



2026 Entry Timeline

- Entry deadline** **Friday, May 15, by 6 p.m.**
- Entry acceptance email**..... Friday, June 5, by 6 p.m. (Check spam folder.)
Email will come from sweb@fairsoftware.
- Entry delivery**..... **Friday & Saturday, June 19-20, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.** NEW
- Award judging results** Viewable in person. Posted online by the second week of Fair.
- Fair dates**..... July 17 - Aug. 16 (closed Mondays and Tuesdays)
- Entry pick up**..... **Thursday, Aug. 20, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.**
Entries may be picked up by someone other than the exhibitor.

BY ENTERING YOU ARE AGREEING TO THE TERMS AND RULES PRESENTED IN THIS GUIDEBOOK.

- Entry fees** **\$10 adult • \$6 youth (9-17) • Fees are non-refundable.**
- Entry limit**..... **No limit**
- Contact**..... **Hobbies & Handcrafts • Kim Millett, Program Coordinator**
hobbiesandhandcrafts@ocfair.com
Office 714-708-1553 • 714-708-1623 (during Fair)
OC Fair & Event Center • 88 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626



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RULES & GUIDELINES

1. [Local](#) and [State Rules](#) govern this competition.
2. Exhibitors are responsible for reading and abiding by the guidelines stated herein.
3. If you need assistance determining the division and/or class, please contact the Exhibits Office at 714-708-1553 or email hobbiesandhandcrafts@ocfair.com.
4. **Causes for disqualification.** Disqualified entries will not be displayed and must be picked up when notified.
 - Non-compliance to the competition and OC Fair guidelines will result in disqualification.
 - Entries over the maximum amount will not be accepted.
 - Articles showing signs of wear or use may be disqualified.
 - Entries must follow the rules of the division and class.
 - Items previously shown in the OC Fair will be disqualified.
5. **Entry fees are non-refundable.** There will be no refunds for any reason. By entering the competition, the exhibitor is accepting the no-refund policy.
6. All entries must have been completed within the last two (2) years.
7. **A photo upload of each entry is required. If a photo is not received, the entry will not be accepted.**
8. The display and location of entry are at the discretion of the program coordinator. No entry will be accepted where an exhibitor describes the conditions under which they will exhibit or how the entry must be displayed.
9. Exhibitors are responsible for entering their items in the correct division and class.
10. Work must be finished. No incomplete or work in progress will be accepted.
11. Final acceptance of the entry will be left to the discretion of the program coordinator.
12. Due to the family-oriented theme of OC Fair, work dealing with drug use, obscenity, defamatory statements, violence, gang activity, offensive or objectionable content will not be accepted. This is at the discretion of OC Fair staff.
13. **Hold harmless.** Although reasonable efforts will be taken to safeguard exhibitors' property against loss, damage or theft, neither the State of California nor OC Fair & Event Center will be responsible for any loss, damage or theft of exhibitors' property brought on the premises during the period of OC Fair.
14. Entries not picked up on entry pick up day become the property of OC Fair and will be disposed of promptly.



ELIGIBILITY

Adult divisions:

Open to California residents ages 18 and older.

Youth divisions:

Open to youth ages 9-17 (by July 17) who live in Southern California.

ENTRY LIMIT

No limit applies to this competition

- Sets or ensembles may be entered as one (1) entry.
- The total number of accepted entries is limited to the space available.

ENTRY FEES

Adult divisions\$10 per entry

Youth divisions (9-17).....\$6 per entry

- Entry fees are payable online with a credit card (Visa, Mastercard or American Express).
- *No refunds will be issued.*

OC FAIR EXHIBITOR TICKET

Exhibitors will receive one (1) OC Fair admission ticket at the time of entry delivery.

If none of an exhibitor's entries are accepted for exhibition, one (1) free admission ticket will be mailed to you.

- One (1) ticket per exhibitor, not per entry.
- Ticket is good any day during OC Fair and does not require a reservation.
- Tickets are provided to participants to view the results of their efforts.
- Tickets must not be sold.

PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR WORK FOR ENTRY

Digital photo submission of your entry is required.

-  • Photo upload is limited to one per entry.

Image format

- JPEG, JPG or PNG file formats.
- iPhone users must change the default HEIC camera setting to JPEG, or convert image.
- RGB color space (CMYK files will be converted to RGB by the system).
- Be sure that the image is rotated to be in an upright position and orientation.
- Maximum file size: 8 MB (megabytes).

Tutorial [Photographing Your Work](#)



HOW TO ENTER

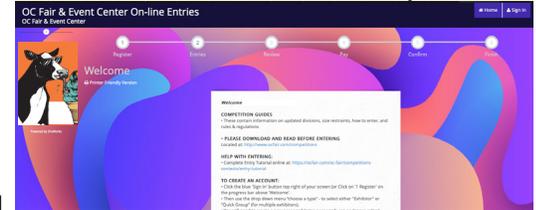
Online entry deadline: Friday, May 15, by 6 p.m.

Click on the link to go to the entry homepage ocfair.fairwire.com

Step 1. Register

- Last year's accounts are no longer valid. All exhibitors must create a new account.
- Entries must be submitted under the name of the individual who will be exhibiting.
- Do not use business or fictitious names.
- There are no team entries.
- Enter the information carefully and proofread the name, title and description of the entry for punctuation, capitalization and spelling to ensure accuracy on exhibit display labels.
- Descriptions are limited to 100 characters and should include a short statement about the work or the methods and techniques used.
- Email will be used to send important information. Check your spam folders and whitelist emails coming from @ocfair.com.

The numbered steps along top of page are clickable and show the current section you are on



fairwire.com welcome page

Step 2. Entries

- Input your entry (or entries) in the proper department, division and class along with other required information.

Step 3. Cart review

- Review your entries. You can add, edit, delete or save your entries.
- When satisfied, click the "CHECK OUT" button.

Step 4. Payment

- Enter your credit card information (Mastercard, Visa or American Express).
- An email notification and confirmation will be sent immediately after the online payment is received.
- Check your spam folder if the email confirmation does not arrive shortly after submitting payment.

Step 5. Confirmation

- Sign by typing "YES" in the "Agreement to Terms" box.
- DO NOT click the "SUBMIT" button multiple times as you will be charged.
- On the resulting confirmation page, you can print a receipt. A blue "UPLOAD FILES" button will also appear.

Step 6. Image upload

- Click on the "UPLOAD FILES" button to start uploading your images into the system.

You can log back into your account to see your entry (or entries) and replace images and descriptions. For any other changes, contact us: entries@ocfair.com. Do not re-enter to make corrections as you will be charged.



HELP ENTERING

For additional help, review these detailed step-by-step guides:

- [Entry Tutorial](#)
- [Photographing Your Work](#)

Phone: 714-708-1553 (during office hours) Email: entries@ocfair.com

PRICE & SELL ENTRIES (ADULTS)

Pricing

Entries may be marked NFS (not for sale) or for sale by indicating the selling price \$_____.

Prospective buyers

No sale or acceptance of fees for items will be made by OC Fair. Prospective buyers may fill out an *Interested in Purchasing Exhibited Art* form that will be forwarded to the exhibitor at the close of OC Fair. The OC Fair does not take commission on items sold as a result of exhibition in the Hobbies & Handcrafts Competition.

JUDGES

Qualified judges are utilized to judge all exhibits and special contests. Judges are selected from local professionals and individuals who are experienced and highly qualified in their fields. Each year, the program coordinator may choose new judges or judges may judge different divisions. The judges' decisions are final.

Reassignment of entry division or class

Judges and/or the program coordinator have the option of reassigning an entry to a more appropriate division or class or combining divisions or classes to create an adequate judging pool.

FIRST-ROUND ONLINE JUDGING

Adult divisions will be judged first from your uploaded images to determine if the submitted entry meets the basic requirements for participation in this competition, is entered in the most correct or appropriate category and meets the subjective standards for the exhibition set by the judges.

Exhibitor will be notified by email with the results of the first-round judging.

An email will be sent for each entry. Please check your spam/junk folder. The email will come from sweb@fairsoftware.com. Results may also be viewed online at ocfair.com/results.

Acceptance for exhibition

Only accepted work should be delivered on the entry delivery day. First-round judging acceptance does not guarantee acceptance for exhibition. The delivered entry may still be judged out for not complying with the competition rules and guidelines.

- Not all entries will be accepted. Due to the high number of entries and limited display space, OC Fair cannot accept all the work submitted.



ENTRY DELIVERY



Delivery date: Friday & Saturday, June 28-29, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- One participation ribbon will be given to each exhibitor on entry delivery day.
- Late deliveries will not be accepted.
- Entries may be delivered by someone other than the exhibitor.

Entry delivery

- Enter Gate 1 and follow the marked route.
- Drop off is located on the east side of the Hobbies & Handcrafts Gallery/Anaheim Building (building 4 on the map).
- Email alerts will be sent prior to the delivery date with detailed information. Check your spam folder for emails.



Claim checks

- Will be provided when exhibits are delivered.
- Are required to pick up your entry on entry pick up day.
- Entries may be picked up by someone other than the exhibitor.

ENTRY PICK UP

Pick up date: Thursday, Aug. 20, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

- An email alert will be sent prior to the pick up date with detailed information. Check your spam folder for emails.
- Claim check or photo ID is required for pick up.
- If you are unable to pick up your items, please arrange for someone to pick them up for you.
- Unclaimed items and ribbons become the property of OC Fair and will be discarded.

Entry pick up

- Pick up entries at the Hobbies & Handcrafts Gallery/Anaheim Building (building 4 on the map).
- Enter through Gate 1 (Main Gate) and follow the directional signs.



AWARD JUDGING

Adult divisions

Entries are placed using the American Judging System, where exhibits are ranked one against another.

- First, second, third place and honorable mention may be awarded in each class if judges so determine. More than one honorable mention per class may be awarded.
- First place winners will compete for "Division Winner."
- Division Winners will compete for "Best of Show."

Youth divisions

Entries are placed using the Danish Judging System, where each entry is judged on how well it meets a standard rather than how it compares to other entries.

- Entries are judged first, second or third place.
- There may be more than one first, second or third place award per class.
- All first place awards will then compete, using the American Judging System, for "Division Winner."
- Those chosen for Division Winner will compete for "Best of Show" when there are two (2) or more divisions represented in the show.

Reassignment of entry division or class

Judges and/or the program coordinator have the option of reassigning an entry to a more appropriate division or class or combine divisions or classes to create an adequate judging pool.

Judging criteria:

- **Adult:** entries are judged on originality and creativity, workmanship and technique, level of difficulty, color and design, finishing and visual impact.
- **Youth:** entries are judged on appearance, workmanship, creativity/originality and an overall score.

Judges' Award

Additional awards may be made at the discretion of each judge for outstanding entries that exhibit special qualities that the judges feel deserves to be recognized.

Industry awards

Awarded by a community guild or organization.

Disqualified entries

If an entry is disqualified after judging is complete, the judge will not change the status of awards given for other entries. Judges reserve the right to remove or disqualify any entry in violation of the rules, in poor taste or not in accordance with the competition standards.



AWARDS

Includes ribbons and/or prize money (premiums)

Adult

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Best of Show..... | \$150 |
| Division Winner..... | \$50 |
| First Place..... | \$25 |
| Second Place..... | \$15 |
| Third Place..... | \$10 |
| Honorable Mention..... | Ribbon |
| Judges' Award..... | Rosette |

Youth

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Best of Show..... | \$75 |
| Division Winner..... | \$35 |
| Judges' Award..... | Rosette |
| First, Second, Third..... | Ribbon |



- Exhibitors will receive awarded ribbons on entry pick up day.
- Award checks will be made payable to the exhibitor whose name is indicated on the entry form and mailed within 30 business days after the close of the 2026 OC Fair.
- Total premiums of \$600 or more to any individual will be paid only after a completed *Payee Data Record* form has been received.

Judging results

- All accepted entries will be displayed in the Hobbies & Handcrafts Gallery with any awards received.
- Results will be posted online around the second week of OC Fair at ocfair.com/results.
- *Please do not call, email or message OC Fair via social media for competition results. We receive a high volume of inquiries daily.*

AWARDS CEREMONY

Sunday, Aug. 16, at noon.

- Hosted on the OC Promenade Main Stage.
- Best of Show award recipients will be invited, given two (2) tickets to attend and recognized at the ceremony.
- Invitations will be sent to the email provided at entry registration.
- All exhibitors and the general public are welcome to attend the ceremony.
- Additional guests should purchase Fair admission tickets in advance.





HOW TO PREPARE

Ensembles/suites

May be entered as a single piece.

Body of work

- Total output of the artist.
- Minimum of three (3) items.
- Maximum of ten (10) items.

Metal work

- Must be produced by the exhibitor.
- Commercial findings are acceptable.

Polymer clay

Please enter in the Handcrafts Polymer Clay Division 400.

Labeling

- Please include a 3-by-5 inch index card with information about how the jewelry was made, what was bought and how it was crafted.

Displays

- All entries will be displayed in cases provided by OC Fair. Cases vary in size and style.
- Management reserves the right to limit the amount of display space available.
- Material, display stands and props will be provided.





Adult Divisions

Eligibility..... Open to California residents ages 18 or older.

Entry limit No limit

Entry fee \$10 per entry

- All rules & guidelines apply.
- Entries require a photo upload.

DIVISION 950

Beading

Class 01: Single item or suite

Class 02: Body of work
(3-10 items)

DIVISION 951

Bead Weaving

Class 01: Single item or suite

Class 02: Body of work
(3-10 items)

DIVISION 952

Wire Wrapping With & Without Stones

Class 01: Single item or suite

Class 02: Body of work
(3-10 items)

DIVISION 953

Wire-Wrapped Links With & Without Stones

Class 01: Single item or suite

Class 02: Body of work
(3-10 items)

DIVISION 954

Metalsmithing

Class 01: Single item or suite

Class 02: Body of work
(3-10 items)

DIVISION 955

Jewelry, All Other

Class 01: Single item or suite

Class 02: Body of work
(3-10 items)



Youth Divisions Ages 9-17 Jewelry Art

Eligibility..... Open to youth ages 9-17 (by July 17) who live in Southern California.

Entry limit No limit

Entry fee \$6 per entry

- All rules & guidelines apply.
- Entries require a photo upload.

DIVISION 358

Youth Jewelry, Ages 9-12

Class 01: Single item, specify

Class 02: Ensemble or suite

DIVISION 359

Youth Jewelry, Ages 13-17

Class 01: Single item, specify

Class 02: Ensemble or suite

