

# ~ Visual Arts ~

1. Exhibitor must be enrolled in the Visual Arts project. Articles exhibited are to be made during the current year. Exhibitors are encouraged to date the project when it is made. The 4-Her may exhibit a maximum of seven (7) entries; no more than two (2) projects from each category (Original and/or Non-original) will be allowed. (EXAMPLES: two Paper Original, **OR** one Paper Original and one Paper Non-Original, **OR** two Paper Non-Original).
2. **All Visual Arts Projects:** All projects (including original, non original, Heritage Arts, Computer Generated Art, and 3 Dimension/ Mixed Media) must **include on a card or in a folder an answer to the question, "What did you learn from doing this exhibit?" Youth will not be allowed to write cards during judging. Projects that fail to have the card will result in the grade being lowered one letter.**
3. **Non-original items:** *Kits and preformed molds are not considered original and are not acceptable in any original visual arts class.* (Kits are any prepackaged item where materials are determined by the manufacturer. Greenware or whiteware are examples of molds.) Articles that use patterns or pictures from magazines as starting points for designs are not originals. Changing just the color and/or size of a pattern or picture does not make the design original. Any copyrighted or trademarked designs are not acceptable as an original design. Examples of copyrighted designs are team and school logos, animated figures, trademarked items, cartoons.
4. **Original items:** Only original articles may advance to State Fair competition. Combining parts of patterns with your OWN design can result in an original design, but simply changing the color, pattern or size of a pattern does not make a design original. Articles made using patterns or pictures from magazines as starting points for designs are NOT acceptable. **Your design idea must be included with your project on a card or in a folder to show it is an original. You should include sketches, cut designs from wood, paper, sponges, etc. Projects that fail to have the card will result in the grade being lowered one letter.** *Kits and preformed molds are not considered original and are not acceptable in any original visual arts class.*

*The idea for your project is entirely **YOUR OWN!** You may not use pre-stamped fabrics such as cartoon characters, Precious Moments, bears, rabbits, Christmas ornaments, etc. You may design your own, but the parts may not be cut from a pre-made pattern or pre-stamped fabric. **NO** kits, such as basket kits, stamped cross-stitch kits, or manufactured stencil designs may be used in any of the original projects areas. Do not use any patterns from books, kits, or magazines unless you are combining parts of different patterns with your own idea.*

If an artist uses a photograph for a painting, it **must be one he took himself.** (Possible exception might be portraits.) Buildings, still life, landscapes, etc. should be an original photo **TAKEN BY** the artist. If it is not, then the artist has not created the composition for the painting; the photographer did.

Consider the number of decisions made by the member. Did the child select the subject, the size of the work, the colors, the yarns, the frame, etc? In using a kit or pattern from a craft shop, someone else makes the decisions or the child is limited to the number of decisions to be made. The pattern tells you how big, what color, what fabric, what stitch or brush stroke to use, etc. Just changing colors isn't enough to make the work original.

Ideas can come from one of these four areas:

- Nature - scenes or activities in a community such as people, workers, shoppers, children playing, animals, a parade, etc.
- Studio - objects grouped in still-life set-ups, posed models wearing costumes, or an automobile.
- Photography - your own or a friend's photograph, but not a professional photographer's.
- Imagination - imaginary monsters, beautiful scenes, enchanted castles, or an abstract design.

5. Puzzles do not belong in any visual arts class and will be disqualified if entered in Visual Arts.

## Visual Arts Continued...

**6. Trademarked or Copyrighted items:** Members can incorporate trademarked or copyrighted logos, etc as long as **written** permission to use is obtained from the organization. One cannot just copy logo – this infringes on the copyright law. You should not modify or change the logo, but be creative in how you incorporate it. Make it unique or personalize it. You must still get permission to use it. The written permission from the organization must be submitted with the project. **Items without written permission will be disqualified.** See Extension staff for approval/consultation before beginning the project. These items are still considered non original.

**7. Preparing Items for Exhibit:** All entries must be properly prepared for exhibit:

a. **All** items in a frame (including ALL Chalk/Carbon/Pigment) will be required to be prepared properly for hanging. These items must have a sturdy wire for hanging and able to support the weight of the object. See the picture for the preferred method. Clothes hangers, pop tops, saw tooth hangers are **NOT** acceptable.



b. Drawings and paintings should be matted and framed, preferably under glass. Plexi glass is acceptable. There is not specific requirement for the type of mat used. Page 34 of the *Illinois 4-H Visual Arts Member's Manual* gives basic directions for a mat, but purchased, pre-cut mats are acceptable.

c. Water color, chalk, pen & ink, etc do require glass, acrylic or some protective covering.

d. Oil & acrylic paintings do not require glass and are not required to be matted.

e. It is a good idea to cover items in plastic that can be easily soiled.

f. **Projects not meeting above guidelines will be lowered one letter grade.**

**8. Size Requirement:** Artwork (or a total exhibit) meant to be hung or placed on a shelf is limited to a size of 30" high x 30" wide x 12" deep. Artwork meant to be exhibited on the floor must be able to fit through a 6' wide door. Exhibitors must contact the Extension office if the floor exhibit will take more than 3' of floor space.

**9. Evaluation of project:** Entries will be evaluated on the following points; originality, design, color, line, shape, texture, space and value; appropriate use of medium; condition of materials; finishing techniques; care and durability; creativity, composition, craftsmanship, manipulation of art skills, and the card or folder and design idea(see Rules #2 & #4). As in any other project area, this is under the discretion of the judge.

**10. State Fair Eligibility & Selection:** Members must be 10 years old by September 1 of the current 4-H year to exhibit at the State Fair. A certain number of entries will be selected in Visual Arts to advance to the Illinois State Fair Junior Department Show. Please note that entries do not have to be selected from each of the 11 classes. Any combination of items can be selected. The number of entries that can advance is based upon project enrollment. In addition, only one entry can be selected from the Heritage Arts class to advance to state. Again, under the discretion of the judge, the BEST AND MOST ORIGINAL examples of 4-H art will be selected to advance.

**11. Questions About Visual Arts Projects:** Extension staff members and superintendents are happy to assist members in deciding which category their Visual Arts project should be entered. **Members with questions must bring the actual item that will be shown to the Extension office.**

**12. Any question concerning exhibit requirements should be directed to Extension staff prior to judging.**

## Visual Arts Continued...

### Classes

#### **F0101A Paper - Original ☺**

##### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any original item made of paper.
- Examples are: origami, greeting cards, paper-cut designs, paper mache, hand-made paper, paper collage, paper models of architecture, quilling, etc.
- Paper twist articles made from directions in craft books and stores ARE NOT original and DO NOT belong here.
- **Puzzles do not belong in Visual Arts and will be disqualified.** They belong in Interior Design and should meet the requirements of that project.



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#### **F0101B Paper - Non-Original**

##### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any paper item made from a kit or copied from another source.
- **Puzzles do not belong in Visual Arts and will be disqualified.** They belong in Interior Design and should meet the requirements of that project.

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#### **F0102A Fiber - Original ☺**

##### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any original item made of fiber.
- Examples are: original quilts (quilts from a traditional design must be entered in Heritage Arts – ie. Log Cabin, Amish Chain, Texas Star), fabric collage, soft sculpture, stitchery, weaving, embroidery, cross-stitch, wearable art. All original knitted, cross stitched, or crocheted items belong here.
- All baskets and decorated textiles such as painted shirts or stenciled clothing should be entered in Heritage Arts.
- Latch hook rugs/wall hangings from an original design created by the exhibitor belong here. If using a pattern, kit or prestamped canvas or a design taught by another person this project should be entered in Heritage Arts.

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#### **F0102B Fiber- Non-Original**

##### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any fiber item made from a kit or copied from another source.
- Tie blankets, pillows, scarves and other fleece crafts belong in this class.
- Please note that non-original knitted and crocheted projects should be entered under Heritage Arts.

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#### **F0103A Clay - Original ☺**

##### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any original item made of clay - may be fired or unfired, hand formed or thrown on a wheel.
- Self-hardening clays are fine. Fire/oven-cured and corn starch clay will be accepted.
- Items can include, but are not limited to, clay statues, bowls, jewelry, etc.
- Pre-formed ceramics ARE NOT original and DO NOT belong here.
- Cement items are not acceptable in this category.



## Visual Arts Continued...

### **F0103B Clay - Non-Original**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Exhibit any type of pre-formed ceramics or any clay project from a kit.
  - Stepping stones are not accepted in this category at this time.
  - Cement items are not acceptable in this category.
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### **F0104A Wood - Original ☺**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any original item made of wood. (wood carving, sculpture, collage, wood burning, etc.)
  - Utilitarian wood items made from patterns or kits (e.g. furniture) should not be entered as Visual Arts.
  - Popsicle stick crafts are not acceptable in this class.
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### **F0104B Wood - Non-Original**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any wood item made from a kit.
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### **F0105A Chalk/ Carbon/Pigment - Original ☺**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any original art work done with pencils, chalk, pens, ink, paint, charcoal, dyes, etc.
  - This would include all painting, sketching, drawing, cartooning, printing, etc.
  - Please enter ALL painting on wood, metal, textiles, stones, or other unusual surfaces under Heritage Arts.
  - Painted and/or glazed pre-formed ceramics or painted porcelain dolls **ARE NOT** eligible for State Fair.
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### **F0105B Chalk/ Carbon/Pigment - Non-Original**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any non-original chalk/carbon/pigment art work.
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### **F0106A Glass/Plastic - Original ☺**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any original item made of glass or plastic.
- Examples are stained glass, etched glass (original design) mosaics made of glass, and glass beading.
- **Plastic jewelry ("Friendly Plastic") is not a suitable entry.**
- **Wall hangings that include cement decorated with glass or plastic items are not suitable for this class.**
- **Models do not belong in this category.**



## Visual Arts Continued...

### **F0106B Glass/Plastic - Non-Original**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any glass or plastic item made from a kit.
  - Legos, Building Blocks, K'Nex do not belong in this class at this time.
  - Models do not belong in this category.
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### **F0107A Metal - Original ☺**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any original item made of metal such as sculpture, tin punch, engraved metal, and jewelry.
  - Items intended for industrial use (as tools and/or shop items made from patterns) ARE NOT considered part of this Visual Arts project.
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### **F0107B Metal - Non-Original**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any metal item made from a kit.
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### **F0108A Nature - Original ☺**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any original item made of natural material such as wreaths, corn husk dolls, etc.
  - Items should be made of NATURAL materials (which may be gathered from nature or purchased) but securing elements such as glue and wire may be used in the inner construction as long as they do not detract from the overall "natural" appearance.
  - Articles such as dried pressed flowers may be displayed under glass since it is necessary for protection/preservation of the natural materials.
  - **Baskets will be entered in Heritage Arts.**
  - **Candles are not suitable (see Heritage Arts).**
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### **F0108B Nature - Non-Original**

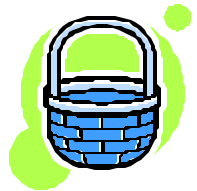
#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any nature item made from a kit.
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### **F0110A Heritage Arts ☺**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- *Traditional* art learned from another person or from a pattern (non-original crocheting, knitted, and cross stitched items **MUST BE ENTERED HERE**).
- Other possibilities for this class are: needlepoint, counted cross stitch, crewel, embroidery, cut work, hardanger, macrame, candles, pysanki (decorated eggs), or quilts from a traditional pattern, traditional handmade dolls with handmade costumes, and decorative painting on wood, metal, fiber, or candles.
- All baskets are entered in this class.
- Latch hook rugs/wall hangings from a kit, pattern, or prestamped canvas, or taught by another person belong here. Original designs created by the exhibitor should be entered in Fiber Original.
- All leather items belong in this class.



## **Visual Arts Continued...**

### **F0120A Computer-Generated Art ☺**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Any original art created in any software package.
  - Exhibit **may not** include scanned work, clip art, downloaded images from the internet, any imported image.
  - All pixels must be original.
  - Members can incorporate trademarked or copyrighted logos, etc as long as written permission to use is obtained from the organization. You should not modify or change the logo, but be creative in how you incorporate it. The written permission from the organization must be submitted with the project. Items without written permission will be disqualified. See Extension staff for approval/consultation before beginning the project. Color or black & white exhibits are acceptable.
  - Altered photo exhibits should be shown in the digital photography class.  
NOTE: Photo mosaics/collages are **not** allowed in this class. They should be entered in the Computer project area.
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### **F0130A Three Dimensional Design/Mixed Media ☺**

#### **Exhibit Requirements:**

- Art pieces in this class must be comprised of at least three different media.
  - No one medium can make up more than 40% of a piece.
  - The piece should be free-standing (not meant to be hung) that is observable on at least three different sides.
  - Originality and design are important concepts.
  - Craft and preformed or assembled projects are not acceptable.
- Exhibits are limited to 30" x 30" x 12" in space.