



Media contact:

Terry Moore, Communications Director
714-371-6268 | tmoore@ocfair.com

OC Fair 2026 competitions invite Southern Californians to showcase their talents

COSTA MESA (May 4, 2026) – From quilts to cut flowers, competitions at the OC Fair bring out the best in Southern California skill and creativity. Whether you're confident your cheesecake is unbeatable or you've been told your woodworking deserves a spotlight, the 2026 Fair invites guests to compete for coveted blue ribbons—and ultimate bragging rights.



This year's Fair runs July 17 through Aug. 16 at OC Fair & Event Center, celebrating the theme "Your Adventure Awaits!" Admission and entertainment tickets are available now at ocfair.com.

In honor of America's 250th anniversary, select competition categories will feature special theme awards recognizing excellence and celebrating the nation's enduring spirit of achievement. Participants are encouraged to submit entries soon, as deadlines for several popular contests are fast approaching:

Friday, May 15

- Commercial Wine (entry and delivery deadline)

Friday, May 15, by 6 p.m.

- Hobbies & Handcrafts
- Fine Art
- Photography
- Woodworking

Wednesday, May 27

- Home Wine (entry and delivery deadline)

Monday, June 8, by 6 p.m.

- Honey

- Preserved Food & Liqueur

Wednesday, July 1, by 6 p.m.

- Bars & Brownies
- Cookies
- Sugar Arts & Confections
- Breads & Pastries

Tuesday, July 21, by 6 p.m.

- Cakes & Cupcakes

Tuesday, July 28, by 6 p.m.

- Pies & Cheesecakes

Entry fees must be paid online. Participants should review individual competition guides for detailed information on entry delivery and pick up procedures.

Competitors can find full details and submit applications at ocfair.com/oc-fair/competitions-contests/.

For assistance with entries:

- Phone: 714-708-1553 (Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.)
- Email: entries@ocfair.com

Additional inquiries can be directed to:

- Entries Department: entries@ocfair.com
- Visual Arts: visualarts@ocfair.com
- Culinary Arts: culinary@ocfair.com
- Hobbies & Handcrafts: hobbiesandhandcrafts@ocfair.com

With competitions spanning culinary arts, fine arts, crafts and more, the 2026 OC Fair offers something for every creator ready to share their passion. Enter today and be part of a summer tradition where talent takes center stage.



OC Fair & Event Center in Costa Mesa, California, is home to the annual OC Fair. Year-round attractions include Centennial Farm, Heroes Hall and Pacific Amphitheatre. OC Fair & Event Center also hosts year-round events and festivals. For more information, visit ocfair.com.

Support of OC Fair & Event Center provides year-round educational opportunities and helps fund community give-back programs.

Photos and video for media are available [on the Media Center](#).

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