

# 4-H VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITS



## What's the judge looking for?

### For all exhibits, be prepared to explain:

- 1) What did you plan to learn or do? (What was your exhibit goal(s)?) The goal should be well-defined (using visual arts terms) stating what you wanted to learn or show by creating the exhibit.
- 2) What steps did you take to learn or do this? Explain what you wanted to do so it is easily understood.
- 3) What were the most important things you learned? Did you learn new skills?

### The judge will consider the following items when evaluating your exhibit:

- Did you explain decisions made as you worked on your exhibit? Did you explain your processes?
- How the use of design elements and art principles help achieve your exhibit goal(s). See Design Elements and Art Principles Tip Sheet.
- Appropriate use of medium—the exhibit should look as though it were made of that medium (paper, clay, leather, etc.) Can the exhibit be used successfully for the intended purpose? Does "form follow function?"
- Condition of materials -- the materials should be the best you have at hand. Are they clean and fresh or undamaged before being used to make the product?
- Finishing techniques -- is the exhibit ready for use? Have proper finishing techniques for hanging or displaying, been used? Is it neat?
- Care and durability—were cleaning processes and durability over time considered before product was created? Have these factors influenced selection of materials, design, and finishing techniques? Is the product properly cleaned before exhibiting?
- Design sources were included. Permission obtained to use copyrighted materials.
- If original art, does the work show originality and creativity?
- If exhibit is exploring a technique, steps to learn the technique are described. Consider using a portfolio to show your practice learning the technique

**4-H**  
GROWING TOGETHER



## Visual Arts Resources

- [Color Wheel](#) (4H 633)
- [Design: Exploring the Elements and Principles](#) (4H 634)
- [Celebrate Art Level 1](#) (4H 635A)
- [Art in Your Future Level 2](#) (4H 635B)
- [Visual Art Leader Guide](#) (4H 635 LDR)
- [Sketchbook Crossroads; Drawing, Fiber and Sculpture](#) (4H 638A)
- [Portfolio Pathways: Painting, Printing and Graphic Design](#) (4H 638B)
- [National 4-H Visual Arts](#) online resources

## Other Resources

- ISU Extension Copyright rules  
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hfiles/statefair/SFDocuments/SF1UseofCopyrightVI010401.pdf>
- Copyright Kids [www.copyrightkids.org](http://www.copyrightkids.org)
- Art Junction [www.artjunction.org](http://www.artjunction.org)
- Imagination Factory [www.kid-at-art.com](http://www.kid-at-art.com)
- Artcyclopedia [www.artcyclopedia.com/](http://www.artcyclopedia.com/)
- The Exploratorium on the Web [www.exploratorium.edu/](http://www.exploratorium.edu/)
- The Smithsonian [www.si.edu/](http://www.si.edu/)
- Des Moines Arts Center [www.desmoinesartcenter.org/](http://www.desmoinesartcenter.org/)
- 4-H Visual Arts Online <http://new.4-hcurriculum.org/projects/visualarts/>