

2023

PHOTOGRAPHY

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.

1. 4-H members are allowed to exhibit in only one photography level.

2. An image may only be used on one exhibit with the exception of Portfolios, which may include images entered in other classes.

3. Cameras: Photos may be taken with any type of film or digital camera, including phones, tablets, and drones.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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:

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.
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.

7. Display Exhibits: At State Fair, display exhibits are only accepted in Level II. 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).

8. 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).

9. Entry Tags: Entry tags should be securely attached to the upper right-hand corner of the exhibit.

10. 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>.

11. Level 2 Prints: All Level 2 prints must have a Level 2 Data Tag.

12. 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.

13. Level 3 Prints: All Level 3 prints must have a Level 3 Data Tag.

14. On-Campus Exhibition Selection: Prints may be selected from State Fair entries for special on-campus exhibitions. Selected prints will be collected at the end of State Fair and will be returned to county Extension offices after the completion of their on-campus exhibition.

Purple, \$3; Blue, \$2.50; Red, \$2; White, \$1.50

FOCUS ON PHOTOGRAPHY

A. Unit I Picture Displays:

Three four-inch by six-inch photos mounted on a single horizontal 11-inch by 14-inch black (preferred) or white poster or matting board.

Every photo on picture display must be pencil numbered (No. 2 lead pencil) below (for judge's reference only). Numbers should be readable but not detract from display. No titles, captions or stick-on numbers are allowed.

Photos must be mounted vertically or horizontally.

B. Unit I Photo Journal:

Choose project area 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the Level 1 project manual titled "Focus on Photography" (available at county offices).

Complete the pages associated with the project area of your choice (project 1, 2, 3 or 4) or recreate and print the pages (still using actual photos).

Place pages in an 8½-inch by 11-inch black or white three-ring binder.

Showcase Data Tag is required (See General Rule F). For your journal complete Part A only and include this as page one of your journal.

C. Pictures taken for Unit I CAN be taken with digital cameras, tablets and phones.

B180010 PHOTO JOURNAL: Entry consisting of a single completed and bound section of project 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the Level 1 project manual titled "Focus on Photography".

B180020 PHOTO STORY DISPLAY: Entry consisting of a display of three photos that tell the beginning, middle and end of a story.

B180030 FUN WITH SHADOWS DISPLAY: Entry consisting of three pictures of three different subjects that capture the image of the shadow.

B180040 MAGIC AND TRICKS DISPLAY: Entry consisting of a display of three pictures of three different subjects that use a "special effect" to create interesting photos.

Purple, \$3; Blue, \$2.50; Red, \$2; White, \$1.50

*Denotes State Fair Entry

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 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 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)

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.

Purple, \$4; Blue, \$3.50; Red, \$3; White, \$2.50

*Denotes State Fair Entry

MASTERING PHOTOGRAPHY

A. Unit III Exhibit Prints:

*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)

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.

