

Tom Green County 4-H 2024 Photography Contest

1. The TGC 4-H Photography contest is open to **ALL ENROLLED** 4-H Members.
2. All photos must be taken with a digital camera (smartphone cameras are included). Photo must be taken by participants between the dates of January 1, 2023 and the time of entry. Photos may be submitted only one time and in only one category. **You cannot enter any photo that you entered in the past. DO NOT enter the same photo in color and black and white.**
3. Cost of Entry: FREE
4. All submissions will take place via the County Webpage.
 - a. Clover Kid:
 - b. Junior & Intermediate:
 - c. Senior:
5. Number of Entries: Each 4-Her may enter **ONE** photo per category for a max of 15 photos entered.
6. Alterations: Color and Black & White photos are allowed in all categories. Although slight computer enhancements are allowed, such as cropping, minor adjustment of lighting, and red eye reduction; substantially altered photography, such as applying design styles, or using computer graphics will disqualify an entry. Any other alteration, manipulation, or edits to a photo would require the photo to be entered into the Enhanced category.
7. Text on Photographs: Photographs must not contain camera or user placed text. This includes such things as date stamps, comments, watermarks, or titles. Text or wording that is part of the original photograph (i.e. photo of a street sign, etc.) is acceptable.
8. Steps to Submit Photos
 - a. BEFORE UPLOADING: Make sure your pictures are labeled correctly.
 - i. lastname_firstname_agedivision_category
 - ii. EXAMPLE: meyer_hayley_cloverkid_animals-domestic
 - b. Go to <https://tomgreen.agrilife.org/photography-contest/>
 - c. Select the CORRECT age division.
 - d. Once you click on your age division and a new page will pull up. **FILL OUT ALL PORTIONS OF THE FORM.**
 - e. Make sure to use ONE FORM for all photos. **DO NOT** submit multiple forms.
 - f. Once you submit your form, you will receive a confirmation email of what you uploaded.
9. Submission Deadlines:
 - a. Clover Kids: April 24th
 - b. Junior & Intermediate: April 24th
 - c. Seniors: March 31st
10. Only **three photos/per category** will move on to the district contest. Junior and Intermediate kids are in one age division and are considered the junior division. There is no district contest for Seniors. Only **one** photo in each category will advance to the state contest for senior entries.

Please contact the office if you have any issues during this process.

Thanks,
Hayley Meyer
CEA 4-H & YD

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2024 Photography Contest Categories

ANIMALS - DOMESTIC

Photos focusing on the various animals that have been tamed and made fit for a human environment. To be considered domesticated, the animal must have their behavior, life cycle, or physiology systemically altered as a result of being under human control for many generations.

Examples: Chickens, cows, dogs, cats, hamsters, horses, pigs, sheep, goats, etc. All waterfowl (ducks and geese) should be entered in Animals - Wildlife.

ANIMALS - WILDLIFE

Category focuses on animals not typically tamed or domesticated and commonly found in the wilderness or bodies of water throughout the country and world. Photos can be of wildlife in nature, zoos, and/or petting zoos.

Examples: Birds, deer, elephants, snakes, whales, etc.

CATCH-ALL

Photos that do not fit into one of the other categories.

Not allowed: A duplicate photo also entered in another category.

DETAILS & MACRO

Getting in close is the name of the game for this category. The goal is to zoom in close on an object to see its finer details or to make small objects appear life-sized or larger than we do not normally get to see with the naked eye.

Examples: Insect eyes, veins on a leaf, a reflection in a water droplet, etc.

ELEMENTS OF DESIGN

Images use of graphic elements of design. Photos that showcase line, shape, pattern, form, texture, perspective, etc. Photo can consist of any subject matter.

Examples: Line, pattern, perspective, shape, etc.

Not allowed: Digital creations or graphic designs made in software such as Photoshop, InDesign or Illustrator.

ENHANCED

A single photo that has been technically manipulated to be an abstract, panoramic, stitched or composite image. Other variations are allowed as well.

Examples: Software edited composites and creations, images greatly manipulated with a variety of filters, photos with artistic borders, photos stitched into a panoramic, etc.

FOOD

A still life specialization of photography, aimed at producing attractive photographs of food for use in such items of advertisements, packaging, menus and/or cookbooks.

Examples: Cakes/pies, Easter eggs, fruits and place settings, ingredients, sandwiches, Thanksgiving dinner, etc.

Not allowed: A photo of alcohol beverages.

LANDSCAPE & NATURE (NON-ANIMAL)

The focus of this category includes landscapes, outdoor scenics, nature images, sunsets, urban landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, and farms. Images focus on the beauty of the outdoors.

Examples: Gardens/landscapes, outdoors, scenics, etc.

Not allowed: Primary subject is a person or wildlife.

LEADING LINE

This image composition technique features lines that draw the viewer's eye from point A to point B, which is the primary subject.

Example: A river that begins in the foreground and draws your attention to a photogenic bridge in the background.

LONG EXPOSURE

Also known as time-exposure or slow-shutter, this technique involves using a long-duration shutter speed. It can be used to sharply capture stationary elements of an image while blurring, smearing, or obscuring the moving elements. It is also used in low-light conditions.

Examples: fireworks, moving water, light trails, Milky Way, light painting, night or low-light conditions, etc.

MOTION/ACTION

The capture of movement within a single photo. The subject appears stopped or "frozen".

Examples: Ferris wheel spinning, sporting events, horse running across a field, etc.

PEOPLE

Photos focus from all walks of life, parenting and family, children, babies, models/fashion, sports, and couples. All individuals in the photos must have provided consent and permission as a subject. If requested, a release will be needed from the photographer and subject.

Examples: Babies, families, kids, portraits, models/fashion, etc.

PLANT/FLORA

Photos of interesting, unique, and beautiful flowers and flora. Photography can occur outdoors or indoors. Photo subject should be that of a single flower, plant, bush, tree, etc. Large collections of plant/flora should be considered for entry into the Landscape & Nature category.

Examples: A rose, an upward shot of a tree, etc.

SHADOW/SILHOUETTE

A silhouette is an outline that appears dark (typically a single color) with little or no details/features against a brighter background. Recording patterns of light and shade for a desired effect or emphasis is the definition of a shadow. The silhouette or shadow must be the primary subject and focus of the image.

Examples: shadows/silhouettes of people, plants, animals, structures, architectures, or natural structures.

Not allowed: reflections

THEME (New)

The 2023-2024 theme is "Abandoned". Photographs capturing the essence of forgotten or neglected places, things, or structures; emphasizing its worn and forsaken nature.

Please take all necessary safety precautions around abandoned buildings/structures.

It is extremely important that 4-H members, project leaders, parents, and County Extension Agents review the descriptions of each category very carefully. Do not enter photographs into categories that are duplicates from other categories or ones that do not clearly meet the category description. Photographs that do not meet the description of the category will be disqualified.