GUIDELINES FOR MISSOURI STATE FAIR 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITS

Exhibits must meet the guidelines below in order to be eligible to be displayed at State Fair. Exhibits not meeting these guidelines will be regretfully disqualified.

REQUIREMENTS

1) Photos must be mounted on a rectangular 8” x 10” *solid* mounting surface.
2) The *preferred* surface is matte* board. It can be a color of the photographer’s choice.
3) The photographs mounted on each 8” x 10” matte board must be 8” x 10” or smaller.
4) The mounted photo should be placed in a clear plastic 8 ¼ x 10 ½ inch sleeve*.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- * Solid requires that there are no cutouts (or other holes) in the matte board, either around or behind the photo (for example, a surface shaped like a picture frame is not a solid mounting surface).

- * Matte board is a specific material. It is not cardboard, foam core, poster board, etc.
  - Matte board is the choice of professionals because it protects and preserves the photo.
  - 8 x 10” matte board may be purchased from online retailers if local sources are not available.
  - Other materials (such as foam core) may be used, but they will degrade the photo over time.
  - Mounted photos too thick for the display case will be displayed elsewhere in the 4-H building.

- * These sleeves are intended to protect these special exhibits from handling, dust and humidity.
  - 8.25 x 10.5” plastic sleeves are available from online retailers if local sources are not available.
  - 4-H will have complimentary sleeves at the state fair for photo exhibits still needing them.

DIGITAL EDITING RULES

For state fair 4-H photography exhibits, certain types of editing are permissible and others are not.

1) **Altering** (editing to change the contents of) a photo is not permitted for State Fair exhibits.
   - Examples include adding a sunset or object, removing someone from the shot, airbrushing to cover a bad complexion, giving a photo subject dinosaur eyes, etc.

2) **Enhancing** (editing to improve the existing qualities of) a photo is permitted.
   - Examples include cropping the photo, eliminating redeye, and changing levels of saturation, brightness, contrast, etc.

“What makes photography a strange invention is that its primary raw materials are light and time.”

John Berger

State Fair 4-H photography exhibit guidelines are available online, at http://4h.missouri.edu/go/events/statefair