Massachusetts 4-H Program
State 4-H Photography Competition 2019

Purpose
The Massachusetts Photography Competition encourages self-expression and allows youth to demonstrate skills learned in the area of photography, including the use of photographic equipment and process of photography.

Objectives
- To develop life skills in composition, light, posing and awareness.
- To encourage 4-H members to use photography as a meaningful communication tool in their lives and as a possible career choice.
- To provide a photography project showcase opportunity for junior and senior 4-H members.

Resources
- 4-H Photo Kids – Level 1: Focus on Photography, Level 2: Controlling the Image, Level 3: Mastering Photography (available from National 4-H Supply www.4-hmall.org)
- School, Library and Website Photography Resources

2019 Categories and Class Descriptions

Class – Entries may be made from the following Categories in either black & white or color

Color: Photos taken with either emulsion film or digital cameras

Black & White: Photos taken with any camera, however they must be in gray-scale only (this class does not include antiquing, sepia-tone, and/or tinting – place these in Digital Darkroom)

Categories:

Action
Any person, animal or object in the process of action/sense of movement – either stop action or motion blur. Viewer should get a sense that there is movement in process.
Some examples include: horse jumping, swing of a baseball bat, waterfalls, wheels in motion

People
Must be primary focus and can have one or more persons in the photo

Domestic Animals
Farm animals, dogs, cats, those kept in your home as pets

Nature
Includes wild animals, forests, gardens, marine life, or objects of nature in their natural habitat

Landscape or Cityscape
Images focus on the large scope of the city for cityscape or land mass for landscape.
Examples include: mountains, city skyline, western plains, farm acreage

Waterscape
Primary focus must be water – may include boats, birds, people, etc. but as a smaller image
Examples include: lakes, rivers, ocean

In The News
Photograph should be from an actual newsworthy event that you have witnessed
Examples include: local public ceremony, fire, accident, town events, etc.

Formal Portrait
Planned posed photograph of one or more people inside or outside.

Still Life
Photography where (non-human/non-animal) objects are **pre-arranged and set up by the photographer for the purpose of taking the photograph** (composition does not occur naturally).
Examples include: violin with sheet music and a rose, bowl of strawberries and cream, cut flowers arranged in front of a window.

Night Photography
Photos taken outdoors between dusk and dawn. Generally these photos are achieved by using artificial light or using a long exposure. This category can include any subject as the focus and emphasis should be on the skill and technique used to acquire the photograph.
Examples include: fireworks, night street scene, night carnival, scene by moonlight

Digital Darkroom
Photos are digital art – images created or drastically altered in software like Adobe Photoshop. This is a category exclusively showcasing such art and may be of any appropriate subject matter. If the digital darkroom is the main attraction of the photo or plays a big part, enter it here. Does not include photographs altered just for red-eye reduction, enlargement, cropping or dodging and burning. Must include before photograph(s) and one after photograph – counted as one entry and a list of how the photograph was altered. No added items may be copied from another source other than the member's own work.
Examples include: Digitally altered composites and creations, images greatly manipulated with a variety of filters, changing facial features, removing unwanted items in photo, adding textures.

Favorite Photograph
May be taken of any appropriate subject matter, but may not duplicate any photograph entered in another category or class.

2019 Special Category: Silhouettes
Category includes photos highlighting a silhouette. All judging criteria applies.

> **2019 Competition Rules**

Please read the rules, awards, and photograph category sections carefully. If you have any questions contact 4-H educator, Sherrie Guyott at sguyott@umext.umass.edu or by calling 508-668-9795.

1. Limited to members currently enrolled in a Massachusetts 4-H club who are 8 to 18 years of age as of 1/1/19

2. Limited to photographs taken by the member since the last state photography competition (7/2/18 - 7/1/19).

3. You may enter up to 5 photographs from different categories of which a maximum of 3 may be from the "Color Class"

4. Only one photograph per Category/Class may be entered (ex. 4 photos entered – Color: 1 in animals, 1 in people, 1 in waterscape; Black and White: 1 in waterscape)

5. All photos sent must be unmounted and, except for panoramic photos, no smaller than 5 x 7" and no larger than 8 x 10". Feel free to crop within these ranges.

6. Photographs should be developed on quality photographic paper, without a date or other imprints on the front, and with no border around photograph. Photographs printed from home printers are usually not to best standards for state judging – using a professional print shop is recommended. All printing decisions must be decided by the member.

7. Photographs may only have red-eye removal, sharpening, cropping to enhance composition and/or may have dodging and burning to enhance exposure. For any other digital manipulation the photo must be entered in Digital Darkroom. Refer to that category for more information.

8. Photographs may not have been a part of a video with a photo edited out.

9. Each entry is to be submitted in a clear plastic sleeve (sheet protector). *On the back of the photo* place a sticky note to tell us what is the top of the photo. Place the following on a piece of paper and insert with
photograph in the sleeve – do not glue or tape to photo:

- Name of entrant
- Address
- Phone Number
- County, Region, and State of your primary 4-H club
- Age as of 1/1/19
- Division: Junior (8-13 years of age) or Senior Division (14-18 years of age)
- # of years entering MA State 4-H Photography Competition
- Class
- Category
- Title of photograph

10 All entries are to be postmarked by Monday, July 1, 2019
  Send to: Wendy Marcks, UMass Waltham Center, 240 Beaver St, Waltham, MA 02452

11. Photographs will be disqualified for incorrect size, same photograph entered in multiple categories or classes, for each color photo over the class maximum, more than one photo in any one class category, inappropriate or unsuitable photograph, or postmarked to Wendy Marcks after July 1, 2019. Point reductions will be taken for time stamp on front, borders, wrong subject matter for category, photos that are mounted or not including Digital Darkroom required photos and/or list when entering that category.

12. **Release of Liability**: The Massachusetts 4-H Program will not be held liable for missing, mislabeled, or damaged photographs. Big E Award winners' photographs will be digitally copied and may be used in publicity. Selected photographs may also be used for state 4-H notecards. By entry the 4-H member accepts this release.

Awards

- All entries will receive a ribbon, based on the Danish system, and judge's comments
- Blue ribbon entries in each Class and Category will be judged against other blue ribbon winners for 1st, 2nd, 3rd placement
- The junior and senior divisions will be judged separately
- Up to twelve photographs will be chosen from all of the accepted entries to go on to a non-competitive showing in the Eastern States Exhibition New England Center building during the *Big E* show days in September 2019. Photographs may be chosen from the junior or senior divisions.
- *Big E* winners' photographs will be digitally copied then mounted and laminated for exhibition according to Big E New England Center guidelines. Photographs for this award may not be returned.

All photographs ***not*** chosen for the Eastern States Exhibition will be available for pick-up from your regional 4-H office after September 20, 2019. Winners chosen for the Big E New England Center will be notified.

Impact

Impact is the sense one gets upon viewing an image for the first time. Compelling images evoke laughter, sadness, anger, pride, wonder, or another intense emotion.

Creativity

Creativity is the original, fresh expression of the child by using the photo to convey an idea, message or thought.

Technical Excellence

Technical Excellence is the print quality of the image itself as it is presented for viewing. Exposure, printing, correct color and digital darkroom manipulation such as retouching and manipulation are some items that speak to the qualities of physical print.

Composition

Composition is the pleasant arrangement of elements within a frame, which give the most powerful ability to attract the eye, and to keep it exploring within the frame for as long as possible; a visual process of organizing the elements and individual details of a scene into a balanced and pleasing arrangement.

Lighting

The use and control of light – refers to how dimension, shape, and roundness are defined in an image. Whether the light applied to the image is manmade or natural, proper use of it should enhance an image.

Focal Point

Focal point is the point or points on the image where the maker wants the viewer to stop as they view the image. There can be primary and secondary points of interest. Occasionally there will be no specific center of interest, when the entire scene collectively serves as the center of interest
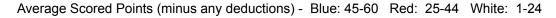
Massachusetts State 4-H Photography Score Sheet

Age as of 1/1/19 _____   Division (Jr/Sr) _____

Number of Years Entered in State Photography Contest _____

Class _____   Category _____   Title _____

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Best 10
Impact	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Creativity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Technical Excellence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Composition	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Lighting	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Focal Point	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Comments

Judge's Name _____

Score: Judge 1 _____   **Judge 2** _____   **Score Total** _____   **Average Score** _____

Point Deduction (taken after average) **- Reduced Score Total _____**

___ time stamp on front   ____ photos that are mounted   ____ borders

___ wrong subject matter for category   ____ Digital Darkroom requirements

Danish _____   **Placing** _____

Average Scored Points (minus any deductions) - Blue: 45-60   Red: 25-44   White: 1-24