

Fine Arts F.A.Q.

and “preparing your artwork for exhibit” reminders!

Below are the project requirements from the 2015 4-H handbook, copied and pasted into this document. Please review it before completing your project! I have added, in GREEN, additional notes that might be helpful.

FINE ARTS – (2 entries chosen for State Fair) – specific crafts are pictures on suitable paper or canvas using oils, water color, charcoal, ink, finger paint, pencil, chalk, pastels, acrylics, crayons, etc. Prepare the picture for hanging, including matting, glass, framing, and hanging fixtures. Pictures do not have to be professionally matted and framed *****this means you do not HAVE to go have your picture “professionally” matted and framed. In other words, no need to spend a lot of money to frame your artwork, but it must be framed*** (Must use screw eye and wire or strap hanger and wire; hangers must be screwed into the frame.) ***because we have no way to securely display the artwork if it isn’t prepared this way!!!***** No cardboard frames or easel-back frames accepted. Place exhibit tag **and craft card** with string on top of the back side of the picture so card can hang over the top of the picture in the front. ***Please include the type of artwork it is. What did you use to make the artwork?*** “Paint by Number”, Poster Paints, Scratch Art, and Melted Crayon art will be considered Basic Craft. May exhibit only one craft in each media, two (2) per area.

- Oil Paint: frames with screw eyes and wire hangers. No glass, no matte necessary. **Yes, you MUST frame your canvas!**
- Acrylic Paint: frames with screw eyes and wire hangers. If on stretched canvas or canvas board: no matte, no glass. If on paper or canvas paper: matted and under glass. **Yes, if you used canvas for your acrylic painting, it MUST be framed.**
- Oil pastel, watercolor paint and watercolor pencil, chalk, chalk pastel, pastel pencils, color sticks, conte crayon, mixed media, pencil, colored pencil, charcoal, ink, marker, pen and ink: framed with screw eyes and wire hanger. Matted and under glass.
- Remember your artwork should never be in direct contact with glass *****this preserves your artwork from the acid in the glass*****

On the next page, you will find photos of examples of appropriate and inappropriate framing for 4-H Exhibit.



The two projects above are correctly prepared for hanging. The one on the left is a traditional wood frame with screw eyes and wire hanger. The one on the right is a metal frame with the appropriate metal brackets and wire hanger.



These projects are both paintings done on canvas. The one on the left is correct because it is framed, and has the appropriate screw eyes and wire hanger applied to the frame back. The one on the right is not correct, and would not be able to be awarded anything higher than a "red" at the fair. It needs a frame, screw eyes, and wire hanger.



Saw tooth hanger is not appropriate.

This is NOT correct/acceptable...needs screw eyes and wire hanger



Easel-back frames are not appropriate. This frame is not acceptable.

I hope this helps you as you complete your 4-H project! If you have questions, please contact me. 317-716-4858 or nboram@hse.k12.in.us

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