

WESTERN KENTUCKY STATE FAIR HOME & GARDEN OPEN SHOW 2026

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS: Sarah Drysdale & Kelly Jackson

GRAND CHAMPION AWARDS: One entry in each division will be named Grand Champion and will receive a rosette ribbon and an additional \$10 premium.

SPECIAL AWARD: An engraved piece of silver will be awarded to the individual or team residing in Christian County or an adjoining county who earns the most blue ribbons.

Team and individual blue ribbons will be counted separately and may not be combined.

RULES:

- 1. Registration Deadline:** All entries must be pre-registered at www.FairEntry.com by **June 23, 2026**. No late or walk-in entries will be accepted.
- 2. Registration Assistance:** For help with registration or to confirm entries, contact the Christian County Extension Office at 270-886-6328 by **June 19, 2026**. Registration tags will not be printed at check-in.
- 3. Entry Delivery:** Entries must be delivered to the Western Kentucky Fairgrounds on **Wednesday, July 1, 2026**, between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.
- 4. Judging Time:** Judging will begin at 1:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, July 1**. Only superintendents and judges may be in the building during judging.
- 5. Entry Requirements:**
 - Items must be made or grown by the exhibitor unless entered in an antique category.
 - Only one (1) entry per class is permitted.
 - If a class exists for an item, it may **NOT** be entered in Miscellaneous.
 - Items that have previously won first prize at the Western Kentucky State Fair are not eligible.
- 6. Team Entries** are allowed; all team members must have worked together on the project.
- Management will use reasonable care to protect exhibits but assumes no responsibility for loss or damage.
- 8. Exhibit Pick-Up:** Exhibits must be picked up on **Friday, July 3 2026**, between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Items not picked up must be retrieved from the Christian County Extension Office (2850 Pembroke Rd., Hopkinsville) by **July 14, 2026**.
- 9. Premium Pick-Up:** Premiums will be available at the Extension Office during the week of **July 13-17** during regular business hours. Premiums not claimed by **July 17** will be forfeited.
- 10. Unclaimed Items:** Items not picked up by **July 14** will be donated or discarded.
- 11. Ribbon Awards:** Blue, Red, and White ribbons (1st, 2nd, and 3rd) will be awarded only if merited. Judges may adjust or withhold placements if standards are not met.

Important Dates

Entry Registration Deadline: **Tuesday, June 23, 2026**

Entry Check-In: **Wednesday, July 1, 2026, from 9:00am-12:00pm**

Entry Pick-Up: **Friday, July 3, 2026 from 8:00-10:00am**

FOODS

All food entries must be on a disposable plate and in clear re-sealable plastic bags.

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First.....\$6.00

Second.....\$4.00

Third.....\$3.00

CLASSES:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 100-00: Biscuits (3) | 100-23: Peanut Butter Cookies (half dozen) |
| 100-01: Angel or Yeast Biscuits (3) | 100-24: Brownies, Chocolate (4) |
| 100-02: Corn Meal Muffins (3) | 100-25: Brownies, Other (4) |
| 100-03: Other Muffins (3) please label | 100-26: Bar Cookies (4) please label |
| 100-04: Yeast Rolls (3) | 100-27: Other Cookies (4) please label |
| 100-05: Sweet Rolls (3) | 100-28: No Bake Cookies (4) please label |
| 100-06: Coffee Cake (half loaf) | 100-29: Pie Crust (quarter of crust) |
| 100-07: Loaf of Yeast Bread (half loaf) | 100-30: Pecan Pie (quarter of pie) |
| 100-08: Loaf of Whole Wheat or Whole Grain Bread(half loaf) | 100-31: Chess Pie (quarter of pie) |
| 100-09: Loaf of Vegetable Bread (half loaf) *nuts optional* | 100-32: Coconut Pie, French (quarter of pie) |
| 100-10: Loaf of Fruit Bread (half loaf) *nuts optional* | 100-33: Fruit Pie (quarter of pie) |
| 100-11: Sourdough bread (half loaf) | 100-34: Other Pie (quarter of pie) please label |
| 100-12: Chocolate cake (quarter of cake) | 100-35: Chocolate Fudge (6 pieces) |
| 100-13: Angel food cake, not iced (quarter of cake) | 100-36: Peanut Butter Fudge (6 pieces) |
| 100-14: Pound Cake, not iced (quarter of cake) | 100-37: Other Fudge (6 pieces) please label |
| 100-15: Spice or Jam Cake, iced (quarter of cake) | 100-38: Divinity (6 pieces) |
| 100-16: Prune Cake, iced (quarter of cake) | 100-39: Brittle (6 pieces) |
| 100-17: Cupcakes, iced (3) | 100-40: Dipped Candy (6 pieces) |
| 100-18: Best Decorated Cake | 100-41: Other Candy (6 pieces) please label |
| 100-19: Other Cake (quarter of cake) | |
| 100-20: Oatmeal Cookies (half dozen) | |
| 100-21: Sugar Cookies (half dozen) | |
| 100-22: Chocolate Chip Cookies (half dozen) | |

CANNING

1. Jars must be clean and lids free from rust or food product.
2. Check for proper head space.
3. All Entries must be home canned.
4. All entries must be in clear standard canning jar of suitable size.
5. All jars must have two-piece lids.
6. Entries must be labeled with product name, date of preparation, and processing method.
7. All entries must have been canned since July of last year.

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First	\$5.00
Second	\$4.00
Third	\$3.00

Do I really need to leave a certain amount of headspace in the jar?

Yes, leaving the specified amount of headspace in a jar is important to assure a vacuum seal. If too little headspace is allowed the food may expand and bubble out when air is being forced out from under the lid during processing. The bubbling food may leave a deposit on the rim of the jar or the seal of the lid and prevent the jar from sealing properly. If too much headspace is allowed, the food at the top is likely to discolor. Also, the jar may not seal properly because there will not be enough processing time to drive all the air out of the jar.

HEADSPACE GUIDELINES: These headspace recommendations come from the National Center for Home Food Preservation. When in doubt, please consult a recipe.

- Vegetables: Most vegetables require a one-inch headspace
- Tomatoes, Tomato Juice, Salsa: ½ inch
- Tomato Sauce: ¼ inch
- Tomato Ketchup, Tomato Relish: ⅛ inch
- Spaghetti Sauce: 1 inch
- Fruit Juices: ¼ inch headspace
- Fruit: ½ inch headspace
- Jellies, Jams, Preserves: ¼ inch headspace
- Applesauce: ½ inch headspace
- Apple Butter, Fruit Butters: ¼ inch headspace

CANNING CLASSES

JELLY CLASSES:

- 200-00: Apple Jelly
- 200-01: Blackberry Jelly
- 200-02: Cherry Jelly
- 200-03: Crabapple Jelly
- 200-04: Grape Jelly
- 200-05: Peach Jelly
- 200-06: Plum Jelly
- 200-07: Strawberry Jelly
- 200-08: Hot pepper Jelly
- 200-09: Other Jelly (please label)

JAM CLASSES:

- 200-10: Blackberry Jam
- 200-11: Strawberry Jam
- 200-12: Peach Jam
- 200-13: Other Jam (please label)

PRESERVES CLASSES:

- 200-14: Blackberry Preserves
- 200-15: Cherry Preserves
- 200-16: Peach Preserves
- 200-17: Pear Preserves
- 200-18: Strawberry Preserves
- 200-19: Other Preserves (please label)

OTHER CLASSES:

- 200-20: Butters/Spreads/Honeys (please label)
- 200-21: Pie Fillings (please label)
- 200-22: Sauces (please label)
- 200-23: Vegetable Soup Mix (no meat)

CANNED FRUIT & VEGETABLES:

- 200-24: Other Fruits (please label)

- 200-25: Apples
 - 200-26: Applesauce
 - 200-27: Blackberries
 - 200-28: Cherries
 - 200-29: Peaches
 - 200-30: Pears
 - 200-31: Other Vegetables (please label)
 - 200-32: Beets
 - 200-33: Black-Eyed Peas
 - 200-34: Purple-Hulled Peas
 - 200-35: Carrots
 - 200-36: Green Beans
 - 200-37: Lima Beans
 - 200-38: Peas
 - 200-39: Tomatoes, Red (boiling water or pressure canner)
 - 200-40: Tomatoes, Green (boiling water or pressure canner)
 - 200-41: Tomato Juice (boiling water or pressure canner)
 - 200-42: Other Juice (please label)
- ### **PICKLE CLASSES:**
- 200-43: Bread & Butter Pickles
 - 200-44: Dill Pickles
 - 200-45: Sweet Cucumber Pickles
 - 200-46: Pickled Beets
 - 200-47: Squash Pickles
 - 200-48: Pickled Peppers
 - 200-49: Pickled Okra
 - 200-50: Pickled Green Beans
 - 200-51: Other Pickled Foods (please label)
 - 200-52: Tomato Relish
 - 200-53: Squash Relish
 - 200-54: Tomato/Vegetable Salsa
 - 200-55: Other Relish (please label)

MARKETABLE SKILLS

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First \$6.00

Second \$4.00

Third \$3.00

300-00: Pillow (*any*)

300-01: Adult Clothing (any garment-machine or hand-sewn)

300-02: Baby Clothes (any garment-machine or hand-sewn)

300-03: Children's Clothes (any garment-machine or hand-sewn)

300-04: Purchased Clothing (*decorated by exhibitor*)

300-05: Doll Clothes (*3 outfits*)

300-06: Tote Bag or Purse

300-07: Hand-Knitted Scarves

300-08: Hand-Crocheted Scarves

300-09: Knitted or Crocheted Article (*no afghans, collars, doilies, scarves*)

300-10: Knitted or Crocheted Collar or Doily

300-11: Weaving

300-12: Ceramic Piece

300-13: Christmas Wreath

300-14: Christmas Decoration

300-15: Christmas Ornament

300-16: Holiday Decoration (*other than Christmas*)

300-17: Patriotic Article

300-18: Potholder

300-19: Decorated Wreath (*no Christmas*)

300-20: Decorated Hat

300-21: Photo Album (*cover*)

300-22: Photo Album and/or Scrapbook

300-23: Angels

300-24: Card-Making

300-25: Hand crafted Jewelry

300-26: Hand crafted Flowers

300-27: Barrettes, Bows & other Hair Accessories

300-28: Lamp Shades

300-29: Wood Crafts

300-30: Handmade Doll or Animal

300-31: Handmade Toy

300-32: Article from Recycled Product

300-33: Miscellaneous (only items that cannot be entered in another category)

300-34: Antique Craft Item (50 years or older: list approx. age)

300-35: Needlepoint on Plastic Canvas

300-36: Cross Stitch Article (*no framed pictures*)

300-37: Hand-Embroidered Article (*no framed pictures*)

300-38: Other Needlework (*no framed pictures*)

300-39: Drawing

300-40: Watercolor Picture

300-41: Acrylics

300-42: Oil Painting on Canvas

300-43: Hand Painted Gourds

300-44: Upcycled Fabric Item

300-45: Upcycled Clothing Item

JUNIOR MARKETABLE SKILLS: AGES 11-16

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First \$5.00
Second \$4.00
Third \$3.00

370-00: Holiday Decoration

370-01: Patriotic Decoration

370-02: Fabric Craft

370-03: Needlework or embroidery

370-04: Photo Album or scrapbook

370-05: Handcrafted Jewelry

370-06: Barrettes, Bows, & Other Hair
Accessories

370-07: Wood Crafts

370-08: Leather craft

370-09: Article from recycled product

370-10: Miscellaneous (only items that cannot
be entered in another category)

370-11: Drawing

370-12: Watercolor

370-13: Painting

370-14: Other Media

370-15: Upcycled Fabric Item

370-16: Upcycled Clothing Item

YOUTH MARKETABLE SKILLS: AGES 10 & UNDER

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First \$5.00
Second \$4.00
Third \$3.00

350-00: Holiday Decoration

350-01: Patriotic Decoration

350-02: Fabric Craft

350-03: Needlework or embroidery

350-04: Photo Album or scrapbook

350-05: Handcrafted Jewelry

350-06: Barrettes, Bows, & Other Hair
Accessories

350-07: Wood Crafts

350-08: Leather craft

350-09: Article from recycled product

350-10: Miscellaneous (only items that cannot
be entered in another category)

350-11: Drawing

350-12: Watercolor

350-13: Painting

350-14: Other Media

350-15: Upcycled Fabric Item

350-16: Upcycled Clothing Item

HOME FURNISHINGS

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First	\$8.00
Second	\$5.00
Third	4.00

HOME FURNISHING CLASSES:

- 400-00: Baby's Quilt
- 400-01: Quilt (pieced patchwork, hand-quilted, applique, embroidered, or cross stitch)
- 400-02: Quilt sewing machine quilted
- 400-03: Quilt, long arm quilted
- 400-04: Quilt-antique (50 yrs. or older, judged on beauty, age, condition-list approx. age)
- 400-05: Quilt (*other*)
- 400-06: Other quilted item
- 400-07: Afghan (knitted or crocheted)
- 400-08: Baby Afghan (knitted or crocheted)
- 400-09: Tablecloth
- 400-10: Crocheted or knitted tablecloth or bedspread
- 400-11: Hand-made or hand-embellished napkins (2)
- 400-12: Pillowcases (hand-made or embellished with embroidery, crocheted or lace trim)
- 400-13: Crewel picture (framed & matted by the exhibitor, any size)
- 400-15: Framed picture (framed & matted by the exhibitor, any size)
- 400-16: Counted cross-stitch picture (created, framed & matted by exhibitor-any size)
- 400-17: Stamped cross-stitch picture (created, framed & matted by exhibitor-any size)
- 400-18: Wall Hanging (*fabric or other*)
- 400-19: Antique handiwork (no quilts, 50 yrs. or older-list approx. age)
- 400-20: Homemade wooden items
- 400-21: Miscellaneous (only items that cannot be entered in another category)

PHOTOGRAPHY

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First	\$6.00
Second	\$4.00
Third	\$3.00

RULES:

1. Photographs need to be matted or mounted.
2. *NO FRAMED PHOTOS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR ENTRY.*
3. This is a competition for amateurs. Commercial enterprises or businesses are not eligible.
4. All entries must be photos taken by the exhibitors. Photos downloaded from the internet will be disqualified.

Photography competition is about the art of Photography NOT Photoshop (Class 16 is for advanced editing/Photoshop techniques). Basic editing techniques are acceptable for any of the normal classes. Some examples of basic editing include cropping, sharpening, dodging, burning, increasing color saturation, increasing contrast and removing dust spots. Be careful to NOT over-sharpen or over-saturate your photos. Photos must be from a single image. Objects from another photo CANNOT be added to your original image (apart from Class 16).

Colored Photographs

- 500-00: Posed People (Singles, Couples, Groups)
- 500-01: Candid People (Engaged In General Activities, Not Posed)
- 500-02: Places & Landscapes
- 500-03: Things & Still Life
- 500-04: Plants, Flowers & Trees
- 500-05: Animals, Insects & Wildlife
- 500-06: Agriculture Scenes (Barns, Crops, Livestock, General Farm Scenes)
- 500-07: Western Kentucky Landmarks

Black And White Photographs

- 500-08: B&W Posed People (Singles, Couples, Groups)
- 500-09: B&W Candid People (Engaged In General Activities, Not Posed)
- 500-10: B&W Places & Landscapes
- 500-11: B&W Things & Still Life
- 500-12: B&W Plants, Flowers & Trees
- 500-13: B&W Animals, Insects & Wildlife
- 500-14: B&W Agriculture Scenes (Barns, Crops, Livestock, General Farm Scenes)
- 500-15: B&W Western Kentucky Landmarks

Other Photographs

- 500-16: Anything Goes (Dramatically Computer Enhanced Or Radically Altered Photos-Color, B&W, Sepia, Combination)

500-17: Miscellaneous (Only Items that cannot be entered in another category)

JUNIOR PHOTOGRAPHY: **AGES 11-16**

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First \$5.00
Second \$4.00
Third \$3.00

JUNIOR PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES:

530-00: People (posed or candid)
530-01: Places & Landscapes
530-02: Things & Still Life
530-03: Plants, Flowers & Trees
530-04: Animals, Insects & Wildlife
530-05: Miscellaneous (only items that cannot be entered in another category)

YOUTH PHOTOGRAPHY: **AGES 10 & UNDER**

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First \$5.00
Second \$4.00
Third \$3.00

YOUTH PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES:

520-00: People (posed or candid)
520-01: Places & Landscapes
520-02: Things & Still Life
520-03: Plants, Flowers & Trees
520-04: Animals, Insects & Wildlife
520-05: Miscellaneous (only items that cannot be entered in another category)

FLOWERS

RULES:

1. All flowers must be home grown.
2. All arrangements must contain at least 50% living materials
3. No potted plants

FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First \$6.00
Second \$4.00
Third \$3.00

600-00: Gladioli

600-01: Roses

600-02: Marigolds

600-03: Zinnias

600-04: Daylilies

600-05: Calla Lilies

600-06: Cone Flowers

600-07: Mixed Flowers

600-08: Phlox

600-09: Daisies

600-10: Hydrangeas

600-11: Miscellaneous (*only items that cannot be entered in another category*)

600-12: Most Unusual Arrangement

600-13: Three (3) or Fewer Flowers

600-14: Miniature Arrangement (*not over 3" tall*)

600-15: Small Arrangement (*4"-5" tall*)

600-16: Wildflower Arrangement

600-17: Table Arrangement (*live flowers*)

600-18: Bridal or Prom Arrangement

600-19: Artificial Arrangement

600-20: Dried Flower Arrangement

600-21: Miscellaneous Arrangement (*only items that cannot be entered in another category*)

SINGLE STEM

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First \$4.00
Second \$3.00
Third \$2.00

600-22: Gladioli

600-23: Roses

600-24: Marigolds

600-25: Zinnias

600-26: Dahlias

600-27: Daylilies

600-28: Calla Lilies

600-29: Other Lilies

600-30: Sunflowers

600-31: Daisies

600-32: Hydrangeas

600-33: Coneflower

600-34: Miscellaneous Single Stem (*only items that cannot be entered in another cat.*)

GARDEN DISPLAY

RULES:

1. All vegetables & fruit should be clean & attractively arranged for display on disposable trays provided.
2. All vegetables & fruit must be homegrown by the exhibitor

PREMIUMS OFFERED:

First	\$4.00
Second	\$3.00
Third	\$2.00

700-00: Apples (3)	700-24: Carrots (3)
700-01: Grapes (any variety-3 bunches)	700-25: Cabbage (1)
700-02: Peaches (home grown-3)	700-26: Okra (12 pods)
700-03: Pears (3)	700-27: Sweet Corn, Any Variety (3 ears)
700-04: Blackberries (wild 6)	700-28: Bunch Beans (12)
700-05: Blackberries (tame-6)	700-29: Horticulture Beans (12)
700-06: Other Berries (6)	700-30: Other Peas (12)
700-07: Display of Garden Products	700-31: Eggplant (1)
700-08: Potatoes, Red, White, or Sweet (3)	700-32: Melons, Any Variety (1)
700-09: Slicing Cucumbers (3)	700-33: Sunflower (1)
700-10: Pickling Cucumbers (3)	700-34: Radishes (3)
700-11: Burpless Cucumbers (3)	700-35: Broccoli (3 spears)
700-12: Onions Red, White or Yellow (3)	700-36: Most unusual vegetable (please label)
700-13: Green Onions, edible (3)	700-37: Biggest Potato
700-14: Other Onions (3)	700-38: Biggest Tomato
700-15: Red Tomatoes (3)	700-39: Biggest Onion
700-16: Miniature Tomatoes, Cherry, Yellow or Pear (5 or a cluster)	700-40: Biggest Squash
700-17: Tomatoes (other-3)	700-41: Biggest Head of Cabbage
700-18: Bell Peppers, all kinds (3)	700-42: Biggest Cucumber
700-19: Banana Peppers (3)	700-43: Biggest Pepper
700-20: Jalapeno Peppers (3)	700-44: Herb and/or Spices (1 bunch)
700-21: Beets (3)	700-45: Display of 3 or more herbs and or spices
700-22: Squash, Yellow (3)	700-46: Miscellaneous (only items that cannot be entered in another category)
700-23: Squash, Zucchini (3)	