



INDOOR OPEN SHOW
Jackson County Fairgrounds

PEARSON MEMORIAL BUILDING
Hours open: Tuesday-Saturday 11:00 AM 9:00 PM
Sunday 11:00 AM-7:00PM

Maquoketa, Iowa
July 28-Aug 2, 2026

Entry day is Tuesday July 28, 2026
7:00 AM-Noon

Please use the south door of Pearson Memorial Center to enter exhibits.

*Logo designed by Brittany Hayes

*Happy 250th Birthday USA!
Let's celebrate at the Open Show this year!*

We are encouraging exhibitors to create entries that would celebrate our amazing country! Entries may include red, white, and blue colors or a patriotic theme. They could also highlight National parks, monuments, or other pieces of our nation's history. This idea is open to all divisions (there is no special division or class), just add a little patriotic flair to a project you already have in mind and enter it in the normal division and class to be judged as usual. The Open Show committee will put together a special "Happy Birthday USA" display during the fair. We look forward to celebrating with you!



GENERAL RULES 2026

CANNING, CRAFT, CULINARY ARTS, 3-D PRINTING, FINE ARTS, HOBBY COLLECTIONS, HOME BREW, INTERIOR/EXTERIOR CREATIONS, NEEDLECRAFT, NEEDLEWORK, PLACE SETTINGS, PHOTOGRAPHY, QUILTS, SEWING, WOODWORKING DIVISIONS

1. Any individual/amateur, regardless of abilities, is eligible to enter the Open Show. Exhibitors must **live** or **work** in Jackson County or adjoining counties.
2. Entries are open to any age level. Two divisions will be judged. JUNIOR includes individuals through 15 years of age and ADULT which includes anyone 16 years and older. Juniors write "**JUNIOR**" and age on entry tag and tally sheet. **Juniors place a red dot on the entry tag and tally sheet. Entries in all-abilities classes will have a star added to their entry tag and tally sheet.**
3. EACH EXHIBITOR IS ALLOWED FIVE ENTRIES IN EACH CLASS. Except photography. **Photography is limited to 15 entries per exhibitor but only 3 entries in each class.**
4. All entries must have been made by the exhibitor. Unfinished, soiled or articles showing signs of wear may not be entered or eligible for prize money.
5. **All entries must have been completed during the last year.** (Aug. 2025 to fair time 2026), excluding hobbies.
6. **To give the judge a better understanding of the projects, EACH entry must have a 3x5 card of explanation of procedures used. If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place.** (Photography entries are exempt)
7. Kits are accepted except in Fine Arts.
8. **Copyrighted materials** and designs may not be used in an exhibit that is presented as original work by the exhibitor. Exhibitors must include permission from the copyright holder/owner when using copyrighted materials.

9. Because of limited space, we must reserve the right to refuse any article we consider too large to display properly. The committee, at their discretion, can remove exhibits not suitable for display or containing incorrect information.

10. **Entry tags and entry sheet descriptions must match** and are available at the Fair Board Office prior to fair and at the entry tables on Tuesday, July 28. **These must be completed by the exhibitor** before presenting the exhibits for display. **An example of the entry tag is attached to the back of this packet.** Any questions, please consult the chairperson.

11. All exhibits must be entered at the Open Show section in Pearson Center on Tuesday, July 28 from 7:00 am to 12:00 am. Please use the South doors of Pearson Memorial Center to enter all Open Show exhibits. Entries will be tagged when they are entered. **Classification of entries may be changed at the discretion of the chairman of each department.**

12. There will be no entry fees for exhibits. Items in the culinary department will be sold after judging.

13. The management is not responsible for loss or damage to exhibits, though they will use care to ensure their safety.

14. **The release time for exhibits is Monday, August 3rd from 7:00 am to 12:00 noon. If awarded premium money, please pick up at this time. Exhibits taken before Monday a.m. will forfeit premium money. The management is not responsible for exhibits left on the fairgrounds after release hours.**

15. Any article that has won an award at this fair, or any State or National Event in the past year, is not eligible for judging.

16. Exhibits will be placed Blue (\$3.00), Red (\$1.50), Yellow (no prize money). Purple and Lavender Rosettes will be given as awards for **“Best of Show” in each division if merited.** Purple ribbons will be awarded an additional \$2.00 and lavender an additional \$1.00. Articles not worthy of placing will not be given a ribbon.

17. The 2026 Fair Flower is any vining plant. Exhibitors are invited to submit an entry in any of the division's classes utilizing vining plants. Use your imagination in any of the classes! Thanks for supporting the **Fair Flower**.

Note: Entry day for the Flower Show is Friday, July 31, 2026.

18. Newspaper photos will be taken of the Flower Show at 2:00 p.m. and Open Show at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 2nd in the Open Show area of Pearson Memorial Center. All purple and lavender ribbon winners are requested to be present.

19. The newspaper photos for photography winners will be taken by the photo exhibits. Open Show winners in all other divisions will be taken together. Flower show winners will be taken all together.

20. A variety of exhibits will be chosen to be exhibited at Ohnward Fine Arts Center. Please let us know at time of entry if you do not want your project exhibited at Ohnward. Projects will be on exhibit for approximately one month. Each exhibit chosen will be marked with a Ohnward label during the Jackson County Fair. .

CANNING DIVISION

Each entry in this division **must have 3X5 card of explanation including name of food, preservation method, processing time, date processed, and recipe.** If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place. (1) All entries must have been canned from August 2025 to August 2026 prior to the Jackson County Fair. (2) Entries must be canned in a standard clear glass commercial pint or quart canning jar for fruits and vegetables. (3) Entries for jams, jellies and preserves must use a standard, clear glass commercial 8 oz. jelly jar. (4) No mayonnaise or pickle jars allowed. (5) No paraffin seals allowed. (6) Two piece lids must be used on each canning jar with a ring in place on the jar. (7) Canned goods must be processed by method of hot water bath or pressure canning. (8) No freezer entries allowed. (9) Each class entered must include 2 jars of the same fruit, vegetable, jam, jelly, juice, or preserves. One jar will be opened by a judge with another jar used for display.

Note: Current USDA and/or Iowa State University guidelines for home food preservation must be used. **Please reference the website:** nchfp.uga.edu for more information.

BALL BLUE BOOK OF PRESERVING is also acceptable.

Class No.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 233. Fruit (pint/quart jar) | 236. Jam (8 oz. jelly jar) |
| A. Peaches | A. Strawberry |
| B. Apples | B. Plum |
| C. Berries | C. Other |
| D. Other | |
| 234. Vegetable (pint/quart jar) | 237. Preserves (8 oz. jelly jar) |
| A. Green beans | A. Tomato |
| B. Beets | B. Peach |
| C. Carrots | C. Other |
| D. Other | |
| 235. Jelly (8 oz. jelly jar) | 238. Salsa (pint/quart jar) |
| A. Grape | A. Vegetable |
| B. Berry | B. Fruit |
| C. Other | C. Other |

239. Juice (pint/quart jar)
- A. Tomato
 - B. Apple
 - C. Grape
 - D. Other

CRAFT DIVISION

All entries in this division **must attach a 3 x 5 card of explanation** (kit, from scratch, made to look antique, etc) If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place.

Class No.

1. Dolls not stuffed
2. Hand and Loom weavings
3. Creative wall hangings
4. Holiday decorations
5. Stuffed toys
6. Stained glass
7. Etched glass
8. Pattern painting - Tole, Rosemaling
9. Decorated tops (T-shirts, sweatshirts, etc.)
10. Recycled item
11. Jewelry-must be a 3 piece set of coordinating pieces
12. Calligraphy
 - A. Framed for wall display
 - B. Invitations/announcements unframed
 - C. Any other
13. Family History Book (work of exhibitor)
14. Family Pictorial History (Memory Book-work of the exhibitor)
15. Cards
 - A. Cric Cut
 - B. Greeting Cards
 - C. Recycled
16. Doll House
17. Diamond Art
18. Any work not listed above

CULINARY ARTS DIVISION

Each entry in this division **must have 3X5 card of explanation (ingredients and procedure)**. If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place. (1) Entries must be in plastic or ziplock bags or a suitable clear covered container. All entries must be in or on disposable containers. All entries (except pies) must be removed from baking pans. Yeast breads must be baked in a 5x9" pan. Quick breads must be baked in a 3x7" pan. Cakes must use at least an 8x8" pan. (2) A portion of each baked item will be kept for display and the rest of the entry will be sold after judging. (3) Frosting recipe to be included for class 208 as well as cake recipe. (4) No cream cheese frosting. (4) **Exhibitors should NOT put their name on the recipe card.**

Class No.

- 201. Six drop or molded cookies (dropped on cookie sheet by the spoonful)
- 202. Six rolled cookies (rolled into a sheet and cut into a shape)
- 203. Six bar cookies
- 204. Six cookie press cookies
- 205. Six unbaked cookies
- 206. Angel food cake (top crust up) unfrosted
- 207. Unfrosted cake (square or round, top crust side up)
 - A. Bundt
 - B. Pound
 - C. Other

Note: Class 208, 209 and 210 may use clear disposable containers.

Class No.

- 208. Frosted cake (any kind, round or square) **see #3 above
 - A. Bundt
 - B. Pound
 - C. Other
- 209. Cup Cakes (any kind, round or square) (4 on a plate)
 - A. Frosted
 - B. Unfrosted
 - C. Other
- 210. Cakes Decorated (decorations must be edible, amateur only)

- A. Small
- B. Large
- C. Cupcakes
- D. Other

- 211. Cake Mix Cake – Cake using cake mix base but with added ingredients other than those listed in basic box mix. The recipe must list added ingredients.
- 212. Cherry pie (double crust, lattice top, or baked crumb topping)
- 213. Apple pie (double crust, lattice top, or baked crumb topping)
- 214. Any other pie (double crust, lattice top, or baked crumb topping)
- 215. Loaf white bread
- 216. Loaf dark bread, wheat or rye
- 217. Six white dinner rolls
- 218. Six dark dinner rolls, wheat or rye
- 219. Six cinnamon rolls (unfrosted)
- 220. Tea Ring
- 221. Oat bran products
- 222. Yeast coffee cake
- 223. Quick breads, nut, fruit, muffins, etc.
- 224. Baked product with an unusual ingredient. (Include recipe on 3x5 card and indicate with * the unusual ingredient.)
- 225. Baked product for any holiday (give short explanation about the holiday and include recipe.)
- 226.
 - A. Quick and easy baked product
 - B. Diabetic baked product
- 227. Gluten Free Baked Product
- 228. A baked product using herb(s).
- 229. A baked product using edible flowers.
- 230. A baked product made with honey.
- 231. Plate of 4 candies (all same recipe) (Include recipe)
- 232. Any baked item not listed above (attach card with explanation of class number, type or work, etc.)

3-D PRINTING DIVISION

All entries in this division **must attach a 3X5 card of explanation** (procedures used, nozzle, type of plastic, how long it took to print, software used, etc.). If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place.

Class No.

1001. Mixed medium (part of a larger item)

1002. Collectible or Novelty (**please review General rule #8 regarding copyright**)

1003. Original art created by the exhibitor

1004. Functional

FINE ARTS DIVISION

Each entry in this division **must have a 3X5 card of explanation** (procedures used) If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place.

(1) No kits. (2) ARTICLES WITHOUT EITHER MATTING OR A FRAME WILL NOT BE JUDGED.

(3) Each article MUST have an identification card attached to the back. (4) ANY WORK NOT FOLLOWING THESE RULES WILL BE RETURNED TO THE EXHIBITOR.

Class No.

301. Oil

302. Acrylic

303. Water color

304. Drawings - Pen, Charcoal, Pencil

305. Mixed Media

306. Pastel Chalk

307. Prints - Woodcuts, Lino cuts, Silk-screen, Etchings, Engravings

308. Free Style Coloring sheet (Using colored pencil or crayon (Not color by number design))

309. Any work not listed above.

HOBBY COLLECTIONS DIVISION

Each entry in this division **must have 3X5 card of explanation** (procedures used, how the collection was put together). If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place. (1) Judging of collections, in part, shall be based on the “method of display”. (2) Collective exhibits are not to exceed 18” x 24” in overall size. (3) Management will use utmost care to guard collections, however, we will not be liable for loss, damage, etc. (4) Collections should be contained in a box, display case, etc. (5) Exhibit must include no less than 6 items. (6) Exhibit will be judged on condition of articles, display arrangement, overall appearance and info on 3 x 5 card. (7) Refer to rule 9 in general rules.

Class No:

- 801. Advertising Items
- 802. Buttons
- 803. Bells
- 804. Hat Pins/Stick Pins
- 805. Insects
- 806. Locks & Keys
- 807. Souvenir Spoons
- 808. Cards, i.e. Post, Greeting, Sports
- 809. Kitchenware (granite, iron, etc)
- 810. Marbles
- 811. Pocket Watches
- 812. Shells
- 813. Stamps
- 814. Rocks
- 815. Legos
- 816. Any work not listed above

HOME BREW DIVISION

All entries in this division **must attach a 3x5 card of explanation** describing basic procedures used, including what types of grains, hops, and yeast were used. If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place. (1) Entries must be in 12 oz. can, capped bottle, or flip cap bottle. (2) Each class entered must include two containers of the same brew (one will be opened by the judge, the other will be for display). (3) All entries will be kept refrigerated by the Open Show committee until judging time.

Class No.

- 1101. Dark Beer
 - A. Stouts
 - B. Porters
 - C. Other
- 1102. Light Beer
 - A. Pilsner
 - B. Blondale
 - C. Other
- 1103. IPA Beer
 - A. West Coast
 - B. New England
 - C. Other
- 1104. Sour Beer
 - A. Kettle Sour
 - B. Gose
 - C. Other

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR CREATIONS DIVISION

Each entry in this division **must have 3X5 card of explanation** (procedures used) If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place.

(1) These classes were designed for home accessory items that could be used for a porch, patio, entryway, hallway, etc. (2) The maximum measurements for any exhibit are approximately 108" x 36". No minimum. (3) Any theme may be used. Each entry must be varnished, painted, decorated, papered, stenciled, etc. in some manner. (4) All work must be done by the exhibitor. (5) Plants and florals may be silk, dried, or live.

Class No.

130

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| A. Door Swag | E. Chair |
| B. Wreath | F. Bucket, keg, Basket, etc |
| C. Window Frame | G. Bird House |
| D. Shutters | H. Any work not listed above |

NEEDLECRAFT DIVISION

Each entry in this division **must have 3X5 card of explanation** (procedures used) If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place.

Class No.

- 601. Crocheted afghans, bedspreads
- 602. Crocheted tablecloths
- 603. Crocheted pillow
- 604. Crocheted doily
- 605. Crocheted rug
- 606. Crocheted other item
- 607. Knitted afghans, bedspreads
- 608. Knitted pillow
- 609. Knitted other item
- 610. Knitted mittens
- 611. Woven afghan
- 612. Hand made rugs
- 613. Any work not listed above.

NEEDLEWORK DIVISION

Each entry in this division **must have 3X5 card of explanation** (procedures used) If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place.

Class No.

- 501. Counted cross-stitch picture
- 502. Counted cross-stitch pillow
- 503. Counted cross-stitch other item
- 504. Crewel embroidery
- 505. Norwegian hardanger doily
- 506. Norwegian hardanger wall hanging
- 507. Norwegian hardanger other item
- 508. Embroidered pillow cases
- 509. Embroidered picture
- 510. Embroidered any other item
- 511. Needlepoint on plastic canvas
- 512. Needlepoint, other
- 513. Long Stitch needlepoint
- 514. Candlewick item
- 515. Machine Embroidery
- 516. Any work not listed above.

PLACE SETTINGS DIVISION

Each entry in this division **must have 3X5 card of explanation** (occasion, menu choices, and anything else you feel the judge should know). If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place.

(1) An area approximately 24" square will be provided for a place setting. (2) A place mat, a menu, a centerpiece and one complete table setting will comprise an entry. (3) A table setting may include some or all of the following: dinner plate, salad plate, bowl, glassware, cup, saucer, tableware, napkin and napkin ring. (4) All place settings must include a centerpiece. (5) Settings will be judged on harmony of setting, accessories, suitability for the occasion, color coordination, proportion and distinction.

Class No.

240

- A. Dawn's Early Light
- B. Holiday Happiness (any recognized Holiday)
- C. Game Day
- D. Formal/Black Tie
- E. Taste of the Season (winter, spring, summer, fall)
- F. Family **Heritage** Dishware, Utensil, or Serving piece.
(must include an explanation of the family Heritage and how the family used this piece on the 3X5 card-see above)
- G. **Educational** (Historical) Dishware, Utensil or serving piece
(must include an explanation of how this piece was originally used on 3X5 card-see above)
- H. Tea Party
- I. Miniatures
- J. Any work not listed above

PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISION

1. The dimensions of the visible photo must be at least 5 x 7 inches and cannot exceed 11 x 14 inches.
2. **Maximum size, including the mat, cannot exceed 11 x 14 inches.**
3. Each article must have a name and address attached to the back.
4. Limit of 15 entries per exhibitor and a limit of 3 entries in each class.
5. All photos must have been taken August 2025 to fair time 2026.
6. Do not cover photos with cellophane, acetate or glass or frames
7. **NO FRAMES ALLOWED-including canvas wrap-arounds**
8. Flush mounted, foam core mats are encouraged- $\frac{1}{8}$ ", $\frac{3}{16}$ ", $\frac{1}{4}$ "

Black and White Division (901)

Class No.

901 A. Black & White - People

901 B. Black & White - Places

901 C. Black & White - Things & Still Life

901 D. Black & White - Plants & Flowers

901 E. Black & White - Animals, Insects, Wildlife

901 F. Black & White - Heart of America

(Photo that reflects living, working, and playing in communities)

901 G. Black & White -Anything goes (B & W shades, tones, altered or computer enhanced)

Color Division (902)

Class No.

902 A. Color – People

902 B. Color – Places

902 C. Color – Things & Still Life

902 D. Color – Plants & Flowers

902 E. Color - Animals, Insects, Wildlife

902 F. Color – Heart of America

(Photo that reflects living, working, and playing in communities)

902G. Color - Anything goes (Sepia, toned, tinted, altered, computer enhanced, HDR)

QUILT DIVISION

Each completed quilt **must have a 3x5 card of explanation attached** stating how much work was done by the exhibitor. (i.e. piecing only, quilting only, or both.) If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place. **Judging will be based on work of the exhibitor only.**

Class No.

- 701. Baby Quilt
 - A. Pre Stamped
 - B. Hand pieced
- 702. Hand pieced quilt-by exhibitor
- 703. Machine pieced quilt-by exhibitor
- 704. Hand quilted quilt-by exhibitor
- 705. Machine quilted quilt-by exhibitor
- 706. Quilt-both pieced and quilted by exhibitor
- 707. Comforter - tied
- 708. Wearing apparel quilted
- 709. Place mats quilted
- 710. Wall hangings quilted
- 711. T-Shirt Quilt
- 712. Pillow, pieced
- 713. Holiday Themed Quilted items (runners, bags, wall hanging, etc.)
- 714. Any work not listed above

SEWING DIVISION

Each entry in this division **must have 3X5 card of explanation** (procedures used) If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place.

Class No.

- 400. Masks (Covid style)
- 401. Dress
- 402. Doll or stuffed animal clothes
- 403. Bridal or formal garment
- 404. Shirt or shirt jac
- 405. Blouse
- 406. Men's tailored article
- 407. Women's tailored article
- 408. Skirts, long or short
- 409. Men's, women's slacks or trousers
- 410. Coat
- 411. Lingerie
- 412. Activity outfit, cheerleading, jogging, tennis, swimwear
- 413. Pajamas or robe
- 414. Two piece or more ensembles
- 415. Accessories, belts, bags, hats, etc.
- 416. Purchased garment embellished by exhibitor. (Attach a short explanation of procedure, to help in judging)
- 417. Recycled garment (Attach short explanation of procedure to help in judging)
- 418. Any work not listed above.

WOODWORKING DIVISION

All entries in this division **must attach a 3X5 card of explanation** (procedures used, type of wood used, how design was determined, tools used, etc.-anything that you would like the judge to know about your exhibit). If the card is not included, ribbon will be dropped one place.

Class No. 50

- A. Newly constructed and finished wood item-must be made by the exhibitor.
- B. Purchased and refinished wood item-must be made by the exhibitor.
- C. Restored/reclaimed wood item (could be family owned heirloom, antique, etc.) Must be done by exhibitor
- D. Carved wood item (can be painted or unpainted)-must be carved by the exhibitor
- E. Wood items made using a scroll saw-Must be done by the exhibitor.
- F. Any work not listed above

For Questions about Open Show divisions please contact:

Linda Behne – General Information, 319-480-4593

Renee Davison: Photography & General, 563-357-4980

Judy Tonderum: General Information, 563-652-2667

Other Open Show committee members include: Karen Davison, Thelma Nissen, Angie Burmahl, Michele Larson

A GREAT BIG “THANK YOU” to all of our entry day volunteers and fair week hosts/hostesses for helping to make the Open Show a success. The committee could not do it without your knowledge and willingness to serve at the Jackson County Fair!

Entry Tag Directions

ENTRY TAG

No. _____

Division _____

Class _____

Entry _____

No.-Leave this line blank

Division-

These are the division choices

Canning	Crafts	Culinary Arts
3-D Printing	Fine Arts	Hobby/Collections
Home Brew	Int./Ext. Designs	Needlecraft
Needlework	Place Settings	Photography
Quilts	Sewing	Woodworking

Class-

The number listed under the division that best matches your project.

*See Open Show information packet

Entry-

This is the "title" of your project (ex. Butterscotch Cookies, Vintage Button Collection. For a photo it might be "Sunset on the Farm")

PLEASE NOTE—what you write here is what should be written in the "Description" section on your project entry list.

****Samples****

ENTRY TAG

No. _____

Division Craft

Class 6

Entry stained glass church

ENTRY TAG

No. _____

Division Culinary Arts

Class 201

Entry peanut butter cookies

ENTRY TAG

No. _____

Division Photography

Class 902 A

Entry Cousins playing