Poster Exhibit Evaluation Criteria

**Audience**
- Did you consider the following characteristics of your audience as you prepared your poster?
  - Age
  - Urban or rural background
  - Background knowledge of theme
  - Ethnic background
- Where else (besides the fair) can you display your poster to communicate your message to your intended audience?

**Message**
- Headline, body copy
  - Is your message brief and direct? Have you used only key words or phrases to send one message?
  - Have you researched the theme enough to support the headline with accurate body copy and appropriate visuals?
  - Is the headline large enough or positioned on the poster so that it grabs the audience's attention? (On a 14 x 22-inch poster, the letters of the theme should be 1 1/2 to 3 inches high and 1/4 to 1/2 inch thick.
  - Is the lettering size, style and color easy to read? (Body copy letters should be 1/4 to 1/3 the height of the title letters.)

**Visuals: pictures, drawings**
- Does the visual appeal to your audience?
- Does the visual reinforce or carry through the message of your theme?
- Is the visual original, simple, compelling, to the point?
- Does not include any copyright design or material.
- Is the visual proportional to the size of your poster, headline and body copy?

**Layout**
- Does the poster look too crowded? (If less than 20% of the poster is open space, your poster may be too crowded.)
- Does the poster have a strong center of interest?
- Are the headline, visual and body copy (the three elements) balanced? (Layout balance is achieved by positioning the headline, visual and body copy and using blank spaces round those elements.)
- Does the poster use color, texture, shape and size in a pleasing combination?
- Can the poster, as assembled, withstand long periods of display?

**Overall Poster Appearance**
- Does your poster attract attention, focus interest on the theme, sell your audience on taking action?