



OC Fair • Fine Arts Competition Guide



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Entry Deadline Friday, May 26, by 6 p.m.

Entry Notification Friday, June 9, by 6 p.m.

Entry Delivery Friday & Saturday, June 23-24, Noon - 6 p.m.

Entry Pickup Tuesday, August 15, 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

CONTACT

Visual Arts Department

visualarts@ocfair.com

88 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Rules & Guidelines.....	1
Eligibility / Entry Limit.....	2
Entry Fees / OC Fair Exhibitor Ticket	2
Photographing Your Work for Entry	2
How to Enter / Help Entering.....	3
Size & Weight Requirements	4
Pricing & Sale of Entries.....	5
Judges / First Round Judging.....	5
Entry Delivery / Entry Pickup	6
Second Round Confirmation Judging / Award Judging.....	7
Awards / Awards Ceremony.....	8
Presentation & Display of Accepted Artwork.....	9-11
Amateur Adult Divisions	12
<i>Division 501 Amateur 2D Fine Art</i>	
<i>Division 502 Amateur 3D Fine Art</i>	
<i>Division 503 Amateur Ceramics</i>	
Professional Adult Divisions.....	13
<i>Division 511 Professional 2D Fine Art</i>	
<i>Division 512 Professional 3D Fine Art</i>	
<i>Division 513 Professional Ceramics</i>	
Young Adult Divisions.....	14
<i>Division 313 2D Art: Ages 13-15</i>	
<i>Division 314 2D Art: Ages 16-17</i>	



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 assistance is needed to determine the Division and/or Class, please contact the Visual Arts Department at visualarts@ocfair.com. Inquiries will be responded to within 72 business hours.
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.
 - Entries over the maximum size allowed will not be accepted.
 - Entry cannot differ from the uploaded image.
 - Entries must follow the rules of the Division and Class.
 - Entries that are a copy or similar to an existing artwork.
 - Entries created using Artificial Intelligence (AI), either partially or completely, may not be entered in any Division.
 - Identical work may not be shown in more than one (1) Division or Department of the OC Fair
 - Items previously shown in the OC Fair.
5. Entry fees are non-refundable.
There will be no refunds for any reason. By entering the competition, exhibitor is accepting the no-refund policy.
6. Fine Arts is a juried competition. Not all entries will be accepted.
7. All entries must be original, made by the artist and completed within the last two (2) years.
8. Display and location of entry is at the discretion of the Program Coordinator. No entry will be accepted where an exhibitor describes 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, or 'wet' canvases will be accepted.
11. Two dimensional works composed of multiple separate pieces (diptychs, triptychs, etc.) are not allowed as one (1) entry unless framed together in one (1) frame within the stated size restrictions.
12. Final acceptance of the entry will be left to the discretion of the Program Coordinator.
13. Due to the family-oriented theme of the OC Fair, no work dealing with drug use, obscenity, defamatory statements, violence or gang activity, satanic or cult themes or other offensive or objectionable content will be accepted. This is at the discretion of the OC Fair staff.
14. Hold Harmless
Although reasonable efforts will be undertaken to safeguard exhibitors' property against loss, damage or theft, neither the State of California nor the OC Fair & Event Center will be responsible for any loss, damage or theft of exhibitors' property brought on the premises during the period of the OC Fair.
15. Entries not picked up on Entry Pickup Day become the property of the OC Fair and will be disposed of promptly.



ELIGIBILITY

Adult Divisions: Amateur and Professional Artists

Open to California residents, ages 18 or older.

Young Adult Divisions:

Open to ages 13-17 (by July 14, 2023) who live or attend school in Orange County, California.

ENTRY LIMIT

Adult Divisions:Ten (10) entries per exhibitor in all classes combined

Young Adult Divisions:Two (2) entries per exhibitor

- *The total number of accepted entries is limited to space available.*

ENTRY FEES

Adult Divisions\$10 per entry

Young Adult Divisions.....\$3 per entry

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

OC FAIR EXHIBITOR TICKET

Exhibitors will receive one (1) 2023 OC Fair admission ticket at time of entry delivery.

If none of exhibitor's entries were accepted for exhibition, one (1) free admission ticket will be available for pickup at the Guest Relations Booth located outside the Main (Blue) Gate entrance when the Fair is [open](#). Please bring a photo ID to claim your ticket.

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

PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR WORK FOR ENTRY

Digital photo submission of your entry is required.

See tutorial *Photographing Your Work for Entry* at

<https://ocfair.com/oc-fair/competitions-contests/image-preparation> Items covered in the tutorial: composition, proper lighting, shadows and glares, avoid blurriness, image distortion, image retouching



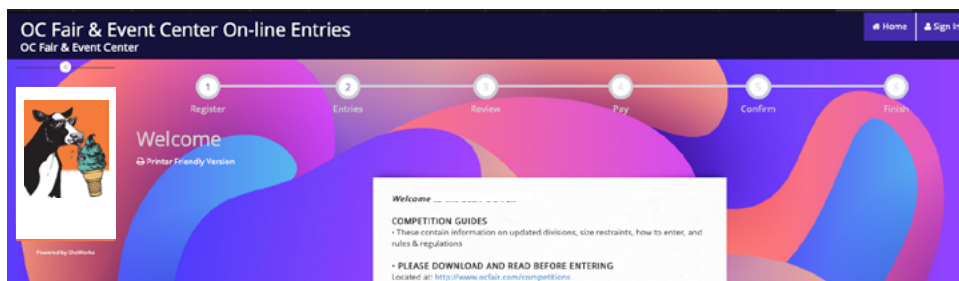
HOW TO ENTER

Online Entry Deadline: Friday, May 26, 2023, by 6 p.m.

- Review the Rules and OC Fair Guidelines herein.
- Last year's accounts are no longer valid. All exhibitors must create a new account.
- Step-by-step entry guide available here: [Entry Tutorial](#)

Digital photo submission of your entry is required.

- Image format JPG/JPEG, 7MB maximum image size.



Fairwire.com
welcome page

1. Click on the link (or button above right) to go to the entry homepage ocfair.fairwire.com
2. Enter your registration information.
3. Input your entry(s) in the proper Department, Division, Class along with other required information.
4. Submit your entry(s) and pay the processing fee, be patient it may take a minute to process.
(DO NOT click the "SUBMIT" button multiple times, as you will be charged.)
 - On the resulting Confirmation page you will see a blue button "UPLOAD FILES"
5. Click on the upload files button to start uploading your images into the system.
6. You may upload up to three (3) images per sculpture or ceramic pieces, to show different views or angles.

Exhibitor Name and Entry Information

- Entries must be made under the name of the individual whose exhibit it is.
- Do not use business or fictitious names.
- Enter using the exhibitor's name as it will appear on the display tag. This also applies to all youth entries.
- There are no team entries.
- ***Enter the information carefully and proofread the name, title and description of the artwork for punctuation, capitalization and spelling to ensure accuracy on exhibit display labels.***
- Descriptions should be limited to 120 characters and should include a short statement about the work or the methods and techniques used.

Entry Confirmation

An email notification and confirmation will be sent immediately after the online payment is received.

If the email confirmation does not arrive shortly after submitting payment, please check your Spam/Junk folder before contacting the OC Fair.

HELP WITH ENTERING

Phone: During office hours at (714) 708-1718

E-mail: visualarts@ocfair.com

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

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



ARTWORK SIZE & WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS

Due to space constraints, size limitations are strictly enforced.

Your work needs to be able to be safely moved by OC Fair staff for final placement in the exhibition.

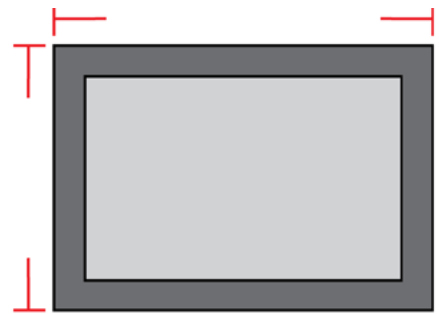
A) ALL 2D WALL HANGING WORK

Portrait, landscape or square orientation.

• Size is measured by the outside dimensions of the frame or piece.

Minimum size short side(s)12 inches x 12 inches
Maximum size long side(s)38 inches x 38 inches
Weight Limit20 pounds

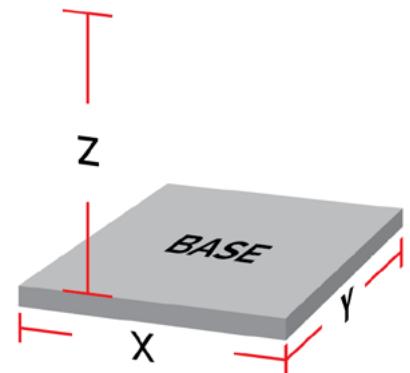
- Work must be relatively flat with no protruding elements.
- Any vertical or horizontal ratio of size within the minimum and maximum is allowed.
- Allows for up to 2-inch frame thickness for a standard large 36-by-24 inch canvas size.
- See presentation and framing guidelines in this guide pages 10-12.



B) 3D WORK: SCULPTURE & ASSEMBLAGE ENTRIES

Maximum base size (X, Y)24 x 24 inches.
Maximum height (Z).....60 inches.
Weight Limit:100 pounds.

- Work must be well put together (no loose/fragile/sharp pieces that can easily break or are unsafe).
- Work will be placed on a plinth or pedestal



C) 3D WORK: CERAMICS

Minimum size3 inches; short side.
Maximum base size (X, Y)14 x 24 inches.
Maximum height (Z).....24 inches.
Weight Limit30 pounds.

- Maximum of three (3) pieces can be entered as a set and count as one (1) entry. (i.e. pitcher with two [2] cups). Multiple pieces must not exceed the maximum dimensions above.
- Work will be placed on a pedestal with plexi vitrine top, as space permits.



PRICING AND SALE OF ENTRIES

Pricing

Entries may be marked NFS (Not For Sale) or For Sale by indicating the selling price \$____. Consider painting, printing, materials and framing costs and your time when pricing.

Prospective Buyers

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

JUDGES

Fine Arts is a juried competition. Qualified judges will be selected by the Program Coordinator to judge all exhibits. The judges are recognized authorities in the Fine Art fields.

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 may combine Divisions or Classes to create an adequate judging pool. Nonetheless, it is the responsibility of exhibitors to enter work in the appropriate Class. Failure to enter the appropriate Class may result in disqualification.

FIRST ROUND JUDGING

Fine Art entries will be judged first from uploaded images viewed online to determine if the submitted entry meets the requirements for participation in this competition and the subjective standards for exhibition set by the judges.

The judges' decisions are final and cannot be protested. Exhibitor will be notified by email with the results of the first round judging. Please check your Spam/Junk folder.

Results may also be viewed online at ocfair.com/results.

Acceptance for Exhibition

Only accepted artwork is to 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 concerning size, weight, framing, proper hanging hardware or image quality.

- *Note: 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. Please understand that this competition is highly competitive.*



ENTRY DELIVERY

Delivery Date: Friday & Saturday, June 23-24, noon - 6 p.m.

- One (1) participation ribbon will be given to each exhibitor on Entry Delivery Day.
- Late deliveries will not be accepted.

Where to Deliver Entries

- Enter gate 8 and follow the marked route.
- Drop off east side of the OC Promenade (building #5 on the map).
- Email alerts will be sent prior to 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 Pickup Day.
- Entries may be claimed by someone other than the exhibitor.

ENTRY PICKUP

Pickup Date: Tuesday, August 15, 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

- An email alert will be sent prior to pickup 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 the OC Fair and will be discarded.

Where to Pick Up Entries

- The Visual Arts Gallery, Los Alamitos Building (building #6 on the map).
- Enter through Gate 1 (Main Gate) and follow directional signs.



SECOND ROUND: CONFIRMATION JUDGING

After delivery of accepted First Round Judging entries, all entries will then be checked for compliance with the entry guidelines including size/weight limits, framing, proper hanging hardware and quality of the entry.

Judges may, at their discretion, jury out works that do not meet their subjective artistic standards. If your delivered entry is judged out or disqualified, you will receive notification by phone or email to pick up your entry at the Visual Arts Gallery. Claim check or photo ID is required for pickup. Artwork not picked up before the start of the OC Fair will be stored and cannot be released to you until the OC Fair ends (see Entry Pickup).

AWARD JUDGING

The judges will select award winners from accepted entries that were confirmed after delivery.

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.

Young Adult 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 Blue (superior), Red (very good) or White (average) Award.
- There may be more than one Blue, Red or White Award per Class.
- All Blue Awards will then compete, using the American Judging System, for Best of Class.
- Those chosen for Best of Class will compete for Division Winner.
- Division Winners will compete for Best of Show.

Judging Criteria

Entries are judged on originality, creativity, composition, technique, and presentation.

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.

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	\$400
Division Winner	\$200
First Place (Blue Rosette)	\$100
Second Place (Red Rosette)	\$75
Third Place (White Rosette)	\$50
Judges' Award	\$25
Theme Award	\$25
Honorable Mention	Rosette

Young Adult

Best of Show	\$75
Division Winner	\$35
Best of Class	\$25
Judges' Award	\$25
Theme Award	\$25
Blue, Red, White	Ribbon

- Exhibitors will receive awarded ribbons on Entry Pickup Day.
- Award checks will be made payable to the exhibitor whose name is indicated on the entry form and mailed within thirty (30) business days after the close of the 2023 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 Visual Arts Gallery with any awards received.
- Results will be posted online around the second week of the OC Fair at ocfair.com/results.
- *Please do not call or email for competition results.*

AWARDS CEREMONY

Sunday, August 13, Starting at Noon

- Hosted on the OC Promenade Main Stage.
- **Best of Show Award** recipients will be invited to attend and be recognized at the ceremony and will receive two (2) tickets to attend.
- Invitations will be sent to the email provided at entry registration.
- All exhibitors and the general public are welcome to attend the ceremony.
- Advance purchase of Fair admission tickets for this day is recommended.





PRESENTATION & DISPLAY OF ACCEPTED ARTWORK

Proper presentation is critical for the safe display and gallery standards for exhibiting your work and is part of the judging criteria when awarding ribbons.

Aesthetics is also a large factor in frame and matte selection which should complement and not distract from the work. Any accepted work when delivered that is deemed unsafe to display and/or is poorly presented will be disqualified. You can frame the work yourself, but if you're inexperienced at framing for gallery presentation, then it's best to take the work to a professional framer.

1. Labeling

Artwork must be securely labeled on the back of each entry with a printout of the acceptance notification media entry tag. *(Label will be sent in acceptance emails, check your spam folder)*



2. Framing Wall-Mounted Artwork

You can have your work professionally framed or frame the work yourself; either way, please follow these guidelines.

a) Work on Paper must be framed:

- Drawing, Collage, Printmaking & Digital Art Works on any paper-based media must be framed.
- Plexiglas is preferred over glass
- Black frames with white mats are highly recommended .



b) Work on Canvas: Frame is optional.

- Paintings, Collage/Mixed Media Works on canvas need to be stretched on stretcher bars or backed with wood, board or other solid substrate that can be properly wired for hanging.



Stretched canvas should be back-stapled.

Exposed edges should be clean and staple/nail free



If framed no glass or plexiglass



3. Hardware for Hanging

All wall hanging works must have a taut, braided steel wire attached securely with D-rings or other permanent hardware for hanging. **Please NO sawtooth hangers or spring clips.**



a) D-Ring Hangers

D-Ring hangers are preferred and are available in several standard sizes and weight ratings.

Make sure the frame moulding is thick enough to be able to screw in the D-rings. Drill a small pilot hole for the screw so as to not split the wood frame when fastening the D-Ring.



b) Hanging Wire

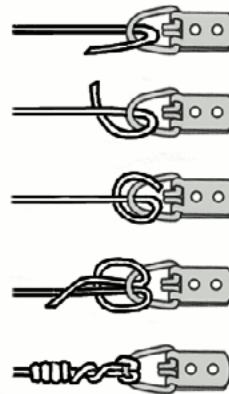
A multi-strand braided galvanized steel wire is required (weight rated for at least four [4] times the weight of the artwork and frame) and the ends of the wire should be secured so they do not poke into the back of the image.

String, thread, fishing line or anything other than wire will not be accepted.

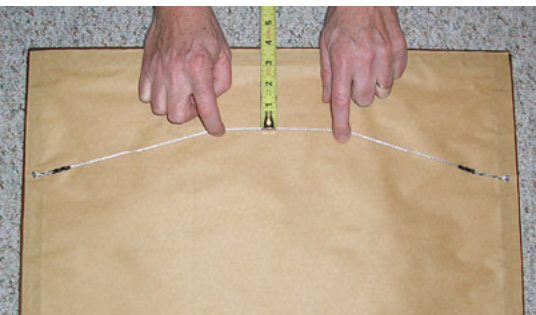


LARK'S HEAD KNOT

Also called...
Lark's foot, Cow hitch, Girth hitch, Ring hitch, Lanyard hitch, Bale Sling hitch, Baggage Tag Loop, Tag Knot, Deadeye hitch, Running eye



Hanging wire is looped through the D-Ring hangers that are secured in the left and right sides of the wood frame moulding.



Check that the apex of the wire is at least 2 inches below the top of the frame.

Make sure the wire does not extend outside the frame.



Sawtooth Hangers

Are not safe to hang work by in a busy public venue like the OC Fair. The work can easily fall off the wall therefore Sawtooth hangers are strictly prohibited.

4. Frames Containing Glass

- Framing with plastic or Plexiglass is preferred.
- Artists framing their entry with glass assume responsibility for damage to their own artwork and the artwork of others should the glass break.
- *OC Fair staff uses extreme care in handling artwork but assumes no responsibility for damage.*

5. Framing Tips and Informational Links

- okeefe-arts-tutorials-framing-1.php
- the-artists-magazine/framing-tips-hardware-facts
- install-picture-frame-wire.html
- howtoframepaintings/ss/hang-painting.htm
- how-to-frame-a-canvas-painting/

6. Preparation Checklist

- o Size and weight of work is within the guidelines
 - o Piece is properly framed
 - o Piece is securely wired and safe to hang with proper hardware materials
 - o Attach to the center back or bottom of artwork a printout of the acceptance notification identification label.
 - o Adhere to Gallery standards of presentation.
-
- Failure to properly prepare your work may lead to disqualification.



Amateur Adult Divisions

Eligibility Open to California residents, ages 18 or older. Original work created within two (2) years

Entry Limit Ten (10) per exhibitor in all classes combined

Entry Fee \$10 per entry

Amateur: An amateur artist creates art as a hobby or pastime, and/or is a student of the arts, and does not regularly present work for sale or is not actively promoting their work for sale.

- *Rules & Guidelines on page 1 apply.*
- *Entries require a photo upload. See "Photographing Your Work for Entry" page 2 for more information.*
- *See size and weight restrictions on Page 4.*

DIVISION 501

AMATEUR 2D FINE ART

- » See framing & hanging guidelines on Pages 9-11.
- » Work should be safe to move.

Class 01: Painting

Oil, acrylic, encaustic.

Class 02: Watercolor

Watercolor, tempera, and gouache

Class 03: Drawing

Pencil, charcoal, pen and ink, pastel.

Class 04: Printmaking

Media that uses a plate to transfer an image: Relief, Woodcut, Linocut, Intaglio, Engraving, Drypoint, Mezzotint, Etching, Collagraph

Class 05: Collage/Mixed Media

Combination of media and use of cut materials; paper, fabric, found objects adhered to the piece

Class 06: Digital

Images created entirely on a computer.

DIVISION 502

AMATEUR 3D FINE ART

- » Work should be safe to move.
- » Two (2) additional views of your entry may be uploaded.

Class 01: Sculpture

Three-dimensional art made by carving, modeling, casting, or constructing.

Class 02: Assemblage

Artistic compositions that are created with found objects

DIVISION 503

AMATEUR CERAMICS

- » Work must be fired.
- » Two (2) additional views of your entry may be uploaded.
- » For sets, a maximum of three pieces, e.g. A pitcher with two (2) cups.

Class 01: Hand-Built Ceramics

Hand-Built Ceramics must be clay-based only. Mixed media should be entered in the Sculpture or Assemblage classes.

Class 02: Wheel Thrown Ceramics

Made primarily with the use of a potter's wheel.



Professional Adult Divisions

Eligibility Open to California residents, ages 18 or older. Original work created within two (2) years

Entry Limit Ten (10) per exhibitor in all classes combined

Entry Fee \$10 per entry

Professional:

A professional artist is actively and regularly exhibiting and selling their artwork or is employed as an artist.

- *Rules & Guidelines on page 1 apply.*
- *Entries require a photo upload. See "Photographing Your Work for Entry" page 2 for more information.*
- *See size and weight restrictions on Page 4.*

DIVISION 511

PROFESSIONAL 2D FINE ART

- » See framing & hanging guidelines on Pages 9-11.
- » Work should be safe to move.

Class 01: Painting

Oil, acrylic, encaustic.

Class 02: Watercolor

Watercolor, tempera, and gouache

Class 03: Drawing

Pencil, charcoal, pen and ink, pastel.

Class 04: Printmaking

Media that uses a plate to transfer an image: Relief, Woodcut, Linocut, Intaglio, Engraving, Drypoint, Mezzotint, Etching, Collagraph

Class 05: Collage/Mixed Media

Combination of media and use of cut materials; paper, fabric, found objects adhered to the piece

Class 06: Digital

Images created entirely on a computer.

DIVISION 512

PROFESSIONAL 3D FINE ART

- » Work should be safe to move.
- » Two (2) additional views of your entry may be uploaded.

Class 01: Sculpture

Three-dimensional art made by carving, modeling, casting, or constructing.

Class 02: Assemblage

Artistic compositions that are created with found objects

DIVISION 513

PROFESSIONAL CERAMICS

- » Work must be fired.
- » Two (2) additional views of your entry may be uploaded.
- » For sets, a maximum of three (3) pieces, e.g. A pitcher with two (2) cups.

Class 01: Hand-Built Ceramics

Hand-Built Ceramics must be clay-based only. Mixed media should be entered in the Sculpture or Assemblage classes.

Class 02: Wheel Thrown Ceramics

Made primarily with the use of a potter's wheel.



Young Adult Divisions

Eligibility Open to youth ages 13-17 (by July 14, 2023) who live or attend school in Orange County, California
Original work created within two (2) years

Entry Limit Two (2) per exhibitor

Entry Fee \$3 per entry

Parents/Guardians: Youth Fine Arts Competition is a juried exhibition. Not all entries will be accepted. Due to the high number of entries and limited space we cannot accept all of the work submitted. Please understand that this competition is highly competitive. Only entries receiving Blue and Red Awards (see Judging and Awards) will be accepted for exhibition. Entries receiving White Awards will not be exhibited.

- *Rules & Guidelines on page 1 apply.*
- *Entries require a photo upload. See "Photographing Your Work for Entry" page 2 for more information*
- *For size and weight guidelines, see page 4.*
- *If accepted, see framing requirements on pages 9-11.*
- *Note: Youth (ages 9-12), see Painting and Drawing in the [Youth Competitions/Explorium](#).*
- *For Youth 3D art, clay and ceramics, see Hand Crafts in [Home Arts & Hobbies](#).*

DIVISION 313

2D ART: AGES 13-15

Class 01: Drawing

Pencil, charcoal, ink, pastel, and markers..

Class 02: Painting

Oil, acrylic, watercolor, tempera, and gouache

Class 03: Mixed Media/Collage

Combination of media and materials, paper, fabric, found objects glued to a surface.

Class 04: Digital Art

Artwork created with the use of a computer.

DIVISION 314

2D ART: AGES 16-17

Class 01: Drawing

Pencil, charcoal, ink, pastel, and markers..

Class 02: Painting

Oil, acrylic, watercolor, tempera, and gouache

Class 03: Mixed Media/Collage

Combination of media and materials, paper, fabric, found objects glued to a surface.

Class 04: Digital Art

Artwork created with the use of a computer.