

Photography

2025 Exhibitor's Handbook



*Creative Living at the
Oregon State Fair*

PHOTOGRAPHY

Notable in 2025 for Photography Exhibit

New in 2025! America 250 – Special non-juried division celebrating America’s 250th

There is no entry fee and no digital image needed for this exhibit which is open to any photographer. Certain criteria must be met to be eligible for display. (See Divisions pages.)

Location for Visual Arts

Visual Arts, including the Photography Exhibit will again be in Cascade Hall. Entries will be delivered to Cascade Hall and displayed there during Fair.

New Rules Regarding AI (artificial intelligence) – AI-generated images are not photography. A photograph captures light on a sensor or film, it is a record of a physical moment. All photographs entered must be made with a camera. See specific Department rules for more information.

2025 PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION CALENDAR

Online Registration Opens:	Monday, May 19
<u>General Photography & Oregon Award</u>	
Online Entry Deadline:	Monday, July 14, 10 pm
Email <u>notification of acceptance</u> sent:	No later than July 25
<u>Teen & Junior & America 250</u>	
Online Registration Deadline:	Wednesday, August 6, 10 pm
<u>Deliver Accepted General and Oregon Award Entries</u> and	Friday, August 8, 2 pm to 7 pm
<u>All America 250 & Teen & Junior Entries:</u>	Saturday, August 9, 10 am to 2 pm

Enter through **Red Gate on 17th Street** and follow signs to Cascade Hall.

Bring a copy of your online registration receipt (see instructions next page).

Oregon State Fair Dates: **Friday, August 22 – Monday, September 1**

Pick up entries: **Tuesday, September 2, 2 pm to 7 pm**
Wednesday, September 3, 10 am to 2 pm

By submitting an entry into the Fair, exhibitors agree to abide by all rules, regulations and entry requirements of the Fair and of the department(s) to which they are submitting entries.

It is important that exhibitors read and be familiar with the General Rules as well as the Competition Rules in this Handbook.

The Oregon State Fair uses ShoWorks, a user-friendly online entry program that can be trusted to accurately enter you into our competitions and allows for efficient communications via email.

Names, addresses, titles, etc. will be used **exactly as entered** for title tags and payment of awards. Pay attention to accuracy and enter information as you would like it displayed.

General Photo and Oregon Award entries will be juried for inclusion in the exhibit. **Exhibitors will be notified by Email no later than July 26** and will only need to deliver those that have been accepted for display. **The fee for these Divisions is non-refundable.**

ONLINE ENTRY AND REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

ONLINE ENTRY OPENS May 19, 2025

Read the complete rules, division descriptions and entry information in this Handbook **BEFORE** going to online Registration.

1. Then go to <https://oregonva.fairwire.com>
2. Click **Sign In**.
 - Choose "Exhibitor" from the drop-down menu
 - To Register, enter your First and Last Name and indicate "New" or "Previously Registered" (for return visits).
 - Fill in requested information, including email and password (write password down). Click **Continue**.
 - Select **Department** ex.: Photography
 - Select a **Division** ex.: General Photo, Div. 120
 - Select a **Class** ex.: Class 1202 Color Prints
 - Fill in all information for class(es) you are entering, including brief description if needed.
3. **General Photography and Oregon Award entries must upload their photos for jurying. File size is limited to 8 MB or less with a minimum of 2 MB.** Acceptable formats are .jpeg, .gif, .bmp, .png **only**. After payment of fees a notification will appear. Click "Upload Files" then click "Choose File" and choose a saved image from your computer. Click "Open" and confirm the thumbnail to the right of the title is correct photo, then Click "Upload". When progress reaches 100% and Upload Complete, click "Next" and repeat steps for each entry.
4. **Teen and Junior entries:** Complete the registration process. No image upload is necessary.
5. When all your information is complete, click Add Entry to Cart and follow instructions to check out. (NOTE: If you think you may want to modify your entries, you may save your current session and check out at a later session. Be sure to Check Out before the closing date listed for your department; entries are not submitted to the Fair office until the check-out process is complete.)
6. Fill in "yes" at the statement to agree to all the terms and conditions of entry as defined in this Handbook.
7. Click Submit.
8. Please print and bring a copy of your detailed online entry receipt with your entries when you bring them to the Fair.

Please contact us with any questions. 971-701-6571 or email

entries@oregonstatefair.org

GENERAL RULES

1. Oregon State Fair (OSF) competitions are open to residents of Oregon only. Entries do not need to be entered or have won at a county fair to be eligible for any competition.
2. All articles must be the handiwork of the exhibitor and not been previously exhibited at the Oregon State Fair.
3. Online entries must be submitted by the date indicated within each Department Handbook. Information must be accurate and complete, and no paper applications will be accepted. See Department Rules regarding whether walk-ins are accepted during intake days
4. Entries must be delivered and removed only during the scheduled times. Any exception shall be at the discretion of OSF staff.
5. Entries will receive a claim check upon delivery. Exhibitor (or representative) must present claim check or valid Oregon ID when picking up entries.
6. Some competitions require an entry fee. See specific departments for fee and processing information.
7. OSF staff or a judge may disqualify or transfer any exhibit which is not a true representation of the category in which it is entered, if rules are not followed, or is considered offensive.
8. Judging is closed to the public unless otherwise noted. Every reasonable effort is made to secure highly qualified judges with expertise in their field.
9. Entries by OSF staff or judges are prohibited in the department in which they are working. They may enter other departments.
10. Ribbons and/or prizes will be awarded as warranted. All judges' results are final. Results cannot be provided over the phone but will be posted online when available. (www.oregonstatefair.org)
11. Protests may be submitted to the Creative Living office accompanied by a deposit of \$25 which will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained. Protests must plainly state the cause of the complaint or appeal and submitted within 24 hours of the action.
12. Ribbons and scorecards (as available) are provided with return of entries after Fair. See specific departments for return days.
13. OSF is authorized to use any and all photographs, video and or digital images related to the entry for promotional purposes.
14. Exhibitors shall indemnify OSF from and against all claims for damage to persons or property caused by them or their exhibits.
15. OSF will take reasonable precautions to ensure safety of exhibits while on the fairgrounds, but will not be responsible for loss, damage, theft or injury of any kind to exhibits or exhibitors, unless the loss or damage is due to the negligence of OSF staff and volunteers.
16. Exhibitors found in violation of rules, or to be in practices unethical or adverse to OSF, shall be penalized by forfeiture of awards and/or privileges, and removed from the exhibit.
17. Items not picked up by final return days of each department are forfeited by exhibitor and will be recycled or donated.

The Oregon State Fair reserves the final and absolute right to interpret any and all terms, conditions, rules and regulations contained in any and all parts of Department Handbooks and to settle and determine all matters, questions or differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with or incidental to the Oregon State Fair. OSF further reserves the right to determine unforeseen matters not covered by General or Competition Rules, and to withdraw award offerings in all Competitions should any emergency exist and circumstances demand.

DEPARTMENT RULES

The Photography Exhibit is open to all Oregon photographers who work in digital format or traditional film and alternative processes, including Polaroid transfers, hand-colored and platinum/palladium.

1. **All General Rules Apply.** Your submission indicates you have read and agree to abide by the General Rules and the Department Rules.
2. **A \$5 entry fee is required** for each photograph in **General Photography** and the **Oregon Award**. **This fee is non-refundable whether photos are accepted for display or not.**
3. General Photography and Oregon Award entries **will be juried by digital submission for inclusion in the exhibit and must be uploaded according to correct file and format** requirements as listed in instructions or risk possible disqualification. **No walk-ins are allowed for juried Divisions.**
4. **Entrants will be notified by email of the jurying results.** Accepted entries must be properly prepared and delivered to Cascade Hall according to the Calendar. No substitutions allowed.
5. **Limits:** In General Photography entrants may submit no more than two in each class, with a **maximum total of six (6) per person, including the Oregon Award.**
There is no entry fee for **Teens and Juniors and the limit is two entries per person, whether in the same class or two different classes. There is no entry fee for America 250 and the limit is one entry per person.** Photos will be displayed as space allows.
6. **In addition, Juniors and Teens** may enter General Photography and/or Oregon Award but **must pay the entry fee and submit their digital photographs** according to the Exhibition Calendar and follow file and format requirements.
7. Prints previously exhibited in the Photography Department at the Oregon State Fair (or those essentially the same) are ineligible.
8. The original image(s) must have been made by the entrant on film or acquired with digital film. Processing and printing may be done commercially or by the entrant.
9. No synthetic or artificially generated images are allowed, and no use of artificially generative fill is allowed in post-production. Any use of such tools will automatically result in disqualification.
10. We reserve the right to request original source files used in submitting work.
11. The use of smart tools, or AI-powered enhancement tools is possible within the competition rules, as long as these tools do not lead to significant changes to the image as a whole.
12. Each Class will be judged separately (Monochrome, Color, Panorama, Creative). Entrants must submit according to the definitions found on the Divisions Page.
13. No image may be entered more than once. Changing a color image to monochrome, adding a filter or alternate cropping does not create a new image.
14. By virtue of submission, the entrant certifies the work as their own and grants permission to reproduce any prints for publicity purposes, with credit given.
15. Photographs may be offered for sale during the Fair. Include your asking price (rounded to the nearest whole dollar) or mark price as \$0.00 during the online entry process. Sold Photos will remain on display for the entire Fair, then provided to the purchaser after Fair. OSF will retain a 30% commission, and the photographer's portion of the sale (70%) will be mailed within 30 days of the close of the Fair.
16. Incomplete entries (lacking information on back or entry fee) will not be accepted.
17. Photographs must be prepared according to the following Print Preparation guidelines.

Disclaimer

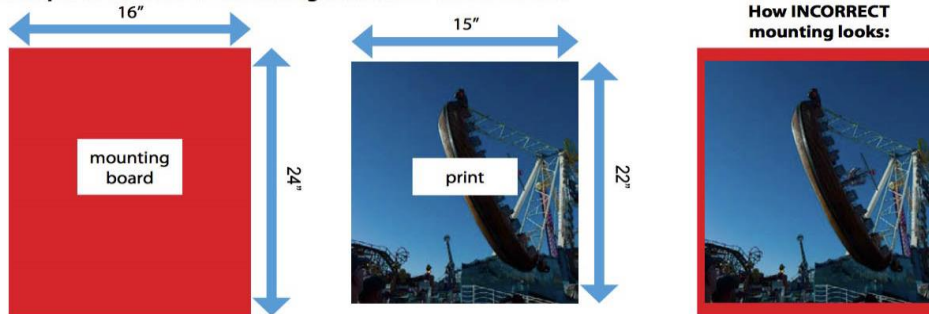
Although care and diligence will be exercised in handling entries, the Oregon State Fair is not responsible for any technical malfunctions, failures, omission, interruption or defect of any entries. Exhibitors shall hold State Fair and its officers harmless and indemnify them against any legal proceedings arising from such accident or loss. Furthermore, Insurance is the responsibility of the exhibitor. The Oregon State Fair does not insure exhibits and is not responsible for any loss, damage or theft of entries even if the loss, damage, or theft occurs as the result of the handling of the exhibit by staff, volunteers, contractors and/or visitors.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINT PREPARATION

1. Minimum print size must be at least 8 x 10 inches for all images other than panorama, and the overall dimensions of mounted prints must NOT exceed 16 x 24 inches (Teen and Junior prints must NOT exceed 11 x 14 inches). **No mats are allowed.**
2. Panoramas should be a 3:1 ratio with a minimum print size of 6 x 18 inches and maximum print size of 12 x 36 inches
3. Photographs must be printed on photo paper. Do not deliver entries printed on canvas, metal, board or other materials other than photo paper (gloss or matte).

Mounting must **not** exceed print dimensions and prints must **not** have an overlying mat.

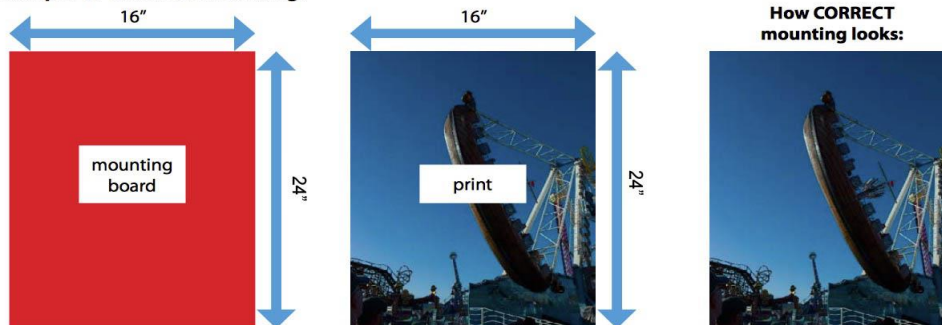
Example of INCORRECT mounting that is NOT ACCEPTABLE:



The example above would be disqualified. The mount board is larger than the print and is not considered a "flush mount."

Prints entered in our exhibition require **FLUSH MOUNTING**. Flush mounting means that the mounting board is the exact same size as the photographic print.

Example of CORRECT mounting:



Regardless of the size print that is entered, the mounting board and the print must be the same dimensions. So, if the print measures 8" x 11¼" it must be mounted on a board that measures 8" x 11¼".

4. All photographs must be mounted on Illustration or Crescent mat board or foam core – backing must not exceed a thickness of ¼". **Do not use poster board.** For mounting photographs: Dry Mount or Spray adhesive. Do NOT use double sided tape.
5. NO metal, wood, Masonite, or dense mat board, as weight is an issue with our hanging method.
6. NO framed, glass-covered, shrink-wrapped entries.
7. NO hanging devices or protrusions on back or front; NO saw tooth hangers.
8. NO information on the front of the photograph.
9. Exhibits must be properly labeled on the back with artist's name, contact phone number, email, title of work, division and class entered and the asking price – **on the back only**. Place label in the **upper center of the back of the photo** so as to indicate the desired display orientation. The Fair will be attaching a small Velcro dot in each corner for hanging and a permanent label will be placed on the upper right-hand corner to be used in judging.

PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISIONS & CLASSES

DIVISION 120 GENERAL PHOTOGRAPHY (\$5 entry fee per photograph)

Submit digital image by July 15 for jurying for acceptance into show

No more than 2 per class, and a maximum of 6 per person

- CLASS** 1201 Monochrome Prints
1202 Color Prints
1203 Altered Reality
1204 Panorama

DIVISION 121 TEEN PHOTOGRAPHY

Age 13 -18 (no fee)

- CLASS** 1211 Monochrome Prints
1212 Color Prints

DIVISION 122 JUNIOR PHOTOGRAPHY

Age 12 & younger (no fee)

- CLASS** 1221 Monochrome Prints
1222 Color Prints

DEFINITIONS

Monochrome – Must give the impression of having no color (i.e. contains only shades of grey) OR it gives the impression of being a greyscale image that has been toned in one color across the image (i.e. Sepia, red, gold, etc.). Images modified by partial toning, multi-toning or by inclusion or spot coloring are Color.

Color – Includes traditional color prints, hand colored, selective color and those with more than one color.

Altered Reality – The image should depart from a scene viewed through a camera lens i.e., obviously manipulated or modified during or after exposure. All elements must be of the photographer's own making and must have a photographic base with no clip art or drawing. This category does not include images whose sole creativity is infrared, wide angle, monochrome, High Dynamic Range (HDR), or fish eye.

Panorama – may be either color or monochrome, cannot exceed 12 x 36 inches, and should be a 3:1 ratio.

DIVISION 123 - OREGON AWARD

(\$5 entry fee Limit 1 (one) entry per person

Celebrate Oregon!

Entries must clearly represent Oregon to be eligible.



A general beach scene does not qualify, but a beach image of Haystack Rock does.

Consider subjects such as Oregon's landmarks, culture and commodities.

During registration provide a brief explanation why your image qualifies.

DIVISION 124 – AMERICA 250

Limit 1 (one) entry per exhibitor, no fee

SPECIAL EXHIBITION –AMERICA 250 Photographs that clearly represent American History, Heritage or Traditions

Entries must follow standard competition rules and should remain non-political and free of trademarked or commercial imagery.

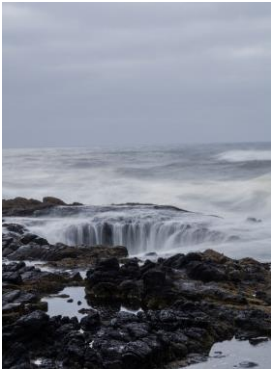
Ribbon awards to First Place and up to two Honorable Mentions

No entry fee (limit: 1 entry)

Samples of Altered

Before

After



PHOTOGRAPHY JUDGING

- All photographs accepted for display will be judged on a point scale to determine which are eligible for Awards. The decision of the judges is final.
- Award winners will be notified before Fair and will be posted online.

Tips to consider in selecting your photographs:

IMPACT: Choose photos that are unique, that “grab” the viewer, has interest and draws the viewer in. If the photo is of a typical subject such as sunsets or cats, it must be a very unique and creative presentation to score well.

FOCUS: Make sure the photos you choose are in sharp focus unless a blur is desired for creative effect.

COMPOSITION: Pay attention to composition. Key element(s) of the photo should stand out immediately.

Thank you to **Nate Woods and Focal Point Photography** for providing additional prizes to our award winners!



Peoples' Choice: \$250 Focal Point Gift Card

General Photography:

Best of Division - \$200 Focal Point Gift Card

4 First Places – \$100 Gift Certificate

4 Second Places – \$75 Gift Certificate

4 Third Places – \$50 Gift Certificate

Teens and Juniors:

Best of Division - \$30

4 First Places - \$20 each

4 Second Places - \$15 each

4 Third Places - \$10 each