

FINE ARTS

2025 COMPETITION GUIDE

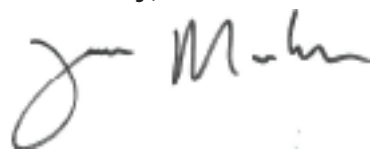
It's your moment to shine!
Enter today.

For more than 170 years the California State Fair has been a constant showcase of the talents and achievements of the people of California. Entering into the California State Fair's 2025 Competitive Exhibits Program allows you the opportunity to showcase your abilities, and revel in your accomplishments!

The California State Fair's friendly competitions are designed to acknowledge the best of the Golden State. Our Competitive Programs inspire talented Californians, as well as highlight the latest advances in technology, agriculture, and industry.

More than 750,000 visitors are expected at the State Fair this summer. Your work is an integral part of the State's celebration, and we look forward to seeing your talents on display during the annual State Fair from July 11-27. We encourage you to enter today and begin making lasting memories for yourself, and for the hundreds of thousands of State Fair patrons!

Sincerely,



Tom Martinez
Chief Executive Officer

GOVERNOR

GAVIN NEWSOM

CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

January 8, 2025

On behalf of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, a warm welcome to you as we all prepare for the exciting 2025 fair season! We are thrilled you are joining us this year and sincerely thank you for your continued involvement in showcasing your products, livestock, and expertise. Your contributions help make our fairs successful and provide an invaluable experience for our communities.

Fairs play an essential role in connecting food and agriculture with the public. They are not only a time for us to celebrate the fruits of our labor, but also serve as a critical platform for educating future generations about the importance of farming and food production, livestock management, and sustainable practices. Through your participation, you directly contribute to the appreciation of the vital role agriculture plays in our lives and foster an understanding of the tremendous diversity, innovation and new technology that create new opportunities in agriculture and our rural communities.

The fairgrounds are not just a venue for the annual events. Throughout the year, they serve as a hub for various interim activities that support local economies, offer educational programming, and foster community engagement. From hosting agricultural workshops and livestock sales to providing facilities for regional competitions and cultural festivals, the fairgrounds contribute to the vibrancy and resilience of our agricultural community. Additionally, they play an important role in emergency preparedness, providing a space for disaster response and recovery efforts during critical situations, such as flooding or extreme weather events.

We understand the dedication and hard work that goes into preparing for the fair, and we want to express our deep gratitude for your commitment to making each fair season a success. Your participation ensures the continued relevance of our fairs and strengthens the agricultural ties that bind us all together as a community.

We look forward to this fair season and its great success!

Yours truly,

Karen Ross
Secretary



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Please visit the following link for rules online:
<https://calexpostatefair.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/25-General-Rules.pdf>

***This book is still being updated as more details are being finalized.
Please keep checking back for the most up to date information. Thank
you!**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO KNOW

Contact: Anusha Govindan

Fine Art Coordinator

Phone: (916) 607-4273 & E-mail: fineart@calexpo.com

Entry Dates:

FINE ART	
February 5	Entries Open registration online
May 4	Entries Close online 11:59 PM & entry fees must be paid & upload image
May 16	Accepted artwork announcement
May 29	Shipped artworks, accepted entry form, & artist resume, due 4:30 PM
May 30 - May 31	Hand deliver accepted artworks and accepted entry form, Expo Center Building #7, 9AM - 5PM
June 20	Artist's statements & Artist's Resume due by email
July 11	Exhibition Opens. Award results posted online.
July 13	Awards ceremony in Expo Center Building #7
July 27	Exhibition Closes
August 1 - 2	Pick up artworks & awards, Expo Center Building #7, 9AM - 5PM
August 8	Shipped artworks packed and returned following this date
PLEIN AIR	
February 4	Entries Open Registration online
July 6	Plein Air Entry Close online at 11:59 PM & entry fees must be paid
July 26-27	Painting is done around the fair grounds
July 27	Completed paintings submitted to building #7 by 4 PM
July 28	Judging & Award 6:00 PM
July 27 or August 2	Plein Air Artwork can be picked up

The California State Fair July 11-27, 2025

The California State Fair has always been the awe-inspiring showcase of the state's finest, and ever since the first fair in 1854, California has upheld this tradition. People come from all over to witness the competitions and innovations that our exhibitors produce. We continue to add new and exciting competitions to our competitive programs to showcase California's very best!

Why enter the competition?

The Fine Art competition has attracted many artists in the visual arts for more than 160 years. Exhibiting at the California State Fair is a great way to build exhibition credits on your resume, with the added opportunity to sell your work. Exhibiting at the State Fair also exposes your artwork to a large and diverse audience. Entering is a great way to gain experience in submitting artwork to galleries and national and international shows.

New for 2025

The California Fine Arts Competition is proud to feature a skateboard art division this year! Skateboard art is a creative blend of sport and visual expression, where skate decks become canvases for vibrant designs and bold graphics. It reflects personal style, street culture, and artistic themes, making each skateboard a unique piece of art.

In addition, the program has an exciting opportunity to showcase creativity through animation and short films, where imagination takes center stage. The digital art division has now expanded to include these two new classes, creating a platform for artists to bring their visions to life and inspire others!

For the first time the competition will also feature porcelain painting! Porcelain painting was declared a fine art by President Jimmy Carter in 1980 and this is the first year it has joined the fine arts program.



COMPETITION OVERVIEW



The California Fine Art Competition and exhibition is recognized as one of the Golden State's largest and most prestigious juried art shows.

You are invited to enter the California State Fair's juried fine art competition for California artists 18 years of age or older. We wish you success in this competition and hope you will join us for sharing the best moments of summer at the 2025 California State Fair on July 11-27.

Who Can Enter & Entry Fee

California residents who have reached 18 years of age as of January 1, 2025.

\$20.00 per artwork

\$10.00 (plein air) per artwork

Online entries must be paid by Visa or Mastercard. Entry fees are **non-refundable**.

Entry Deadline

All entries must be registered online, with an image of your entry uploaded, and all entry fees paid at [CalExpoStateFair.com/FineArt](https://calexpo.statefair.com/fineart) by 11:59 pm, April 6, 2025.

How to Enter

1. Review all information in this guide, taking note of entry deadlines, delivery dates and directions, entry requirements and rules, department name, entry divisions and classes you will enter.
2. Visit <https://calexpo.statefair.com/fineart>.
3. You must pay your entry fees before uploading images.
4. Do not upload images using a cell phone.

5. Place all images to be uploaded in the same folder on your computer, so they are easily found.
6. Remember the names of the files to ensure you are uploading the correct image for each entry.
7. Internet browser must be up to date. Check the browser to make sure Flash add-on is enabled.

Attention Mac Users: Please use Internet Explorer, Chrome, or Mozilla Firefox when entering and uploading.

Requirements for Digital Images

1. Acceptable file formats are: .jpg (jpeg), .gif, .bmp, .png, or .tiff
2. Save images in RBG ONLY.
3. Maximum file size: 6MB.
4. Do not upload signed or watermarked images.
5. Two-dimensional entries are allowed only one image upload. Three dimensional entries are allowed three image uploads.
6. Diptychs and Triptychs are allowed only one image upload. Upload one image of the entire artwork. Put the word “diptych” or “triptych” or “set” in the description section of information.

Eligibility

1. Artists entering the competition must be residents of the State of California, who have reached 18 years of age as of January 1, 2024.
2. Entries must be original artworks created by the artist entering the competition. Artworks must have been completed within the past two years. The year the artwork was completed must be included as part of the online entry process.
3. An artist may enter an unlimited amount of artworks. Each artwork not identified as part of a diptych, triptych or set is considered an entry and must be accompanied by the entry fee. There is no limit on the number of entered artworks per artist that may be selected by the jurors for the exhibition.
4. Artworks previously accepted into any California State Fair competitive program may not be re-entered. Same or identical items cannot be entered and/or exhibited more than one California State Fair competitive program or in more than one competitive Division or Class.

5. Tutored works, class exercises, maquettes or other models of artworks, and reproductions, including Giclee or other prints of artworks, are ineligible and will not be accepted into the show.
6. This is an “open” juried show. Entries are not required to have won a previous competition (County Fair or other juried show).



RULES & REQUIREMENTS

Requirements

1. Specific requirements listed under Entry Divisions and Classes on pages 12 and 14.
2. It is the responsibility of the artist to submit documentation as required. Do not send photo prints of artwork, exhibit history of artwork, artist's resume, artist's brochure, or artist's statement when entering. Materials other than those required will not be seen by the jurors. If/when the artwork is accepted into the exhibition, artists will be asked to submit a brief artist's statement and a resume.
3. Two-Dimensional (2-D) artwork may not exceed 108" by 108" [nine (9) feet by nine (9) feet, including frame. Three-Dimensional (3-D) artwork may not exceed forty (40) square feet of total floor space and a height of fifteen (15) feet. Due to safety concerns, artworks designed to hang from the ceiling may not exceed a total weight of five (5) pounds.
4. Due to facility limitations, certain art forms may not be suitable for entry (i.e., performance art or works that cannot be displayed without endangering the public). Artists are advised to contact the Fine Art Coordinator if they have concerns regarding the eligibility of their artworks in any division.

Rules for Accepted Entries

1. All accepted artwork must have the following information on or attached to the artwork: Artist's Name and Phone Number, Division and Class Entered, and the Title of the Artwork.
2. Artworks may not be altered in any way after they are accepted into the show. Artwork must be the same size as the size stated on entry.
3. Accepted artwork should be ready to display and delivered according to the hand-delivery or shipping dates and times listed in the Calendar.
4. Once delivered, artworks may not be removed from the exhibit by the artist (or purchaser) until the pickup date, list in the calendar.
5. The California State Fair assumes total design control over the presentation of the California Fine Art exhibit. An artist may suggest how to display their artwork, but no changes will be made after the exhibit is installed.

6. Artwork that is inappropriate for general audiences will not be accepted.
7. Certain entries (i.e., electronic or kinetic) which may require routine maintenance and or adjustments during the exhibition may only be maintained during specified hours. Contact the Fine Art Coordinator for more information.
8. Accepted entries with special or complex installation needs must be accompanied by detailed installation procedures and diagrams. In certain cases, we may ask the artist to be present for installation.
9. The California State Fair reserves the right to photographically and electronically document any artwork accepted in the exhibition for use in catalogs, publications, publicity materials or for purposes deemed helpful to California State Fair promotion.
10. Exhibitors will be asked to write a statement of 125 words or less about their accepted artwork(s). These artist's statements are to be submitted as a word document, using Ariel 12pt font. All submission must be in a Microsoft Word document. The statements will be displayed in a binder located at the Art Docent Information Desk. Statements may be edited for length or continuity. Exhibitors will also be asked to submit a one-page Artist's Resume. Artist's Resumes will be made available to the public during the exhibition and exhibitors are reminded to not include private or confidential information in this document. Artist's Statement and Resume must be emailed per instructions sent to exhibitors. Artist's Statements and Resumes are due by June 20, 2025. Submission of these documents is optional, but artists are encouraged to provide them.
11. All artists whose artwork is exhibited will be invited to the awards ceremony (July 13, 2025 at 2:00pm). Award trophies and ribbons as described on page 16 will be presented at this event. If the artist is not present, any award won may be picked up along with the artwork, or if the item is not picked up, we will mail the award to the artist. Checks for award premiums will be mailed separately after the fair.

Display Requirements: Two-Dimensional Artworks

All two-dimensional works in all divisions must be framed and/or ready to hang with heavy picture wire. Saw-tooth hangers, unframes, and frames with a sharp glass edge will not be accepted.

1. Wet paintings will not be displayed.

2. California Fine Art will not furnish or protect any artworks with glass, plastic, or hanging apparatus. If appropriate for the medium used, framing may include glass; however, if shipping this artwork, glass must be replaced with Plexiglas or another acrylic sheet product.
3. Unless printed on gallery-wrap canvas or metal, photographs in Division 415 - Digital Artwork must be framed.

Three-dimensional artworks designed to hang

1. Cannot exceed 5 lbs total weight and must be equipped with heavy duty hanging wire or in a manner appropriate for the particular artwork.
2. Wall hanging fiber and textile entries must be equipped for hanging by securely attaching a four (4) inch wide sleeve across the entire top back edge of the artwork for display purposes. For display uniformity, California Fine Art will provide dowels for hanging all textile pieces.

Three-dimensional artworks designed to be free-standing

1. Must be based, when necessary, for structural support and proper presentation.
2. For display uniformity, California Fine Art will furnish pedestals for small free-standing three-dimensional works. If a base or pedestal is an integral part of the artwork, please contact the Fine Art Coordinator for requirements.
3. With few exceptions, California Fine Art will not provide glass, plastic cases, or other apparatus to protect the artwork. In the case of fragile artworks, California Fine Art may ask the artist to provide such protection for secure display.

The method of display and the placement of exhibited artworks is per the expertise and discretion of the California State Fair staff.

Disclaimers

1. Although care and diligence will be exercised in the course of receiving and handling entries, the California State Fair is not responsible for any technical malfunctions, failures, omission, interruption, or defect of any entries. Nor are we responsible for entries that are not received in accordance with deadline rules due to a computer or electronic malfunction or other reason.
2. Insurance is the responsibility of the exhibitor. The California State Fair

does not ensure exhibits and is not responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of entries.

3. Photographs are taken in the California Fine Art Building during the Fair. These photographs are used for publicity purposes and archives. By submitting your entry, exhibitors are giving the California State Fair permission to use such photographs at their discretion without compensation to, or prior approval from, the artist.
4. When entering online, the competitor acknowledges that they have read and understood these rules and the 2025 General Rules will be available on the Competitions page of our website. Failure to follow rules and requirements may result in disqualification without the return of entry fee(s).

DELIVERY, SHIPPING, & PICK UP

Hand Delivery & Pick-up:

1. Hand delivered, accepted artworks may be delivered to Cal Expo Fairgrounds, **Expo Center, Building 7** (see map) only between the hours of **9:00 a.m.** and **5:00 p.m.** on either **Friday, May 30 or Saturday, May 31, 2025**. For directions to Expo Center and the California Fine Art & Photography Exhibit Hall, see below:

Directions:

- Enter California State Fairgrounds via **Gate 12 at Ethan Ave & Hurley Way**
 - Follow the access road past the Water Park, and
 - Turn right after the Water Park.
 - Expo Center is the set of tall concrete buildings directly ahead.
2. Artists are responsible for the unloading and loading of artwork. If the artwork is of a size and bulk requiring special equipment for unloading, please contact the California Fine Art Coordinator.
 3. Pick-up all unsold, hand-delivered entries from Expo Center Building 7 only between the hours of **9:00 am** and **5:00 p.m.** on **Friday, August 1 and Saturday, August 2, 2025**. Must have a photo ID.
 4. If someone other than the artist will be picking up an entry, they must bring a signed letter of authorization from the artist. No exceptions.

5. **Artwork not picked up by artist will be donated or recycled after September 1, 2025.**

Shipped Entries

1. Shipped accepted entries must arrive at the California State Fairgrounds no later than **Wednesday, May 23, 2025.**
2. Mail or ship **“Accepted”** entries to:
California State Fair
California Fine Art Competition
Administration Building
1600 Exposition Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95815
3. All shipped artworks must be sent prepaid and accompanied by our Shipping Form which requires information regarding return shipping. **Return shipping must be prepaid or include a shipping account via UPS or Fed Ex and include required paperwork with shipped artwork. No stamps will be accepted.**
4. Insurance is the responsibility of the artist.
5. The California State Fair reserves the right to return shipped entries by any carrier available. The Fair may, at its discretion, return entries via the original carrier.
6. Shipping containers must be reusable for return shipping purposes. The Fair will not provide any additional packing material. Please label all packing material with artist's name (i.e., bubble-wrap, plastic wrap, etc.)
7. Artist must indicate on the **outside** of the shipping crate/package the **artist's name** and **the class** in which the artwork is entered.
8. Written instructions for unpacking and repacking must be included on the outside and/or inside of the container. If enclosed inside, instructions should be the first thing seen when the container is opened.
9. Enclosed documents such as assembly or display instructions, Artist's Statement and/or Resume should be in an envelope and clearly marked as “documents.”
10. Shipped entries must be packed and crated securely. Framed two-dimensional artworks must have Plexiglass instead of glass if being shipped. Artists assume all responsibility for the condition of their entry and the quality of the shipping containers.

1. Shipped or mailed entries will be packed and returned after August 8, 2025.
2. Undeliverable shipped or mailed artworks returned to the California State Fair will be donated or recycled on or after September 1, 2025.

JUDGING

There will be two rounds of judging.

FIRST ROUND

1. First round is online, and entries will be juried from digital images for acceptance into the exhibition and invited to be delivered on May 30 - May 31, 2025. Results of this judging will be published on our website, **CalExpoStateFair.com/Competition** and clicked on the **California Fine Art** icon on the competitions page.

A list of accepted artworks arranged by Division and Class and listing the title the entry # or WEN# and artist's name will be posted to the Fine Art section on the Competitions page of our website. Results will be posted within five (5) working days after the judging. Results will not be given over the phone.

2. CD's and/or DVDs containing video or other digital artworks will not be returned.

SECOND ROUND

3. The **second round** of judging will be a closed to the public, onsite judging process where entries can be juried by the actual view. A confirmation judging and award distribution by jurors will be held at this time jurors may, at their discretion, **disqualify any artwork that does not meet the expectations set** by the entered **digital image(s)** or **the display requirements.**

Reproductions, Giclee, or other prints of artworks entered as paintings will be disqualified. Artwork substituted in lieu of the entered artwork will be disqualified. Wet paintings will be disqualified.

Only those artworks accepted by the jury will be exhibited and only the artworks accepted will be eligible for awards. Approximately 180 artworks will be accepted. A list of accepted artworks in each Division and Class will be posted to our website, CalExpoStateFair.com/Competition. Once artwork is accepted into the show, it may not be removed from the exhibition by the artist or purchaser until after the close of the California State

Fair and the exhibition.

4. The results of confirmation judging will be published on our website, **Cal-ExpoStateFair.com/fineart/**. The award won will be posted to the California Fine Art section on the Competitions page of our website. Results will be posted online on the opening day of the 2025 California State Fair (July 11, 2025). Results will not be given over the phone.
5. The decisions of the jurors are final. In the tradition of juried art shows, no scorecards or jurors comments will be delivered to the competitors.

Jury

Jurors are invited to participate on the basis of their qualifications. Preferred jurors are Museum Curators, University or College Art Professors, Gallery Directors, and/or artists recognized as experts in their field or medium. The 2025 jury will be announced on our website: CalExpoStateFair.com.

AWARDS

The California State Fair will award the following:

BEST IN SHOW AWARD

One of the Juror's Awards recipients will be chosen by a majority of the jurors as Best in Show.

Award \$200 plus Golden Bear Award & State Fair Rosette

JUROR AWARD

Six (6) Juror Awards will be selected.

Award (each).....\$500 plus plaque & State Fair Rosette

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

A maximum of twenty-one (21) Awards of Excellence may be awarded at the discretion of the jurors.

Award (each).....\$200 and State Fair Rosette

AWARD OF MERIT

A maximum of (100) Awards of Merit may be awarded at the discretion of the jurors.

Award (each)..... \$50 and State Fair Rosette

SPECIAL AWARD

Generous donors, organizations, individuals, and businesses may offer cash or merchandise awards to outstanding artworks in specific media or other categories as designated. Additional Special Awards may be added prior to the judging. Check our website CalExpoStateFair.com for updates.

Art Sales Information

Artists will have the option of placing their artwork for sale. When setting the price of their artwork, artists are advised to take into consideration the commission, the cost of framing and/or otherwise preparing their artwork for display, as well as the cost of delivery of their artwork. A commission of 30% of the purchase price on each artwork sold will be retained. Sales tax will be charged to these sales, the fair will not ship artwork to buyers, and purchased artwork must be picked up by the buyer. A portion of the commission will be donated to the Friends of the California State Fair Scholarship Fund.

AWARD SPONSORS 2024



VOLUPTARY & LUCID WINERY

Kevin Luther

1015 R St

Sacramento, CA 95811

Lucid Winery will provide 1 bottle of celebratory wine to the Juror Award Winners and the exhibitors who receive the Award of Excellence. Award winners must be 21+ for legal regulations to receive a Lucid Wine Bottle.



WINSOR & NEWTON

Anne Zayatz

www.winsornewton.com

“We can do wonderful things when looking through the eyes of Artists”. Winsor & Newton will sponsor a \$150 Gift Card to one of the Fine Art Juror’s Award Winners.

BLICK[®] art materials



BLICK ART MATERIALS

Becky Behof
1849 Green Bay Rd, Suite 310
Highland Park, IL 60035

Blick Art Materials will provide (4) \$100 Gift Certificates for the Juror Awards.

PLACER REPERTORY THEATER

Underrepresented Artists in
Mixed Media or Sculpture Award

Placer Repertory Theater celebrates the inclusion of all Fine and Applied arts in the development and presentation of the collaborative

art form known as Theater. Conceptual drawings and architecture in stage design, sculpture of the human form through lighting design, sound and music composition to define atmosphere, scenic painting, fiber arts and artistic design and fabrication for costuming and props, computer art and graphic design for stage decoration, playbills and marketing materials, digital photography and digital media to enhance or express theatrical works – Every known form of art contributes to theatrical works. Our organization is proud to Sponsor an Award for Underrepresented Artists in Mixed Media or Sculpture, as defined by: Ethnicity, Disability and/or membership in the LGBTQ+ community. The awarded Artist will receive a Framed Award Certificate, Official “Congratulations” letter with award-claim instructions, \$250 Monetary Prize, Two Complimentary Tickets to all Placer Repertory Theater 2024-2025 season events and performances (approx. a \$250 value) and an Invitation to an Exploratory Meeting with the Producing Artistic Director for a potential New Work Commission.



ARTHOUSE ABB FINE ART AWARD

Michael Crockett

ArtHouse –a short term rental company- combines its passion for fine art and traveling. We provide unique lodging experiences for traveling

professionals. Entering another year of operations, we have hosted more than 7,000 travelers and are in 35+ locations within the region. Our mission is to celebrate art, support local and regional Artists and to connect travel with quality, memorable accommodation experiences. The judge will select one of the Juror’s Awards to be the recipient of the 1-FREE Night’s Stay. Award recipient will receive a certificate with claim instructions.

LATINO CENTER OF ART & CULTURE

LATINO CENTER OF ART & CULTURE “HERITAGE” AWARD

Our work speaks directly to the needs and socio-economic reality of marginalized communities, instilling cultural pride and strengthening our community’s self-image by sustaining the art, culture and traditions of the region’s Chicano / Latino populations. The Center pays special attention of folk and traditional Artists because they carry our cultural traditions and they are predominantly newly arrived immigrants. We encourage Emerging Visual and Performing Artists to grow and take chances as they explore their artistic potential. We want to recognize the Chicano / Latino-identifying whose artwork reflects the Chicano/Latino Cultural Heritage and the Chicano / Latino Diaspora. Latino Center of Art & Culture :Heritage” Award will receive \$500.



ARTISTIC EDGE “FRAME WORKS” AWARD

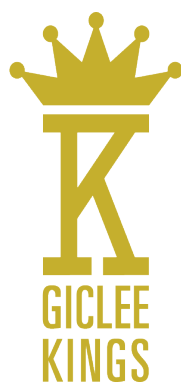
Art is important and evokes many feelings—it’s important to have art around you that is special to you and is unique. Artists give so much to the world and we want to return the support to the arts community. Artistic Edge will provide a \$75.00 Gift Certificate towards framing service for ‘Best of Show’ in the Fine Arts Competition.

BLACK ARTIST FOUNDRY

CULTURAL IMPACT AWARD

Black Artists Foundry (BAF) will award \$500 to the “Best of Show” in Fine Art. Black Artist Foundry proudly sponsors the ‘Cultural Impact Award’ at the 2024 California State Fair, recognizing the profound influence and significance of artists who challenge norms, inspire change, and shape culture. This award celebrates the transformative power of creativity and its ability to spark dialogue, promote understanding, and drive social progress. Congratulations to the recipient for their outstanding contributions to cultural enrichment and societal evolution.

GICLEE KINGS AWARD



Giclee Kings understands the importance of capturing and reproducing the true essence of each piece with stunning clarity and precision. Taking pride in delivering only the highest quality prints and scans for both emerging Artists to seasoned professionals. Art is our passion and we enjoy working with creatives of all ages and skill levels to bring their visions to life. Our Awards support the creativity and career of the artists who are awarded “Giclee Kings Award of Distinction in Oil Paintings”; “Giclee Kings Award of Distinction in Acrylic Paintings”; “Giclee Kings Award of Distinction in Watercolors”; and, “Giclee Kings Award of Distinction in Pastels.” Each award recipient will receive \$125.00 in cash prize and \$125.00 in Fine Art Reproduction Services from Giclee Kings.

DIVISIONS & CLASSES

Entry Fee: \$20.00 per entry.

Division 400 - 2D Artworks/Brushworks

Class 1 - Oil Paintings

Class 2 - Acrylic Paintings

Class 3 - Watercolors

Class 4 - Plein Air Paintings

Class 5 - Mixed Media Paintings

Notes & Special Rules for Division 400:

- a. Entries in this division should not exceed 4" in depth.
- b. Class 3 includes brushed ink artworks.
- c. Entries in Class 4 can be in any media but must have been 90% completed in plein air.

Division 405 - 2D Artworks/NonPainting

Class 1 - Drawing

Class 2 - Pastels

Class 3 - Color Pencil

Class 4 - Printmaking

Class 5 - Collage

Class 6 - Mixed Media 2D

Notes & Special Rules for Division 405:

- a. Entries in this division should not exceed 4" in depth.
- b. Class 2 includes soft pastels and oil pastels.
- c. Entries in Class 4 must be prints made from artist's hand-made or manipulated plate, stone, or screen and be signed and numbered as a limited edition.
- d. Entries in Class 6 must incorporate two or more mediums.

Division 410 - 3D Artworks

Class 1 - Sculpture, single Medium

Class 2 - Sculpture, Mixed Media

Class 3 - Assemblage

Class 4 - Recycle

Class 5 - Other 3D Artworks

Notes and Special Rules for Division 410:

- a. Artworks primarily composed of a single material are considered to be

“single medium” unless additional material constitutes more than an accent or embellishment.

- b. Entries in Class 4 must be 85% recycled materials.
- c. Sets shall be considered as one entry.
- d. Entries in Class 5 include, but are not limited to, bas-relief carving, fiber art, ceramics, glass, textiles.

Division 414 - Film Production

Class 1 - Short Films

Class 2 - Animation

Notes & Special Rules for Class 1:

- a. Entries must not exceed 15 minutes in length
- b. All entries must be appropriate for general audiences

Notes & Special Rules for Class 2:

- a. Entries must not exceed 5 minutes in length
- b. All entries must be appropriate for general audiences

Division 415 - Digital Artwork

Class 1 - Digital Art

Notes & Special Rules for Division 415:

- a. If accepted, artworks in Class 1 must be displayed as prints or other physical depiction of the artwork and are subject to the rules for the display of 2-dimensional artworks. Artwork must be framed unless printed on “gallery wrapped” canvas or on metal.
- b. Digital Photography that has not been profoundly altered using software should be entered in the Photography Competition. This division is for artworks created entirely using computer hardware and software, or for digital photographs or scanned images that have been profoundly manipulated and/or combined using computer software.

Division 416: Porcelain Painting

Class 1 - Flat Surface

Class 2 - Vessel

Class 3 - Other Painted Item

Notes and Special Rules for Division 416:

- a. Class 1: Includes, but is not limited to tiles, plates, etc.
- b. Class 2: Includes, but is not limited to vases, cups, bowls, etc.
- c. Class 3: Includes, but is not limited to porcelain dolls, etc.

Division 420 - Skateboard Artwork

Class 1 - Skateboard Art

Notes & Special Rules for Division 420:

- a. California has a rich history of skateboarding culture, and this division aims to celebrate that legacy. All mediums are welcome, including painting, graphic design, pyrography, laser printing, collages, and more. Artists of all kinds are invited to participate in this exciting new division!
- b. Diptychs and triptychs are allowed for this division.
- c. Boards must be appropriate for general audiences.
- d. Trucks must be removed from boards

PLEIN AIR

Division 460 - Special Contest: Plein Air

Class 1: Adult

Class 1: Young Adult

Notes & Special Rules for Division 460:

- a. Class 1- California residents who have reached 18 years of age as of January 1, 2025.
- b. Class 2 - California residents who have reached 13 years of age as of January 1, 2025 and who have not reached 18 years of age as of January 1, 2025.

Entry Deadline: Sunday, July 6, 2025

Entry Fee - \$10 per painting entered (maximum of three)

Paint-out days - Saturday, July 26 and Sunday, July 27, 2025

We will provide one California State Fair gate pass per contestant for **each paint-out day per adult**, and 2 gate passes per contestant for **each paint-out day** per minor.

AWARDS:

1st Place	\$125 and ribbon
2nd Place.....	\$75 and ribbon
3rd Place.....	\$50 and ribbon

Any additional awards or merchandise gift certificates donated by businesses or associations will be announced. Ribbons will be presented immediately after the judging is finalized.

Premium checks will be mailed after the close of fair.

Rules

1. Participants in the contest must register online and pay entry fee with visa or master card for one, two or three paintings by 11:59 pm, Sunday, July 6, 2025. No late registration will be allowed.
2. Participants will receive an e-mail notification that their registration has been processed. The email will also contain any updated information about entering the fairgrounds to check in.

3. **CHECK IN:** Participants must come to the Cal Expo Administration Building between the hours of 8:00 am and 10:00 am on Saturday, July 26 or Sunday, July 27, 2025, to check in and have their painting surface certified with date and time. Enter Cal Expo at Gate C (see map).
4. Participant must present to the Fine Arts program staff a blank painting surface (canvas, panel, board, or paper) for each entry. The back of the painting surface will be marked by the staff or volunteers with a code to assure that all paintings in the exhibit are done in their entirety on the official paint-out days. Canvas, panel, board or paper that is not 100% blank will not be certified.
5. **Size limitation:** Finished (unframed) size may not exceed 18" x 24".
6. Parking and admission credentials for paint out days will be mailed to registered participants. Participants will be issued credentials based on the number of entries. Those entering only one painting will be issued and one admission ticket. Those entering two or three paintings will be issued (max) two admissions tickets.
7. Paintings must be completed and turned in on the same day they are painted at the fairgrounds. Completed paintings are to be turned in at the California Fine Art exhibit building, Building 7, Expo Center, between the hours of 10:00 am and 9:00 pm on Saturday, July 26, 2025, and between the hours of 10:00 am and 4:00 pm on Sunday, July 27, 2025. Only paintings with the certification code for that day on the back will be accepted into the exhibit; all others will be disqualified.
8. Completed paintings that are turned in may be offered for sale. When turning in paintings, participants will be asked to fill out paperwork with the painting's Title, medium, and sale price.
9. **SALES:** Participants may not offer their artwork for sale except in the Plein Air Special Exhibit in Expo Center Building 7. The CA State Fair Box Office will conduct sales transactions and payment to the artist will be by mail to the artist after the close of the fair. For more details, please refer to "Art Sale Information" on page 17.
10. Insurance is the responsibility of the participant. Participants are responsible for their tools, materials, supplies, and other personal property. Exhibits are not insured.

Judging

The Plein Air at the Fair Special Contest will be judged by an independent expert at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 27, 2025. Paintings that have not been turned in by the 4:00 pm deadline will not be judged. The decision of the judge is final. Winners will be announced and awards distributed immediately after the judging results are validated. A report of the winning paintings will be posted to the California State Fair website CalExpoStateFair.com as soon as we can do so.

To Enter the Special Contest

Enter online prior to 11:59 pm, Sunday, July 6, 2025. When entering, use “TBD1”, “TBD2”, “TBD3” as the titles. List the medium you will use for each. Check the “For Sale” box and enter \$100 as the default price. Actual titles, medium, and sale price will be recorded when the paintings are turned in.



ARTISTIC EDGE “FRAME WORKS” AWARD

Art is important and evokes many feelings—it’s important to have art around you that is special to you and is unique. Artists give so much to the world and we want to return the support to the arts community. Artistic Edge will provide a \$75 gift certificate towards framing service to the First Place Winner in the Plein Air Competition.

2025 GENERAL RULES

CLICK LINK OR SCAN QR CODE TO VIEW GENERAL RULES ONLINE:

<https://calexpostatefair.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/25-General-Rules.pdf>

