

## Photography

**Premiums: \$3.00, \$2.75, \$2.50, \$2.25**

The purpose of this project area is to establish basic to advanced knowledge of and abilities in using photographic equipment, lighting, and composition to capture images, express feelings, and communicating ideas. Participants can work through the three project levels, progressing from basic to advanced photography skills and techniques. For help getting started with this project contact your county 4-H Extension office.

### Rules

1. 4-H members are allowed to exhibit in only one photography level.
2. 4-H members may enter up to three exhibits but no more than one exhibit per class (see general rules).
3. An image may only be used on one exhibit with the exception of Portfolios, which may include images entered in other classes.
4. **Cameras:** Photos may be taken with any type of film or digital camera, including phones, tablets, and drones.
5. Photos must be shot by 4-H member during the current project year with the exception of Portfolios, which may include images captured and/or exhibited in previous years.
6. Securely attach photos, mats, backing, and data tags. Exhibits that are poorly attached may be disqualified. Do not use photo corners, borders, or place coverings over the exhibits.
7. **Portfolios:** All portfolios must include the following information: 1) 1-page max bio, 2) table of contents, 3) year each photo was taken, 4) title for each image, 5) device make and model used to capture each image, and 6) reflections for each photo. When writing reflections, youth should focus on what new photography techniques or skills they were practicing when they took the photo, what makes the image successful, and what could have been done to improve the image. Portfolios may be presented in either print or digital formats:
  1. Printed portfolios should be presented in a 8.5"x11" three-ring binder or similar book format. Recommended photo size is 8"x10". Matting is not necessary.
  2. Digital portfolios may be presented online and must be exhibited along with a single 8.5x11 flyer. Flyers must include a link, URL, or QR code that takes users (judges and fairgoers) to their online portfolio.
8. **Display Exhibits:** Displays consist of three 4"x6" photos mounted on a single horizontal 11"x14" black or white poster or mat board. Incorrect sizes will not be accepted. No foam board backing should be used. Each photo in the display must be numbered using a pencil. Numbers should be readable but not distract from the overall display. No titles, captions, or stick-on numbers will be allowed. Photos may be mounted vertically or horizontally. Appropriate Data Tags are required (see rule regarding Data Tags).

9. **Print Exhibits:** Print exhibits must be 8"x10" printed mounted in 11"x14" (outside size) cut matting with a sandwich mat board backing. Incorrect sizes will not be accepted. No foam board should be used for matting or backing. Mat openings may be rectangular or oval. Photos may be horizontal or vertical. No frames are allowed. Appropriate data tags are required (see rule regarding Data Tags).
10. **Entry Tags:** Entry tags should be securely attached to the upper right-hand corner of the exhibit.
11. **Data Tags:** Data Tags are required on all print and display exhibits. Data tags are not required for portfolios. Each exhibit must have the appropriate number and level of data tags as outline below. Data tags should be securely attached to the back of the exhibit. Current data tags and help sheet are available at <https://go.unl.edu/ne4h-photography>.
  1. **Level 1 Displays:** Each photo of the display must include a separate Level 1 Data Tag. Data Tags should be numbered with the corresponding photo's number.
  2. **Level 1 Prints:** All Level 1 prints must have a Level 1 Data Tag.
  3. **Level 2 Prints:** All Level 2 prints must have a Level 2 Data Tag.
  4. **Level 2 Displays:** Each photo of the display must include a separate Level 2 Data Tag. Data Tags should be numbered with the corresponding photo's number.
  5. **Level 3 Prints:** All Level 3 prints must have a Level 3 Data Tag.
12. **POLK COUNTY THEME EXHIBIT PRINT:" ABANDONED BUILDINGS"-**  
Abandoned buildings tell a story. Old buildings such as barns, houses, and deserted commercial buildings capture the beauty of things left behind. This is for all photography levels. The top selected Polk County Print from each level will be on display at the Extension Office after the fair.

### LEVEL 1: PHOTOGRAPHY BASICS

***\* Designates County Project Only – not eligible for State Fair Competition.***

✓ All displays or prints must have a Level 1 data tag for each photo securely attached to the back of the exhibit (see rules above). Data tags can be found here: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/polk/2023-polk-county-fair-information/> or copies may be picked up at the Extension office.

- \*B180901 FUN WITH SHADOWS DISPLAY OR PRINT –** Photos should capture interesting or creative use of shadows (Activity 4)
- \*B180902 GET IN CLOSE DISPLAY OR PRINT –** Photo should capture a close-up view of the subject or object. (Activity 8)
- \*B180903 BIRD'S OR BUG'S EYE VIEW DISPLAY OR PRINT –** Photo should capture an interesting viewpoint of a subject, either from above (bird's eye view) or below (bug's eye view). (Activity 10)
- \*B180904 TRICKS AND MAGIC DISPLAY OR PRINT –** Photos should capture visual trickery or magic. Trick photography require creative compositions of objects in space and are intended to trick the person viewing the photo. For example, if someone is standing in front of a flower pot, the pot might not be visible in the image, making it look as if the flowers are growing out of the person's head. (Activity 11)

- \***B180905**    **PEOPLE, PLACES, OR PETS WITH PERSONALITY DISPLAY OR PRINT** – Photos should have a strong focal point, which could be people, places, or pets. Photos should capture the subject’s personality or character. Photos may be posed or un-posed. (Activity 13)
- \***B180906**    **BLACK AND WHITE DISPLAY OR PRINT** – Photos should create interest without the use of color. Photos should show strong contrast and/or textures. Photos may be captured in black and white or captured in color and edited to black and white. (Activity 15)
- \***B180907**    **CHALLENGING PHOTO EXHIBIT:** - Exhibit will include three photos which tell a story without words. Photos may show something being created, destroyed, consumed, moving, or growing. Photos should capture the beginning, middle, and end of a single story, project, or event. Display will consist of three 4x6 photos mounted on a single horizontal 11x14 black or white poster or mat board. Each photo in the display must be numbered using a pencil. Numbers should be readable but not distracting from the overall display. No titles, captions, or stick-on numbers are allowed. Photos may be mounted vertically or horizontally. Data tags are required for each photo in the display. (Activity 14)
- \***B180908**    **POLK COUNTY THEME EXHIBIT PRINT: “ABANDONED BUILDINGS”**  
- Abandoned buildings tell a story. Old buildings such as barns, houses, and deserted commercial buildings capture the beauty of things left behind. A print from each level will be on display at the Extension Office for 1 year immediately following the Polk County Fair.
- \***B180909**    **MY FAVORITE OTHER PHOTO** – Any other favorite photo. Exhibit must be 8”x10” mounted in appropriate size cut matting (no frames) with backing.

**Level 2: Next Level Photography**

✓ All displays or prints must have a Level 2 data tag for each photo securely attached to the back of the exhibit (see rules above). Data tags can be found here: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/polk/2023-polk-county-fair-information/> or copies may be picked up at the Extension office.

- B181010**    **Level 2 Portfolio** – (SF88) Level 2 portfolios should represent the photographer’s best work and must include 5-7 different images from the 4-H member’s photography career. At least 2 images must have been taken during the current year. The remaining images may have been taken at any time during the member’s 4-H experience and may have been previously exhibited. Portfoli’s may include photos which are exhibited in other Level 2 classes during the same year. Portfolios must include: 1) 1-page max bio, 2) table of contents, 3) year each photo was taken, 4) title for each image, 5) device make and model used to capture each image, and 6) reflections for each image. When writing reflections, youth should focus on what new photography techniques they were practicing when they took the photo, what makes the image successful, and what could have been done to improve the image.
- B181020**    **Creative Techniques & Lighting Display or Print** – (SF87) – Photos should capture a creative use of lighting, such as diffused lighting,

- backlighting, or hard lighting, reflections, or another lighting technique covered in Book 2 Next Level Photography (Activity 3, 4, 5)
- B181030 Creative Composition Display or Print** – (SF87) – Photos should capture a creative composition using the Rule of Thirds, Golden Triangle, Golden Rectangle, or another composition technique covered in Book 2 Next Level Photography. (Activity 6, 7, 8, 9)
- B181040 Abstract Photography Display or Print** – (SF87) – Photos should be abstract or capture a small piece of a larger subject. Abstract photos may not look like anything in particular but should be able to capture a viewer’s attention. (Activity 11)
- B181050 Candid Photography Display or Print** – (SF87) – Candid photos should capture a special moment or meaningful interaction. Photos should be unposed. (Activity 10)
- B181060 Expression Through Color Display or Print** – (SF87) – Photos should capture a creative use of color or a color scheme, such as complimentary, contrasting, monochromatic, warm, cool, primary, secondary, or tertiary. (Activity 13)
- \*B181901 POLK COUNTY THEME EXHIBIT PRINT: “ABANDONED BUILDINGS**  
Abandoned buildings tell a story. Old buildings such as barns, houses, and deserted commercial buildings capture the beauty of things left behind. A print from each level will be on display at the Extension Office for 1 year immediately following the Polk County Fair.
- \*B181902 MY FAVORITE OTHER PICTURE** -Any other favorite photo. Exhibit must be 8” x 10” mounted in appropriate size cut matting (no frames) with backing.

### Rules

1. Level 2 photographers should be utilizing all the skills and techniques they have developed thus far in their photography careers, especially topics covered in Book 1 Photography Basics and Book 2 Next Level Photography.

### Level 3: Mastering Photography

✓ All displays or prints must have a Level 3 data tag for each photo securely attached to the back of the exhibit (see rules above). Data tags can be found here:

<https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/polk/2023-polk-county-fair-information/> or copies may be picked up at the Extension office.

- B182010 Level 3 Portfolio** – (SF88) – Level 3 portfolios should represent the photographer’s best work. Level 3 portfolios must include 9-11 images from the 4-H member’s photography career. At least 3 images should be from the current year. The remaining images may have been taken at any time during the member’s 4-H experience and may have been previously exhibited. Portfolios may include photos which are exhibited in other Level 3 classes during the same year. Portfolios must include: 1) 1-page max bio, 2) table of contents, 3) year each photo was taken, 4) title for each image, 5) device make and model used to capture each image, and 6) reflections for each image. When writing reflections, youth should focus on

what new photography techniques or skills they were practicing when they took the photo, what makes the image successful, and what could have been done to improve the image.

- B182020** **Advanced Techniques & Lighting Print** – (SF89) – Photos should show an experimentation or exploration of advanced lighting, such as low-light or silhouette photography or another advanced photography technique, such as astrophotography, underwater photography, or infrared photography. (Activity 3, 4, 5, or 12)
- B182030** **Advanced Composition Print** – (SF89) – Photos should show advanced compositions, such as using diagonal, horizontal, or vertical lines or repeating shapes to frame a subject or lead the viewer’s eye through a scene; breaking the rule of thirds to compose a discordant image; or another advanced composition technique covered in Book 3 Mastering Photography (Activity 6, 7)
- B182040** **Portrait Print** – (SF89) – A great portrait captures not only a person’s physical image, but also something of the person’s character or personality. Photos may be either formal or informal but must be of one or more human subjects. (Activity 9)
- B182050** **Still Life Print** – (SF89) – Photos should capture non-moving objects that have been arranged in an interesting way. Photos should demonstrate advanced control over lighting and composition. (Activity 8)
- B182060** **Freeze/Blur the Moment Print** – (SF89) – Photos should capture a subject in motion. Photographers should adjust shutter speed to either freeze or blur the movement. (Activity 11)
- \*B182901** **POLK COUNTY THEME EXHIBIT PRINT: “ABANDONED BUILDINGS”** – Abandoned buildings tell a story. Old buildings such as barns, houses, and deserted commercial buildings capture the beauty of things left behind. A print from each level will be on display at the Extension Office for 1 year immediately following the Polk County Fair.
- \*B182902** **MY FAVORITE OTHER PICTURE PRINT** -Any other favorite photo. Exhibit must be 8” x 10” mounted in appropriate size cut matting (no frames) with backing.

## Rules

1. Level 3 photographers should be exploring and experimenting with advanced techniques. This may include but does not necessarily require using an SLR camera, manual adjustments, or other advanced equipment. Level 3 photographers should be utilizing all the skills and techniques they have developed throughout their photography career, especially topics covered in Book 1 Photography Basics, Book 2 Next Level Photography, and Book 3 Mastering Photography.