

Photography
Department B
Superintendent- Jaci Haas

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.

Scoresheets, forms, contest study materials, and additional resources can be found at <https://go.unl.edu/ne4h-photography>**Rules**

1. 4-H members can 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 except 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 members during the current project year except 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 inches x11 inches three-ring binder or similar book format. Recommended photo size is 8 inches x10 inches. 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: At the State Fair, display exhibits are only accepted in Level II. Displays consist of three 4 inches x6 inches photos mounted on a single horizontal 11 inches x14 inches 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 inches x10 inches printed mounted in 11inches x14 inches (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 2 Prints: All Level 2 prints must have a Level 2 Data Tag.
2. 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.
3. Level 3 Prints: All Level 3 prints must have a Level 3 Data Tag.

12. On-Campus Exhibition Selection: Level 2 and Level 3 prints exhibited at the State Fair may be selected for special on-campus exhibitions. Selected prints will be collected at the end of the State Fair and returned to county Extension offices after their on-campus exhibition is finished.

All static exhibits must have received a purple ribbon at the county fair to advance to the State Fair.

Photography Level 1 (County-only)

Displays – Displays exhibits are encouraged for Level 1 exhibitors. Displays consist of three 4x6, 5x7 or 8x10 photos mounted on a single horizontal 11x14 black or white poster or mat board. No foam core backing board is allowed. 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. Use numbers to identify which photo each data tag corresponds with.

- B18010 **Fun with Shadows Display or Print** – Photos should capture interesting or creative use of shadows (Activity 4)
- B180200 **Get in Close Display or Print** – Photo should capture a close-up view of the subject or object. (Activity 8)
- B18030) **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)
- B180400 **Tricks and Magic Display or Print** – Photos should capture visual trickery or magic. Trick photography requires 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 flowerpot, 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)
- B180500 **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)

- B180600 **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)
- B180600 **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)
- B180700 **Challenging Photo Exhibit: Telling a Story Display** – 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. The 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)

Level 2: Next Level Photography

- 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. Portfolios may include photos 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,
 - 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 un-posed. (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)

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 Class

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 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)

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.

*State Fair Eligible

B182099 **Other Photography Exhibit** - Not eligible for State Fair. Must meet guidelines stated in Project Manual.

4-H members may enter up to three exhibits but no more than one exhibit per class.

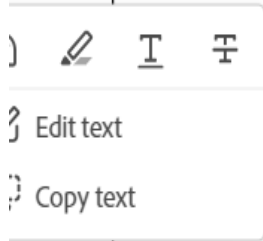
Photography

Get to know your camera; Practice keeping camera steady and level; Practice taking photos, noticing natural light; Notice shadows and their potential in photography; Practice using natural light from several different directions; Practice using flash for fill, solving red-eye problems; Evaluate background, middle-ground, and foreground when taking photos; Practice filling the frame with the subject; Practice eliminating background clutter in photos; Practice using different viewpoints and perspectives in photos; Compose creative, unusual photos; Compose variety of selfies; Take photos of people, places, and things; Sequence photos to tell a story; Create black and white photos; Evaluate photos using critical thinking; Get to know your camera's capabilities using zoom; Practice using different lens filters; Practice using light to portray a specific mood; Practice taking photos of reflections; Practice taking photos without the flash feature on your camera; Practice using the Rule of Thirds and the Rules of the Golden Triangle and the Golden Rectangle; Practice taking photos from different points of view/perspectives; Practice creating photos with interesting negative spaces; Practice capturing unposed, candid shots of a subject or event; Practice taking photos of "bits and pieces" of ordinary objects to create a work of art; Practice using a camera to create a panorama; Use color to create photos that are cool warm, monochromatic, contrasting, and/or complementary; Practice taking photos with a specific purpose in mind to teach, instruct, or sell a product or service; Evaluate photos that represent body of work; Get to know your camera's capabilities using the mode dial; Practice capturing a focal point understanding how camera equipment and depth of field effects the photo; Practice taking photos in low-light situations; Practice taking photos that help you get the correct exposure; Practice taking silhouettes; Practice composing photos that include geometric shapes and interesting framing; Practice composing photos that break photography "rules"; Practice taking still-life photos; practice capturing portraits showing a person's character and personality; Practice taking photos of interesting shapes, patterns, and textures; Practice capturing photos where the subject is in motion; Practice taking photos that are outside the normal limits: astrophotography, underwater, infrared; Practice creating creative joiners; Evaluate photos that represent body of work

URL: https://4hcurriculum.unl.edu/index.php/main/program_project/28

Level 1 Data Tag

Name: _____ Age: _____ County: _____
Years in Photography: _____ Years in the Current Level: _____
Camera: _____
(brand make & model) (digital or film)
Tell us about this photo (special equipment, techniques, subject, location, goals, etc.).



Undo Edit Bold Italic
Edit text
Copy text

Describe any edits or changes made to the picture using digital software.

Level 2 Data Tag

Name: _____ Age: _____ County: _____
Years in Photography: _____ Years in the Current Level: _____
Camera: _____
(brand make & model) (digital or film)
Focal Length: _____
Type/Source of light: _____
Tell us about this photo. Include any special equipment or techniques used.

Describe any edits or changes made to the picture using digital software.

Level 3 Data Tag

Name: _____ Age: _____ County: _____

Years in Photography: _____ Years in the Current Level: _____

Camera: _____
(brand make & model) (digital or film)

Focal Length: _____ Shutter Speed: _____ F Stop: _____ ISO: _____

Type/Source of light: _____

Identify advanced equipment, techniques, or manual adjustments used to capture this image.

Tell us about this photo.

Describe any edits or changes made to the picture using computer software.

2021 NEBRASKA STATE FAIR

4-H PHOTOGRAPHY LEVEL 3 JUDGES' COMMENTS

Photos entered into Level 3 receive a cumulative score from three judges. Each judge can award up to five points. Exhibits are judged based on general requirements, technical execution, aesthetic quality, and creativity. After judging all Level 3 photos, judges are invited to leave comments and feedback for all Level 3 exhibitors as a whole.

Focus – Sharpness/Focus is very important to your photo.

Portrait – Make sure you understand description of portrait photos.

Eyes of people and animals should always be in focus.

Abstract – Many “abstract” photos were not “abstract” but more of a macro. Ensure you understand abstract.

Aperture settings – Youth used lower FStop (ex f.4) for landscape photos and a higher FStop (ex f.16) would ensure the entire photo was in focus.

The youth have a great eye for photography – a lot of creative effects and ways to take the photo a lot of great storytelling!

The element of creativity seems to be lost to the point and shoot of today's photography entries.

Planning and creation of an image is key to a great entry and a purple ribbon image.

1. Envision the image. See it with your mind's eye.
 2. Make a plan. Decide on time, place, composition, etc.
 3. Execute the perfect shot. Plan to succeed.
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Use of a camera with an optical zoom was beneficial to quite a few.

Phone photos seemed to be pixelated and soft.

Very creative subject matter as a whole.

Good stories made a difference also – loved to hear thought behind the photo and execution.

Overall, Level 3 showed a good understanding of concepts, but sometimes the description was better than the execution of skills. They also need to keep the point of the class in mind – it's easier to take a photo for a class than to take a photo and try to make it fit a class by convincing the judges. ☺

Great creativity.

Good exploration of light.

Don't be afraid to explore new techniques.
