

# Samuels Hall 2026 Open Class Rules and Regulations

## General rules:

1. Entries accepted between 2:30 - 4:30 Sunday July 12, 2026, and 9:00 - 11:30 am Monday July 13, 2026. Please do not bring culinary foods on Sunday. Judging will be conducted from 1:30 - 4:00 pm Monday. Only authorized people will be permitted in Samuel Hall during judging. Viewing hours are 6-8 pm daily during the fair.
- 2 Exhibitors will not be allowed to remove items until Sunday July 19, 2026, from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. **Nelson County Fair Board is not responsible for any items left after 3:30 p.m.** Any exhibits not picked up by 3:30 p.m. forfeits any prizes. Any exhibits removed before July 19th will forfeit prize money.
3. Exhibits in Art, Clothing, Food Preservation, Textiles must be completed during the past year. Quilts must be completed during the past 2 years.
4. No individual may have more than one entry in each class but may exhibit in all classes.
5. An exhibitor winning first prize money in a class one year is barred from exhibiting the same article in that class at any future Nelson County Fair.
6. No entry can be shown with a "For Sale" tag attached.
7. Ribbons will be awarded **on merit of entry at the sole discretion of our judges.**
8. *Only Nelson County residents will be permitted to exhibit* unless a member of a Nelson County-based club, i.e. homemakers and beekeepers.
9. Superintendents can refuse to accept entries that do not meet printed guidelines.
10. Any item can be disqualified at the judge's discretion.
11. The management will not be responsible for any article exhibited, but due care will be given to handling of articles to give reasonable protection to exhibits at all times.

All categories will pay 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place **UNLESS** there's only one entry in that class,  
then it will be awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place winnings if merited.





### Specific Rules:

- All canned food must be in a clear standard canning jar. Canned food not in a specified or regulation jar will be disqualified.
- All jars with 2-piece lids should have a ring on. No "rusty" lids or rings permitted. Jars with broken seals will be disqualified.
- Jelly must be in regulation glasses or jars with tops and sealed. No Paraffin required.

### **Fruits and Vegetables** (quart and pint jars accepted)

- Jelly (regulation jar with no paraffin but sealed)
- Jams (quarts, pints or half pints acceptable)
- Preserves (quarts, pints, or half pints acceptable)
- Pickles, relishes and salsa (quarts, pints or half pints acceptable)
- **BONUS POINTS IF YOU PROVIDE A TASTING JAR!**

### Classes:

1. Best jar peaches
2. Best jar green snap beans
3. Best jar tomatoes
4. Best jar mis. tomato product
5. Best jar corn
6. Best jar kraut
7. Best jar misc. vegetables
8. Best jar strawberry jam
9. Best jar grape jelly
10. Best jar peach preserves
11. Best jar blackberry jam
12. Best jar dill pickles (must contain dill seed/weed)
13. Best jar bread and butter pickles
14. Best jar misc. Pickles
15. Best jar misc. Relish
16. Best jar salsa
17. Best Misc. Fruit/Vegetable

## **Culinary Foods 2026**

### Specific Rules:

- Perishable foods should be on a disposable plate enclosed in a self-sealing bag. Entry tags should be attached to the outside of bag.
- All perishable foods will be judged, and winning entries will be displayed.
- All entries should be made from scratch.

### Classes:

18. Plate of 3 biscuits\*
19. Plate of 3 Yeast rolls\*
20. Plate of 3 sweet rolls\*
21. Best ½ loaf of yeast bread
22. Best ½ loaf of quick bread
23. Misc. bread ½ loaf
24. Plate of 3 brownies
25. Plate of 3 rolled cookies
26. Plate of 3 drop cookies
27. Plate of fudge (3 pieces)
28. Best novelty snack
29. Misc. pie
30. Misc. baked good (not pie)

Pies: no cream pies permitted, no pies with meringue or any that requires refrigeration

## **Honey**

### Specific rules:

- Each entry of honey exhibited must be produced in the exhibitor's apiary.
- Nelson county bee club members will be permitted to exhibit
- Entries must be submitted in a 1lb. Queen Line Style jar, except for Black Jar class
- Black Jar should be submitted in a baby food size jar, painted black on exterior

### Classes:

31. Light extracted honey
32. Light Amber extracted honey
33. Amber extracted honey
34. Dark amber extracted honey
35. Black Jar (for taste judging only)

## **Horticulture 2026**

### Specific Rules:

- All entries must be grown by the exhibitor
- Exhibits should be displayed on disposable containers
- Exhibit must contain exact number of entries as specified:

36. Best plate of 5 carrots

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37. Best plate of 3 yellow onions
38. Best plate of 3 red tomatoes
39. Best plate of 3 green tomatoes
40. Best plate of 3 sweet peppers
41. Best plate of 6 hot peppers
42. Best plate of 3 summer squash
43. Best plate of 3 cucumbers
44. Best tasting Heirloom tomatoes
45. Best tasting Hybrid tomato
46. Best eggplant
47. Best plate of 12 berries
48. Best collection of herbs (minimum of 5 fresh cut and displayed in basket)
49. Best 3 apples (any variety)
50. Best Youth Garden display (ages 12 or under) (8 or more items produced this year)
51. Best Miscellaneous

**Field Crop: Must be grown by exhibitor**

52. Best exhibit of Alfalfa Hay (1 bale)
53. Best exhibit of Legume and grass mix (other than alfalfa, - 1 bale)
54. Best entry of Burley tobacco plant (potted)

**Clothing 2026**

**Specific rules:**

- All exhibits are to be made by the exhibitor. Entries must be in name of person who Made the article.
- If possible and applicable item should be on a coat hanger. • Articles must be clean.

55. Best dress.
56. Best special occasion clothing
57. Best decorated clothing (includes sweatshirts, tee shirt, vest)
58. Best doll clothes
59. Best miscellaneous clothing article

**Hobbies and Crafts 2026**

**Specific rules:**

- All exhibits are to be completed by exhibitors

- Entries must be made in name of the person who made the article.

60. Best collection hobby (under 16 years, i.e., baseball cards, arrow heads, etc.)
61. Best creative hobby (under 16 years of age)
62. Best model car (under 16 years of age)
63. Best handmade jewelry item
64. Best miscellaneous

**ART**

**Specific rules:**

- All pieces must be suitably framed or mounted with a fixture (wire or hooks). Pieces that are not ready to hang will NOT be accepted.
- All works must be original (except for preschool category)
- Last school grade completed should be guideline for entering categories.

**ART Classes:**

**Preschool division:**

65. Coloring - a pre-printed page on which preschool age child has used coloring crayons to complete an entry.
66. Original drawing

**1-3 grade division:**

67. Pencil drawing
68. Color drawing (crayons, markers, pencils)

**4-6 grade division**

69. Pencil drawing
70. Color drawing (crayons, markers, pencils)
71. Watercolor
72. Acrylic

**7-8 grade division:**

73. Pencil drawing
74. Color drawing
75. Watercolor
76. Acrylic

**9-12 grade division:**

77. Pencil drawing (black and white)
78. Ink drawing

- 79. Charcoal drawing
- 80. Color drawing
- 81. Acrylic painting

**Adult division**

- 82. Charcoal drawing
- 83. Acrylic painting
- 84. Oil painting

**Photography Specific Rules:**

- All pieces must be suitably framed or mounted with the proper fixtures (wire or hooks). Pieces that are not ready to hang will NOT be accepted
- All works must be original (except preschool category)
- Photography entries may be any size
- Last school grade completed should be guideline for entering categories

**Photography; preschool division :**

- 85. Photography black and white
- 86. Photography color

**Photography: 1-3 grade division:**

- 87. Photography black and white
- 88. Photography color

**Photography: 4-6 grade division:**

- 89. Photography black and white
- 90. Photography color

**Photography: 7-8 grade division:**

- 91. Photograph black and white
- 92. Photograph color

**Photography: 9-12 grade division:**

- 93. Photograph black and white
- 94. Photograph color

**Photography: adults division:**

- 95. Photography black and white
- 96. Photography color

**QUILTS 2026**

**Specific rules:**

- Entries must be entered in the name of the person who made the article.
- Only completed projects will be accepted
- Articles must be clean

**Classes:**

- 97. Best hand pieced machine quilted quilt
- 98. Best machine pieced hand quilted quilt
- 99. Best machine pieced machine quilted quilt
- 100. Best miscellaneous quilted item

**TEXTILES 2026**

**Specific rules**

- All exhibits are to be handmade by the exhibitors.
- Entries must be made in name of person who made the article.
- Only completed projects will be accepted. Articles should be clean.

**CROCHET DIVISION - Classes**

- 101. Best afghan
- 102. Best adult clothing piece
- 103. Best child clothing piece
- 104. Best baby afghan
- 105. Best miscellaneous item

**KNITTING DIVISION - Classes**

- 106. Best afghan
- 107. Best adult clothing piece
- 108. Best child clothing piece
- 109. Best baby afghan
- 110. Best miscellaneous item

**NEEDLEPOINT DIVISION - Classes**

- 111. Best picture
- 112. Best pillow
- 113. Best miscellaneous item

**COUNTED CROSS STITCH DIVISION - Classes**

- 114. Best picture
- 115. Best pillow
- 116. Best miscellaneous item

**SEASONAL ITEMS DIVISION -Classes**

- 117. Best Christmas stocking
- 118. Best tree skirt
- 119. Best Christmas wreath
- 120. Best miscellaneous item

**MISCELLANEOUS TEXTILES - Classes**

- 121. Best pillow case
- 122. Best home furnishing
- 123. Best afghan
- 124. Best miscellaneous item

**FLOWERS AND PLANTS 2026**

***This is not a Bardstown Garden Club Show***

**GENERAL RULES:**

- For non-professionals only (no florists, greenhouse workers, nurserymen, or their employees.)
- Fresh plant materials may not be treated in any way (i.e. waxing, oiling, etc.) NO artificial materials are permitted.
- Design must be the work of the exhibitor.
- All entries in the Design category must be placed by exhibitor.
- An exhibitor winning a Blue Ribbon in a class one year is barred from exhibiting the same article in the class at any subsequent year.
- Awards will be withheld if not merited.
- Exhibitors in Design are not required to grow their plant material. Flowers and plant materials may be purchased from stores or markets (except where specified).

**SPECIFIC RULES:**

- No wider or deeper than 18", no height limit.
- Altered foliage or flowers permitted.

**CLASSES #151-158 MUST BE ALL FRESH PLANT MATERIALS.**

- 151. Traditional design for entrants who have not won a blue ribbon previously.
- 152. Design in a basket
- 153. Design using native plants 154. All foliage designs.
- 155. Design incorporating vegetable(s) and /or fruit(s) 156. Design with a Kentucky Theme.
- 157. Design of choice.
- 158. Small fresh design (no taller or wider than 8")

**CLASSES #159-160 must use only dried plant material.**

- 159. Design using all wild dried materials OR mixed wild and cultivated dried plant material.

**ARTISTIC DESIGN**

160. Miniature design with dried materials (no taller or wider than 5")

**CLASSES #161 - 165 may use dried and/or fresh plant materials.**

161. Design using a household item.  
162. Design of choice by a youth 8-14 years of age  
163. Design using a "holiday" theme (Christmas, Easter, Halloween, 4th of July, etc.)  
164. Design in a cup or mug.  
165. Creative design using PINK flowers.

**HORTICULTURE DIVISION**

**SPECIFIC RULES**

- All plant material must be fresh and grown by the EXHIBITOR.
- Plants must be in possession of exhibitor for least 90 days before the fair.
- Specimens should have the common and/or botanical name. Scientific naming of specimens encouraged and given more weight in judging.
- An exhibitor is permitted 1 entry per class.
- Cut specimens must be displayed in clear bottles, with no underwater foliage. Wedging permitted. Plant material and containers should be in good proportion with no wording on the bottle.
- Plants/containers clean and well maintained. Maximum pot diameter - 10".
- Specimen = 1 type of plant. Specimens = more than one type plant.

**CLASSES:**

166. 1 long stem hybrid tea rose w/foilage  
167. 1 Miniature rose w/foilage.  
168. 1 Rose specimen (any other rose) w/foilage; other than above.  
169. 3 petunias w/foilage  
170. 1 Large Zinnia (w/foilage)  
171. 3 small Zinnias (w/foilage)  
172. 1 Large Gladiola (Stem as long as possible)  
173. 1 Miniature Gladiola (Stem as long as possible)  
174. Large Marigold (w/foilage)  
175. 1 Small Marigold spray (w/foilage)  
176. 1 Stem Day Lily  
177. 1 Stem Ornamental Lily (Oriental, Asiatic, Calla)  
178. 1 Specimen of Hydrangea with foliage  
179. 1 Stalk Coleus  
180. 1 Sunflower w/foilage  
181. Cactus Plant  
182. Succulent Plant(s) - maximum of 5 specimens in pot not to exceed 10" pot  
183. African Violet Plant  
184. Fairy Garden - may contain non-plant material elements for effect (i.e. figurines, miniature garden structures, etc.). Maximum of 5 specimens in pot not to exceed 12" pot or structure.  
185. Any other specimen **not listed.**