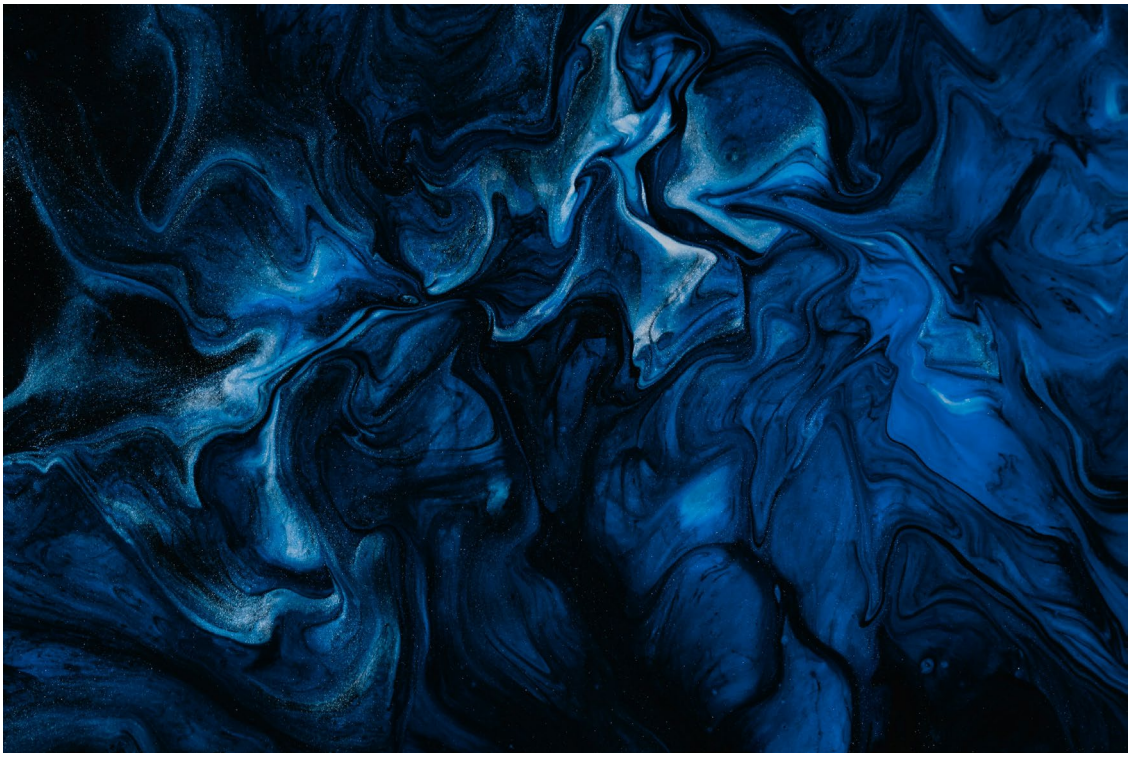
FINE ARTS

Open Division – Fine Arts
We highly encourage you to enter your artwork online at www.pimacountyfair.com. Get involved!

Price of Entries:
$4.00 per entry Professionals
$4.00 per entry Amateurs (18 yrs +)
$2.00 per entry Youth (8-17 yrs)
$2.50 per entry Senior Amateurs and Senior Professionals (65 yrs & up)

Theme:
Shades of Blue



Theme Description
Shades of Blue

Artists are encouraged to explore the many meanings, moods, and interpretations of the color blue. Whether inspired by Arizona's blue skies, flowing water, wildlife, turquoise treasures, personal reflections, emotions, or abstract imagination, exhibitors are invited to showcase their own unique interpretation of "Shades of Blue." From peaceful landscapes and vibrant desert skies to creative designs and expressive works of art, let the color blue inspire your creativity.

Ideas for Exhibitors

Artists may choose to interpret the theme in many ways, including but not limited to:

Nature & Landscapes

- Arizona blue skies
- Monsoon clouds and rain
- Oceans, lakes, rivers, and streams
- Waterfalls and reflections
- Mountains at dawn or dusk
- Blue wildflowers and desert blooms

Wildlife

- Bluebirds and other colorful birds
- Marine life
- Butterflies and insects
- Wildlife in natural, blue-toned environments

Arizona Inspiration

- Turquoise jewelry and gemstones
- Southwestern landscapes
- Desert sunsets with blue undertones
- Native-inspired designs and patterns

Emotions & Imagination

- Peace, serenity, and calm
- Dreams and imagination
- Hope and inspiration
- Reflection and personal growth
- Abstract interpretations of mood and feeling

Photography

- Blue hour photography
- Water reflections
- Storm clouds and weather
- Night skies and stars
- Architecture featuring blue elements

Abstract & Creative Interpretations

- Monochromatic blue compositions
- Mixed media using shades of blue
- Geometric patterns
- Texture and color studies
- Contemporary and experimental artwork

COLLAGE

DIVISION 1000- YOUTH
DIVISION 2000 – AMATEUR
DIVISION 2001 – AMATEUR – SENIOR
DIVISION 2002 – PROFESSIONAL
DIVISION 2003 – PROFESSIONAL – SENIOR

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
300	Abstract
301	Landscape
302	Plants / Flowers
303	Mixed Media
304	Still Life
305	Other - Collage

Create an artistic composition that is at least 50% collage.
Use various materials such as paper, cloth, wood, and more.
Your collage should have a rapid succession without transitions - a dynamic blend of elements.

DRAWING

DIVISION 1001- YOUTH
DIVISION 2004 – AMATEUR
DIVISION 2005 – AMATEUR – SENIOR
DIVISION 2006 – PROFESSIONAL
DIVISION 2007 – PROFESSIONAL – SENIOR

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
306	2D
307	3D
308	Charcoal
309	Colored Pencil
310	Conte Crayon
311	Mixed Media
312	Oil Pastel
313	Pen & Ink
314	Pencil
315	Scratch Board
316	Soft Pastel
317	Other - Drawing

Drawing media typically displayed under glass.

GLASS

DIVISION 1002- YOUTH
DIVISION 2008 – AMATEUR
DIVISION 2009 – AMATEUR – SENIOR
DIVISION 2010 – PROFESSIONAL
DIVISION 2011 – PROFESSIONAL – SENIOR

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
318	Blown Glass
319	Etched Glass
320	Stained Glass 2 Dimensional
321	Stained Glass 3 Dimensional
322	Other - Glass

GOURD ART

DIVISION 1003- YOUTH
DIVISION 2012 – AMATEUR
DIVISION 2013 – AMATEUR – SENIOR
DIVISION 2014 – PROFESSIONAL
DIVISION 2015 – PROFESSIONAL – SENIOR

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
323	Animals & Reptiles
324	Beaded Gourds
325	Birdhouses / Birdfeeders
326	Carved Gourds
327	Dolls made from Gourds
328	Flowers
329	Holiday
330	Jewelry, a large portion made from Gourd
331	Masks
332	Miniatures – 3” or smaller
333	Musical
334	Painting
335	Southwestern Design
336	Wood Burning must be Dominate
337	Woven
338	Other - Gourd Art

All work must be done by the exhibitor. Craft must be predominantly gourd (more than 80% gourd). Hard shell gourds must have stems, be mature and clean. Ornamental gourds need not have stems.

PORCELAIN AND CHINA

DIVISION 1004- YOUTH
DIVISION 2016 – AMATEUR
DIVISION 2017 – AMATEUR – SENIOR
DIVISION 2018 – PROFESSIONAL
DIVISION 2019 – PROFESSIONAL – SENIOR

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
339	Contemporary - Oriental, Dresden, Modernistic
340	Dolls - all parts must be made by the entrant
341	Embellished - Gold, Enamel, Luster
342	Landscape or Wildlife
343	Naturalistic - Floral or Fruit
344	Naturalistic - Portraits
345	Other - Porcelain and China

Designs must be original. Entries must be accompanied by display stands where appropriate.

WATER MEDIA

DIVISION 1005- YOUTH
DIVISION 2020 – AMATEUR
DIVISION 2021 – AMATEUR – SENIOR
DIVISION 2022 – PROFESSIONAL
DIVISION 2023 – PROFESSIONAL – SENIOR

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
346	Acrylic on Paper
347	Mixed Media
348	Watercolor
349	Other - Water Media

WOODWORKING

DIVISION 1006- YOUTH
DIVISION 2024 – AMATEUR
DIVISION 2025 – AMATEUR – SENIOR
DIVISION 2026 – PROFESSIONAL
DIVISION 2027 – PROFESSIONAL – SENIOR

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
350	Caricature
351	Kachina's Traditional or Contemporary
352	Miniatures (not to exceed 3 inches)
353	Relief
354	Sculpture
355	Wildlife
356	Wood Burning
357	Other - Woodworking

MISCELLANEOUS

DIVISION 1007- YOUTH
DIVISION 2028 – AMATEUR
DIVISION 2029 – AMATEUR – SENIOR
DIVISION 2030 – PROFESSIONAL
DIVISION 2031 – PROFESSIONAL – SENIOR

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
358	Clay Art with No Molds Used
359	Decorative Painting - Oil or Acrylic on Wood, Metal, Glass
360	Folk Art - Painting on Various Media
361	Jewelry
362	Bead Art
363	Sculpture
364	Other - Miscellaneous

OIL AND ACRYLIC PAINTING

DIVISION 1008- YOUTH
DIVISION 2032 – AMATEUR
DIVISION 2033 – AMATEUR – SENIOR
DIVISION 2034 – PROFESSIONAL
DIVISION 2035 – PROFESSIONAL – SENIOR

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
365	Acrylic
366	Mixed Media
367	Oil
368	Other - Oil and Acrylic Painting

Works painted on canvas, or a prepared ground displayed without glass.

QUILTS

DIVISION 1009 – YOUTH
DIVISION 2036 – AMATEUR
DIVISION 2037 – AMATEUR – SENIOR
DIVISION 2038 – PROFESSIONAL
DIVISION 2039 – PROFESSIONAL – SENIOR

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
369	Art Quilts - Original Design
370	Abstract or modern Quilts
371	Mixed Media Quilts
372	Nature - Inspired Quilts
373	People, Portraits & Storytelling
374	Miniature Art Quilts
375	Recycled or Upcycled Art Quilts
376	Other - Quilts

PHOTOGRAPHY

DIVISION 1010- YOUTH
DIVISION 2040 – AMATEUR
DIVISION 2041 – AMATEUR – SENIOR
DIVISION 2042 – PROFESSIONAL
DIVISION 2043 – PROFESSIONAL – SENIOR

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
377	Black & White - Animal
378	Black & White - Flowers / Plants
379	Black & White - Landscape
380	Black & White - People
381	Black & White - Pets
382	Black & White - Sports
383	Color - Animal
384	Color - Flowers / Plants
385	Color - Landscape
386	Color - People
387	Color - Pets
388	Color - Sports
389	Historical
390	Infrared
391	Masking Tape Collage
392	Mixed Media - Animal
393	Mixed Media - Flowers / Plants
394	Mixed Media - Landscape
395	Mixed Media - People
396	Mixed Media - Pets
397	Mixed Media - Sports
398	Raw Images
399	Sepia
400	Stain, Smudge and Erode Using Water
401	Stitched Vintage
402	Underwater
403	Comedy
404	Filters Digital Enhancements
405	Other-Photography

GENERAL RULES

No Business Cards: Business cards are not allowed on any entries.

Framing Requirements: All artwork must be properly framed and ready to hang using heavy-gauge picture wire. Glue, tape, sawtooth hangers, or other temporary hanging methods are not permitted. Canvas paintings that are not traditionally framed must have heavy-gauge picture wire securely attached to the stretcher frame with screws. Artwork that is not properly framed or does not meet hanging requirements may be refused at check-in. **This helps ensure artwork can be safely displayed throughout the fair.**

Canvas Paintings: Canvas paintings must have a wire screwed into the frame.

Content Restrictions: Due to the family-friendly atmosphere of the Fair, artwork containing nudity, explicit content, offensive material, or subject matter deemed inappropriate for general audiences will not be accepted for display. This includes artwork featuring profanity, graphic violence, hate speech, drug-related content, or other material considered unsuitable for a public exhibition attended by children and families.
The Fair reserves the right to refuse any artwork that does not meet these content standards.

Liability: The Pima County Fair and its agents assume no responsibility for loss, theft, or damage to any artwork during drop-off, display, pickup, or storage. Every precaution will be taken to guard against such loss or damage.

Original Work: Entries must be from an individual artist. All artwork previously submitted to the Pima County Fair is prohibited.

Size and Weight Limits: Entries cannot exceed 36 inches in any dimension or weigh more than 50 pounds.

Classification: Exhibitors are responsible for determining which class and division they wish to compete in. Improperly classified entries could be disqualified with no entry fee refund given.

Judging: Judging is closed to the public and all decisions are final.

Collection of Items: Due to lack of storage, items not collected within 2 weeks after the Fair will be donated or removed from the Fairgrounds.

Premiums/Cash Prizes: Premiums and cash prizes will be paid to the artist during the Fair or at the pickup of artwork. Cash vouchers must be redeemed no later than Monday, April 26, 2027.

Copyright Infringement: Copying work done by other artists is an infringement of copyright law, including other's photographs.

Quilt Size: All quilts must not exceed 102 inches by 116 inches (Queen size) in length or width. Provide a sleeve for hanging.

Glass Cases: We have limited glass cases available. Please call ahead and talk to Mica C,
the Competitive Entries Manager, at (520)762-9102 to check availability.

AWARDS AND RIBBONS

1st Ribbon
2nd Ribbon
3rd Ribbon
4th Ribbon
5th Ribbon
Merit Award
Best of Show $40.00
Best of Class $20.00
People's Choice $30.00

Cash Awards: Cash awards will be given as cash vouchers. Artists must collect these vouchers from the information desk inside Old Pueblo Hall located at the front entrance.
Cash vouchers must be redeemed no later than Monday, April 26, 2027.

Award Criteria:
Ribbons will only be awarded if the entry meets a standard of quality as determined by the judge. An entry must be deemed worthy to receive an award.

Judging System:
Entries will be judged using the American Judging System. Under this system, each exhibit is judged on its own merit against established standards of quality and excellence, rather than against other entries in the class.

Competitive Judging: Only entries selected for Best of Class, Best of Show, Themes and People's Choice will be compared against other entries.

Best of Class Guidelines:
15 or More Entries: Eligible for Best of Class award with a monetary prize.
3 to 14 Entries: May be awarded Best of Class title, without a monetary prize.
Fewer than 3 Entries: Not eligible for Best of Class recognition.

Merit Award: Presented to entries that demonstrate exceptional quality, creativity, and craftsmanship and deserve special recognition beyond standard placing awards.

Special Award
🏆 **Best Interpretation of the Theme – Shades of Blue**
Awarded to the exhibitor whose artwork best captures the spirit and creativity of the theme.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who are the judges?
Judges are selected based on their experience in the relevant category.

How does judging work?
Judging is closed to the public. Entries will be judged after they have been received and displayed. Judging will follow the American Judging System, and all decisions are final.

If you are interested in becoming a judge for the Pima County Fair, please contact Mica C, the Competitive Entries Manager, at 520-762-9102.

Why do we need to add the age of the teen or Youth exhibitor?
Age is required to ensure accurate judging

When will the pieces need to be delivered to the Fair?
Exhibitors are responsible for delivering their artwork to the Fairgrounds on:
11300 S Houghton Rd, Tucson, AZ 85747

Friday, April 09, 2027, from 3pm to 6pm
Saturday, April 10, 2027, from 10am to 4pm

Is my entry considered Fine Art or Home Art?
Fine Art: Visual art created primarily for aesthetic and intellectual purposes, judged for its beauty and meaningfulness. The artwork must demonstrate originality, artistic technique, and quality execution.

Home Art: Functional art, applied arts, crafts, and related items.

What are the requirements for my art exhibit?
Entries must not be larger than 36 inches in any dimension or weigh more than 50 pounds.
All artwork must be framed and wired, or if unable to frame, must have wire to hang.

How many pieces am I allowed to enter each year?
Each artist may enter a maximum of five pieces within each class.
Artists may not exceed a total of 30 items entered.

Where is my entry displayed?
The Fine Art Gallery is located at the Old Pueblo Conference and Event Center, down the hall on the right.

How will I know if I won an award or sold my piece?
Entries that have placed or received honorable mention will be displayed with the appropriate ribbon.
If your piece has been sold, you will be contacted by the Competitive Entries Manager.

DROP OFF ARTWORK

Exhibits can be dropped off and picked up at the Old Pueblo Conference and Event Center, Pima County Fairgrounds.

11300 S. Houghton Rd. Tucson, AZ 85747

Yes, someone else can drop off or pick up your artwork on your behalf. Just make sure they have all the necessary details and any required Entry Tag slip to ensure a smooth drop off and pick up process.

Drop off Schedule:

Friday, April 09, 2027: 3pm - 6pm

Saturday, April 10, 2027: 10am - 4pm

PICK UP OF RIBBONS & ARTWORK

Exciting News! You can now pick up your art and ribbons on the last day of the Fair.

Sunday, April 25, 2027: 4pm - 8pm (No drive-up access)

If you plan to pick up your artwork on Sunday, the last day of the fair, please note that an admission ticket and parking pass will still be required for each person to enter the fair and collect your artwork. You will not be able to retrieve your artwork without these purchases.

However, please note that you cannot drive up to the building on this day.

Alternatively, you can pick up your artwork on the designated drive-up days listed below without needing to purchase an admission ticket

Pickup Schedule:
Monday, April 26, 2027: 1pm - 5pm (Drive-up access available)

SALE OF ARTWORK

The Pima County Fair is excited to offer the opportunity for artwork to be sold during the event. Here are the guidelines:

Prices must be fixed, no ranges or negotiations.

Artwork is sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. Buyers must fill out a purchase form and pay the Entries Manager.

The Fair takes a 20% commission from the sale. The remaining amount will be given to the artist on the schedule pick up dates.

All Artwork that is sold may be taken on the day of purchase. As a result, the piece you are selling may not remain on display for the full 11 days of fair.

The Entries Manager is responsible for distributing the artwork.

Cash awards will be given as cash vouchers. Artists must collect these vouchers from the information desk inside Old Pueblo Hall located at the front entrance.
Cash vouchers must be redeemed no later than Monday, April 26, 2027

DIVISION DEFINITIONS

PROFESSIONAL
For artists working at a professional level. This includes those who teach or have taught art, participate in gallery exhibits or juried shows, and sell their work through stores, galleries, or arts & crafts fairs.

AMATEUR
For students or hobbyists who have never sold their artwork, except through the Fine Arts Department at the Pima County Fair.

YOUTH
Designed for young artists who are 17 years old or younger. Must be currently enrolled in elementary, middle or high school. This category encourages creative expression and skill development among emerging artists. Entries must be the original work of the student.

SENIOR
Designed for the Artist who meets the definition of senior citizen age requirement, 65 and older.

EXCLUSIVE EXHIBITOR PASS OFFER
This special opportunity is available only to those who enter artwork in the Pima County Fair Art Competition!
As a participating exhibitor, you may purchase up to two (2) Exhibitor Passes, each valid for all 11 days of the Pima County Fair.

YOUR EXHIBITOR PASS INCLUDES:
• Unlimited Fair admission for all 11 days, one complementary parking pass is included.
• The opportunity to visit your artwork throughout the Fair
• Access to exhibits, entertainment, attractions, and more all Fair long

EXHIBITOR PASS DETAILS:
• Cost: $30 per pass (Includes one complementary parking pass)
• Valid all 11 days of the Fair
• Limit two (2) passes per exhibitor

ADDITIONAL PARKING PASSES:
• Additional Parking passes may be purchased for $30 per vehicle, Valid for all 11 days of the Fair.
Limit two (2) passes per exhibitor.

With daily Fair admission valued at $13 per day, an 11-day Exhibitor Pass provides up to $143 in admission value for only $30 — a savings of up to $113 per pass!
This exclusive exhibitor benefit is not available to the public and is our way of thanking you for sharing your creativity and participating in the Pima County Fair Art Competition.
Checks or money orders should be made payable to the Southwestern Fair Commission, Inc. (SWFC).

FINE ART DROP-OFF & PICK-UP INFORMATION:
Artwork Drop-Off Times:
Friday, April 9, 2027, | 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Saturday, April 10, 2027, | 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Please make sure all the artwork is clearly labeled and delivered during the times listed above.

ARTWORK & RIBBON PICK-UP:
Sunday, April 25, 2027, | 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM 🚫 No drive-up access available.
Admission ticket and parking pass are required for each person entering the fairgrounds.

Drive-Up Pick-Up (No Admission Needed):
If you prefer not to enter the fair, we also offer a convenient drive-up pick-up day:
Monday, April 26, 2027, | 1:00pm – 5:00 PM ✅ Drive-up access available.
No admission or parking pass is required.

I assume all risks of loss or damage to exhibits from point of delivery until release after the Fair and agree to abide by all stated rules and regulations.

If you prefer to mail your entry, please send the completed form to:

SWFC Entries
11300 S. Houghton Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85747

Include the entry form and entry fees. Make checks or money orders payable to SWFC. Cash is also accepted.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mica at mica@pimacountyfair.com or fairentries@pimacountyfair.com. You can also call 520-762-9102.

FINE ARTS' ENTRY FORM

ENTRANT'S LAST NAME _____

FIRST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

CONTACT PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

All entry fees are non-refundable.
Youth: $2.00
Amateur or Professional: $4.00
Senior Amateur or Senior Professional (65 years or older): $2.50
Enter a sale price for your item ONLY if you plan to sell it.

#	Division No.	Class No.	Title of Entry	Sale Price of Artwork (optional)	Special Needs Y/N	Entering Theme Y/N	Entry fee
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							

Exhibitor Passes are good for all eleven (11) days of the Fair. (Includes one complementary parking pass) **$30 Each**
Additional Parking Pass are good for all eleven (11) days of the Fair. $30 Each
Passes for Main Gate Parking Only. Only 2 tickets may be purchased by each exhibitor

1 Ticket $30.00_____
2 Tickets $60.00_____
Parking $30.00_____

TOTAL:_____

I assume all risks of loss or damage to exhibits from point of delivery until release after the Fair and agree to abide by all stated rules and regulations.
I acknowledge that in the event of the artwork being sold, 20% commission will be given to the Fair and the balance of the purchase price will be paid to the artist.

Signature _____ **Date _____**