibit check-in and release information, refer to Horizons Hall, Horticulture, and Arts/Education Building Static Exhibit Premium Books. There will be no early releases. No exhibits will be released without claim tag.
9. Entries may be mailed to the South Dakota State Fair. Entries must be securely wrapped and boxed to prevent damage. Exhibitor is responsible for insurance and shipping costs. Entry tag must be attached to exhibit with a copy of Static Exhibit Entry Form to serve as packing slip and for check-in purposes. Draw a line through any item on the entry form not included with mailed exhibits. Entries must be received by the South Dakota State Fair office by August 22, 2026 to qualify for judging, except literature which must be received by July 31, 2026.
10. The South Dakota State Fair is not responsible for any loss or damage that may occur.
11. Exhibits may not be sold. Sales tags or advertising logos on exhibits will not be allowed.
12. Superintendents of the Horizons Hall, Horticulture, and Arts/Education Buildings may determine the eligibility of exhibits and may disqualify exhibits.
13. A division or class may be deleted if no entries are made for three years.
14. Items not claimed by December 31 will become property of the South Dakota State Fair.
15. Premium checks will be mailed to exhibitors within 60 days of the State Fair. If an exhibitor's earnings total \$600 or over, a W-9 must be completed by the exhibitor before their check will be issued. Premium checks for the amount of \$5 and under will not be mailed out (some exceptions apply). Affected exhibitors will receive instructions on how to collect premium winnings.

DEPARTMENT 371: ART

General Rules: Entries are qualified for competition in Department 371 ART when the following rules are met.

1. Refer to the SD State Fair Static Exhibits General Rules.
2. Entries must be made in the name of the person doing the work and can only be entered one time at the SD State Fair.
3. Artist need not be a resident of South Dakota.
4. Entries in the Art Department will close July 31. Artists may submit up to four entries in each class.
 - **Youth Entry Fee - \$2.00 per item**
 - **Junior Entry Fee - \$2.00 per item**
 - **Amateur Entry Fee - \$4.00 per item or three for \$10.00**
 - **Professional Entry Fee - \$8.00 per item or three for \$20.00**

Required 5% processing fee to be added to total amount due for each exhibitor.
5. Check-in area is marked off. Only commercial vendors and authorized workers are allowed in the check-in area prior to judging. Please allow ample time for entering exhibits.
6. Exhibits in Art will be received:
 - Friday, August 21, 10 AM to 6 PM
 - Saturday, August 22, 9 AM to 4 PM
 -

ART EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

7. Attach entry tag with string to the back of the entry so the tag will hang over the upper left-hand corner of the artwork. This applies to all classes except sculpture. Tags should not be altered.
8. Works of art should be crated to insure safe delivery. Artwork should be protected with adequate packing material to avoid damage.
9. All entries must be properly prepared for judging and with adequate weight wire to ensure safe hanging. Sawtooth hangers are prohibited.
10. There is no size limit.
11. Artwork should be suitable for family viewing. The building superintendent reserves the right not to display or judge any artwork which is deemed not to be appropriate.
12. Definitions
 - **Youth:** 10 years of age or younger prior to start of fair
 - **Junior:** 11-18 years of age or younger prior to the start of the fair
 - **Amateur:** Creates art for the pleasure involved and does not derive the majority of income directly from art. Has had little or no art training
 - **Professional:** Creates art for the purpose of selling; or who has had three or more years of art school training or teaches in the art media; or derives the majority of income from being an artist
13. Judges will consider the following:
 - Creative composition
 - Mastering of techniques
 - Technical standards of the medium
 - Total creative work of the artist
14. Art/Education superintendent and assistants will safeguard art entries. However, the South Dakota State Fair is not responsible for loss or damage that may occur. Insurance on artwork is the responsibility of the exhibitor.
15. Art exhibits may be picked up on Tuesday, September 8 from 9 AM to 5 PM. Exhibitor must have claim check to remove exhibit from the Art/Education Building. If personally unable to pick-up exhibit, exhibitor must sign a release authorizing an individual to pick-up exhibit. Exhibitors who cannot pickup their exhibit should make arrangements and supply postage to have artwork returned by mail. Exhibitor must make arrangements with superintendent if exhibit is to be returned Cash on Delivery (COD).

PROFESSIONAL

For all Professional Divisions, premiums will be awarded as follows: 1st - \$35 2nd - \$20 3rd - \$10

Professional - Division 2, Painting

Class 1: Oil

Class 2: Watercolors

Class 3: Acrylics and other water-based

Class 4: Pastels

Class 5: Other: mixed media, etc.

Professional - Division 3, Sculpture

Class 1 Metal, wood, plastics, clay, etc.

Professional - Division 4, Drawing

Class 1: Ink, pencil, charcoal, mixed media, scratchboard, etc.

Professional - Division 5, Graphic Arts

Class 1: Etching, lithography, silkscreen, woodcut, engraving, posters, commercial layouts, NOT mono type

Class 2: Printmaking, stenciling, paper marbling, calligraphy

Professional - Division 6, Woodcarving

Class 1: Realistic, caricature, relief carving, chip carving

Best of Show: A \$15 premium will be awarded to the winner selected from PROFESSIONAL ART Division 2-6, All Classes

AMATUER

For all Amateur Divisions, premiums will be awarded as follows: 1st - \$15 2nd - \$10 3rd - \$5

Amateur - Division 7, Painting

Class 1: Oil

Class 2: Watercolors

Class 3: *Acrylics and other water-based

Class 4: Pastels

Class 5: Other: mixed media, etc.

Amateur - Division 8, Sculpture

Class 1: Metal, wood, plastics, clay, any media considered by the judges to be sculpture

Amateur - Division 9, Drawing

Class 1: Ink, pencil, charcoal, mixed media, scratchboard, etc.

Amateur - Division 10, Woodcarving

Class 1: Realistic, caricature, relief carving, chip carving

Amateur - Division 11, Graphic Arts

Class 1: Etching, lithography, silkscreen, woodcut, engraving, posters, commercial layouts, NOT mono type

Class 2: Printmaking, stenciling, paper marbling, calligraphy

Amateur – Division 12, Rock Painting

Class 1: Single or multiple rocks. Not to exceed 20lbs total weight, any paint type/markers can be used

Amateur – Division 13, Zen Coloring

Class 1: Pre-printed design completed with crayons/colored pencils/markers

Amateur – Division 14, 2-D Duct Tape Art

Class 1: Any type of tape, no other medium used

Amateur – Division 15, Scherenschnitte/Paper Cutting

Class 1: Any type of paper

Best of Show: A \$10 premium will be awarded to the winner selected from Amateur Art Division 7-15, All Classes

JUNIOR (11-18 Years)

For all Junior Divisions, premiums will be awarded as follows: 1st - \$12 2nd - \$8 3rd - \$5

Junior – Division 16, Painting

Class 1: Oil

Class 2: Watercolors

Class 3: Acrylics and other water-based

Class 4: Pastels

Class 5: Other: mixed media, etc..

Junior – Division 17, Sculpture

Class 1: Metal, wood, plastics, clay, etc.

Junior – Division 18, Drawing

Class 1: Ink, pencil, charcoal, mixed media, scratchboard, etc.

Junior – Division 19, Graphic Arts

Class 1: Etching, lithography, silkscreen, woodcut, engraving, posters

Class 2: Printmaking, stenciling, paper marbling, calligraphy

Junior – Division 20, Woodcarving

Class 1: Realistic, caricature, relief carving, chip carving

Junior – Division 21, Rock Painting

Class 1: Single or multiple rocks. Not to exceed 20lbs total weight, any paint type/markers can be used

Junior – Division 22, Zen Coloring

Class 1: Pre-printed design completed with crayons/colored pencils/markers

Junior – Division 23, 2-D Duct Tape Art

Class 1: Any type of tape, no other medium used

Junior – Division 24, Scherenschnitte/Paper Cutting

Class 1: Any type of paper

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: A \$50 premium will be awarded to the recipient to the Best of Show Junior Art in Divisions 16-24, All Classes

YOUTH (AGES 10 & Under)

For all Youth Divisions, premiums will be awarded as follows: 1st - \$5 2nd - \$3 3rd - \$2

Youth - Division 25, Painting

Class 1: Oil

Class 2: Watercolors

Class 3: Acrylics and other water-based

Class 4: Pastels

Class 5: Other: mixed media, etc.

Youth - Division 26, Sculpture

Class 1: Metal, wood, plastics, clay, etc.

Youth - Division 27, Drawing

Class 1: Ink, pencil, charcoal, mixed media, scratchboard, etc.

Youth – Division 28, Graphic Arts

Class 1: Etching, lithography, silkscreen, woodcut, engraving, posters

Class 2: Printmaking, stenciling, paper marbling, calligraphy

Youth – Division 29, Woodcarving

Class 1: Realistic, caricature, relief carving, chip carving

Youth – Division 30, Rock Painting

Class 1: Single or multiple rocks. Not to exceed 20lbs total weight, any paint type/markers can be used

Youth – Division 31, Zen Coloring

Class 1: Pre-printed design completed with crayons/colored pencils/markers

Youth – Division 32, 2-D Duct Tape Art

Class 1: Any type of tape, no other medium used

Youth – Division 33, Scherenschnitte/Paper Cutting

Class 1: Any type of paper

Best of Show: A \$5 premium will be awarded to the winner selected from YOUTH ART Division 25-33, All Classes