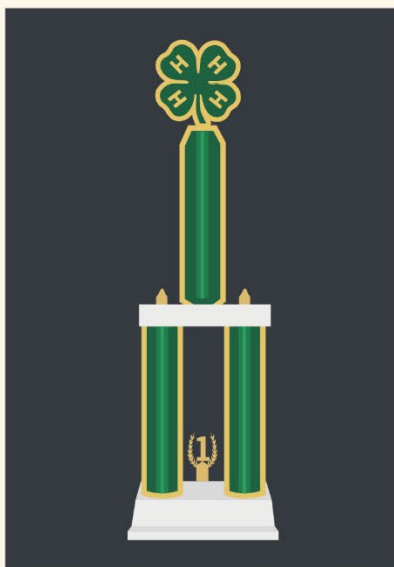




# OPEN CLASS FAIR BOOK



## Instructions on How to Enter Open Class Exhibits and Overall Information

- 1. Fair Book:** The Fair Book contains all the entry guidelines, classes and descriptions. Access the 2025 Larimer County Fair Book online at: <https://www.treventscomplex.com/events/larimer-county-fair/4-h-and-open-class>. Each department is listed separately. Information follows regarding this specific department. Printed Fair Books may be requested from the Competitions Coordinator at 970-619-4023, [boldtla@larimer.org](mailto:boldtla@larimer.org)
- 2. Schedule:** Open Class Schedule at the end of this document.
- 3. General Information:** Read the general information and rules and follow the specific information for departments. **Photography exhibitors should be sure to understand and follow the rules for size and mounting of photos before arriving at check-in.**
- 4. Exhibitors** do not need to be Larimer County residents to enter.
- 5. Online Entry:** Complete the Open Class Registration online through Fair Entry (not 4-H online) <http://lcfopenclass.fairentry.com>  
If you entered last year, you are in the Fair Entry System as an exhibitor and you just need to add classes. If you are a new exhibitor, please sign up as such and follow the prompts to set you up as an exhibitor. Then add your classes. **Everyone should make sure to hit the submit button and receive confirmation of your entries.**
- 6. Entry:** Pre-Registration Entry is recommended in all departments through the on-line Fair Entry system beginning **Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> through Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:50 pm**. Written entry forms can be requested through the Competitions Coordinator at 970-619-4023, [boldtla@larimer.org](mailto:boldtla@larimer.org). Printed entries can be emailed, delivered or mailed to the Larimer County Fair Office, 5280 Arena Circle, Ste #100, Loveland, CO 80538. Entry Office opens at 8:30 a.m. and closes at 4:30 p.m. Postmarks, faxes, or email pre-registration will be accepted only if posted on or before July 23rd at 4:30 pm.
- 7. Late Registration:** Late Entries Taken at Department Check-In, Tuesday, July 29th. Horticulture late entries will be accepted on Wednesday, July 30th from 7:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- 8. Check-In:** Park in the McKee Building parking lot or Lot A or B then enter the Northeast doors in Pedersen Toyota Center -South at The Ranch. Open Class exhibits (except Horticulture) must be received **Tuesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.** Horticulture exhibits check-in Wednesday, July 30th between 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. At check-in, arrive in time to receive your exhibitor identification tag(s). Review the information on the I.D. tag and assign one tag to each exhibit. Take exhibit(s) to the respective departments.
- 9. Check-Out:** Please return to The Ranch Pedersen Toyota Center-South to pick up your exhibits on **Wednesday, August 6th between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.** Collect any awards won. **If you are unable to pick up your exhibits that evening, please have someone else do it for you.** Removal of any exhibit before the designated time requires written approval from the Superintendent or Exhibitor Coordinator. Violation of this rule shall cause the exhibitor to forfeit any awards due to him or her.
- 10. Judging:** Viewing of judging is open to the public (except Open Class Photography). You are welcome to listen and learn from the judges.
- 11.** All products exhibited must have been prepared since August 1, 2024, except for quilts or photography. Exhibits can be entered only once.

12. Any article may be tested to the satisfaction of the judges. All articles and garments entered must be clean.
13. Children's age is determined as of December 31, 2024.
14. Only one entry will be accepted in each class from each exhibitor except Arts, Photography, and Spinning and Weaving. No Champion or Reserve Champion will be awarded if the exhibit is not worthy.
15. Special awards will be chosen at the discretion of the judge(s) in each department and coordinated through the Superintendents.
16. All exhibits must remain on exhibit for the entire Fair, regardless of whether an award is given. An open class exhibitor schedule included at the end of this Fair Book.
17. **Special Awards:** Exhibitors may collect special awards for department winners. Collection of the awards are as follows:  
Wednesday, August 6th 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Otherwise at the Ranch Events office Thursday, August 7th, 8:30 am – 4:30 p.m. and Friday, August 8th<sup>th</sup> 8:30 a.m. – noon. Special awards not collected will be forfeited. No Exceptions.
18. **Premiums/Money:** Premiums will be given for class placement in youth designated classes. No money is awarded for general/adult classes except if it is a special award from sponsor.
19. **The use of marijuana or CBD in any display, food item, or exhibit is prohibited and shall be rejected.**
20. Classes may be combined or divided at the discretion of the superintendents. If there are 3 or more items in a miscellaneous or "Any Other" class, a new class may be made.
21. **Responsibility:** The Ranch staff, the Larimer County Fair Board and Volunteers will use reasonable diligence to ensure safety of exhibits after their arrival and placement. Under no circumstance will the parties listed be responsible for any loss or damage done to, occasioned by, or arising from any articles on exhibit. The exhibitors shall indemnify The Ranch, Larimer County Fair Board and volunteers of all legal or other proceedings in regard thereto. The entry of any exhibits on the fairgrounds by any and all exhibitors shall signify his or her agreement to abide by this rule.

# Photography

Superintendent – Ardeth Carlson  
Competition Coordinator – Laura Boldt

## It Is Your Responsibility to Read All of the Photography Rules.

### Key dates and times:

Check-in for Photography exhibits: Tuesday, July 29th, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Check-out for Photography exhibits: Wednesday, August 6th, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**ENTRIES THAT DO NOT MEET THE SPECIFICATIONS BELOW WILL NOT BE CHECKED IN. Please don't assume you know what the rules are, even if you have participated in Larimer County Fair Open Class Photography in previous years! If you have questions, you can contact the Open Class Photography superintendent at 970-290-9550. If you have young photographers, this is an opportunity to show them the importance of understanding the rules for any competition.**

1. Each exhibitor may participate in only one age division and may enter a **maximum total of three (3) photographs**; all three entries can be entered in the same class or in any combination of classes but this does not mean 3 photos in each class. Advanced photographers should enter the Advanced division even if they are older than 59 years of age.
2. The exhibitor must choose which class or classes to enter when registering. If the exhibitor wants to enter a different class than the one for which the photos were pre-registered, go to the main registration table on check-in day to get a new exhibitor tag. The photo entered at the Photography check-in table should match the definition of the class on the exhibitor tag. If you have questions, the superintendent will be available to answer questions about the appropriate class.
3. **Photographs must be mounted on a solid backing, i.e. foam core, styrene, or gatorboard.** Please do not use cardboard. Photos should not be printed or mounted on canvas, acrylic, glass, or metal. Backing should not exceed ½" thick and must be cut to the same size as the photograph. This means the backing should not show outside the edges of the photograph. Photographs must be presented in final mounted form at check-in and cannot be fixed at the check-in table. Photos can be printed and mounted by professional printers such as Lefthand Printworks in Berthoud.

You can also mount your printed photo yourself. The Monticello Camera Club has created an excellent YouTube video "Mounting Photos Is as Easy as Pancakes." Click on the link or copy and paste it in the YouTube search bar: [https://youtu.be/FcokEMDfw24?si=D6QdDK\\_iPqHNGys](https://youtu.be/FcokEMDfw24?si=D6QdDK_iPqHNGys)

### Additional tips on DIY mounting:

- Use a spray adhesive that does NOT require you to spray both surfaces. It is much easier if you only have to spray the foam core.
- Expect a lot of overspray from the spray adhesive. Spraying outside is best, but if you must spray inside be sure to do it in a well-ventilated room and cover your work surface to protect it from overspray.
- Make sure your photo is nowhere near where you spray.
- IMPORTANT: Use a new cutting blade for each photo that you trim. A snap-off blade utility knife is perfect for this task.
- Protect your cutting surface with either a cutting mat or a couple layers of corrugated cardboard.

4. Maximum size is no larger than 11"x14" or 14"x14" square; an exception is allowed for panoramic photos with a maximum of 8" high and 18" wide. Minimum size is no smaller than 8"x10" or 8"x8" square. Any sizes in between, such as 9"x12" for example, are allowed. **Photos that do not meet the size maximum or minimum will not be accepted. Size restrictions also apply to the Children age division.**

5. **Photos must not be matted or framed,** and do not attach any kind of hanger; hangers will be provided by the Photography department.
6. The photo front should not contain any writing, including copyright symbol, name, title, or time or date stamp.
7. Copyright infringement of any type will not be allowed. Photos should not include images of art, such as paintings or sculptures, unless the photo has other elements that are the main focus or tell a story. If in doubt, avoid entering such images.
8. Superintendent has the right to reject subject matter of a sensitive nature. No photographs depicting violence or nude/seminude subjects will be accepted.
9. Judging will be based on impact, composition, lighting, technical quality, and appropriateness for the category. Due to the volume of Photography Department entries, judging will not be done publicly; brief written comments by the judges will be provided to exhibitors.
10. The judges reserve the right to move any submitted image to a different appropriate class during the judging process to balance the number of entries in a class.
11. Ribbons awarded will be 1st place blue, 2nd place red, and 3rd place white for each of the 6 classes in the 5 divisions. Champion and Reserve Champion ribbons will be awarded for outstanding exhibits in the Youth, Amateur, Senior Amateur, and Advanced divisions. Special awards will be given for Best of Show and Reserve Best of Show. Photos and ribbons must remain in place during the fair except by permission of the superintendent.
11. Photographs must be picked up on Wednesday, August 6, between 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. Any photograph not picked up by then or otherwise arranged with the superintendent will become property of the Larimer County Fair. The computer entry tag stub will be needed to identify the entry and obtain the photographs and ribbons.
12. Payment of Awards: Exhibitors may collect special awards. See Open Class Division General Rules and Regulations for schedule. Special awards not collected before noon Friday, August 9, will be forfeited. **No Exceptions.**

#### **Definition of divisions:**

**Children** —12 years and under (as of 12/31/2024)

**Youth**—13 through 18 years (as of 12/31/2024)

**Amateur**—Adults 19 through 59 years (as of 12/31/2024)

Novice casual or hobby photographers with little or no photography training and who have not previously been awarded Amateur Division Champion or overall Best of Show more than once at the Larimer County Fair.

**Senior Amateur**—Adults 60 years and up (as of 12/31/2024)

Novice casual or hobby photographers with little or no photography training or who have not previously been awarded Amateur Division Champion or overall Best of Show more than once at the Larimer County Fair.

**Advanced** – Adults 19 years and up (as of 12/31/2024)

Nonprofessional photographers with some training and experience for whom photography does not constitute a significant source of income or who have been awarded Amateur Division Champion or overall Best of Show more than once at the Larimer County Fair.

**Definition of classes:****Animals: Domestic**

Any pet or tamed mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, or fish; should not be digitally manipulated except for regular processing of sharpening, noise removal, contrast, dodging/burning, cropping. No cloning in or out, moving or replacement of objects, or multiple exposure. Color photo only

**Animals: Wild**

Non-domesticated mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians; includes zoo animals or feral animals such as wild horses; should not be digitally manipulated except for regular processing of sharpening, noise removal, contrast, dodging/burning, cropping. No cloning in or out, moving or replacement of objects, or multiple exposure. Color photo only

**Creative**

Open category, any subject, includes monochrome, macro, still life, altered reality, abstracts, and special techniques such as multiple exposure, composites, and intentional camera movement. Digital manipulation is allowed, including digital borders, but must begin as a photograph and should not include AI-generated elements.

**People**

People or person should be the main subject in the frame; candid or posed, closeups or groups and includes sports. Color photo only.

**Plants, Flowers, Insects**

Does not need to be a macro-type closeup, but plants, flowers, or insects should clearly be the main subject wide-angle garden scenes should be entered in Scenic. Color photo only.

**Scenic**

Includes landscapes, seascapes, gardens, city/urban scenes, and sky scenes. Also includes small scenes such as architectural details, for example, activities such as a car show. Focus/exposure stacking and subtle long-exposure images are allowed but should still look natural; should not be otherwise digitally manipulated except for regular processing of sharpening, noise removal, contrast, dodging/burning, and cropping. No cloning in or out, moving or replacement of objects; fisheye photos should be entered in Creative class. Color photo only.

**Enter photos in these classes:****Children - 12 years & under****Class**

110. Color or Black & White Photo, any subject (please note: minimum size 8x10)

**Youth – 13 through 18 years****Class**

210. Animals: Domestic

220. Animals: Wild

230. Creative

240. People

250. Plants, Flowers, Insects

260. Scenic

**Amateur – 19 through 59 years**

**Class**

**310.** Animals: Domestic

**320.** Animals: Wild

**330.** Creative

**340.** People

**350.** Plants, Flowers, Insects

**360.** Scenic

**Senior Amateur – 60 years & over**

**Class**

**410.** Animals: Domestic

**420.** Animals: Wild

**430.** Creative

**440.** People

**450.** Plants, Flowers, Insects

**460.** Scenic

**Advanced – 19 years & over**

**Class**

**510.** Animals: Domestic

**520.** Animals: Wild

**530.** Creative

**540.** People

**550.** Plants, Flowers, Insects

**560.** Scenic

## **Special Awards**

These special awards are made possible by the following sponsors:

Best of Show – Open Photography  
**Lefthand Printworks**

Reserve Best of Show – Open Photography  
**Lefthand Printworks**

Champion Youth Exhibit – Open Photography  
**Whispering Pines Lodge, LLC**

Champion Teen Photography Exhibit – Open Photography  
**Lefthand Printworks**

Champion Amateur Exhibit – Open Photography  
**Lefthand Printworks**

Champion Senior Amateur Exhibit – Open Photography  
**Lefthand Printworks**

Champion Advanced Amateur Photography Exhibit  
**Lefthand Printworks**

1 year free membership to the Photographic Society of America awarded to all Champion Exhibits, courtesy of the **Photographic Society of America**



# 2025 Larimer County Fair Schedule of Events for Open Class

*SCHEDULE as of January 3, 2025*

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## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 23**

11:59 p.m.      OPEN CLASS EXHIBIT ENTRY/PRE-REGISTRATION FORM SUBMISSION DEADLINE-

## **SATURDAY, JULY 26**

9:30 a.m.      LARIMER COUNTY FAIR PARADE      *Downtown Loveland*

## **MONDAY, JULY 28**

4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.      Open Class Exhibits Set Up      *South Pedersen Toyota Center*

## **TUESDAY, JULY 29**

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.      Open Class Exhibits - Check-In      *South Pedersen Toyota Center*

## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 30**

7:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.      Open Class Horticulture (Garden Flowers & Vegetables, Fruit & Herbs) Check-In  
*South Pedersen Toyota Center*

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.      Open Class Arts, Baked Products, Creative Crafts, Knitting, Machine Work, Needlework,  
 Preserved Food Products (& Honey), Quilting & Spinning & Weaving  
*SPTC*

12:00 p.m.      Wine & Liqueur Judging      *South Pedersen Toyota Center*

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.      Open Class Horticulture Garden Flowers & Floral Arrangements Judging  
*South Pedersen Toyota Center*

1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.      Open Class Horticulture Vegetables, Fruits & Herbs Judging      *South Pedersen Toyota Center*

## **THURSDAY, JULY 31**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.      Building open to Superintendents for display      *South Pedersen Toyota Center*

## **FRIDAY, AUGUST 1**

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.      Open Class Exhibit Halls - Open to the Public      *South Pedersen Toyota Center*

## **SATURDAY, AUGUST 2**

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.      Open Class Exhibit Halls - Open to the Public      *South Pedersen Toyota Center*

## **SUNDAY, AUGUST 3**

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Free Pancake Breakfast      *Party Tent outside MAC Arena*

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.      Open Class Exhibit Halls - Open to the Public      *South Pedersen Toyota Center*

## **MONDAY, AUGUST 4**

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Open Class Exhibit Halls - Open to the Public      *South Pedersen Toyota Center*

## **TUESDAY, AUGUST 5**

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Open Class Exhibit Halls - Open to the Public      *South Pedersen Toyota Center*

## **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6**

4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.      Open Class Check-Out      *South Pedersen Toyota Center*

## **THURSDAY, AUGUST 7**

8:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.      Open Class Unclaimed Items & Awards pick-up      *Pedersen Toyota Center Event Office*

## **FRIDAY, AUGUST 8**

8:30 p.m. – 12:00 p.m.      Open Class Unclaimed Items & Awards pick-up      *Pedersen Toyota Center Event Office*