

2026 MADISON COUNTY FAIR Willis Hall Fair Exhibits

TO ENTER:

All entries should be brought to the **Madison County Fairgrounds**, (3237 Old Irvine Rd, Richmond, KY 40475) on **Wednesday, July 22, 2026**, from **10:00 AM to 12:00 PM** and /or **2:00PM to 6:00PM**. If you have questions, please contact the **Madison County Cooperative Extension Service** at (859) 623-4072.

**We encourage those with multiple entries to pick up entry tags at the Madison County Extension Office prior to July 17th. If you cannot make it to drop off your entries on July 22nd, please contact one of the agents to make prior arrangements.

Entries will be on display in a climate-controlled facility from day of entry through **Saturday, August 1, 2026**.

RULES:

- **Only Madison County residents can enter items to be judged**, except for entries into the Honey Department, which is open to everyone. Please bring a picture ID with your current address.
- All entries must have been completed since the previous county fair and be original work (not from a kit or purchased).
- Limited to one entry per class for each Exhibitor, including "other than listed" classes. The "other than listed" class must be an entry that does not qualify under any other listed class in the division.
- Items entered will not be able to be viewed until the **fair opens on Friday, July 24, 2026** from 6 PM.
- *Exhibit Hall will be open nightly during the Fair from 6 to 8 PM each evening.*
- **All entries must be picked up on Monday, August 3, 2026, between 10:00a.m. - 12:00 p.m. No early pickup allowed.** Premium money will be disbursed at that time. Exhibitors must retain duplicate part of entry tag to identify and reclaim article at pick up. Any items not picked up during this time will be available at the Madison County Cooperative Extension Office during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., for a period of two weeks, starting August 3rd.

- **New Classes/ changes denoted in Blue Font**

The Fair Board and the Madison County Cooperative Extension Service, and their volunteers, shall not be held responsible for any loss or damage to any item entered.

1st/ Blue \$5 2nd/ Red \$4 3rd/ White \$3
Department Champion/ purple \$10

HANDIWORK DEPARTMENT

Division 1-Sewing

1. Wearable garment - includes adult, child, pet, aprons (item may be appliquéd, embroidered, or embellished)
2. Purse or bag
3. Sewing, other than listed, includes home décor or accessory
4. Best-dressed Yard Ornament- hand-made garments/ accessories (Porch Goose/ Gnomes/ Woodland Creatures/ etc.)
5. Upcycled Items (items with applique added to enhance piece not made from scratch)

Division 2-Quilts

6. Hand pieced, hand quilted
7. Hand pieced, machine quilted
8. Machine pieced; machine quilted
9. Machine pieced; hand quilted
10. Mixed, pieced, or appliquéd, cross-stitch or embroidery, machine or hand quilted
11. Hand pieced or machine pieced/longarm quilted (longarm quilting not judged)
12. Wall-hanging
13. 2 person quilt- (quilts made by one person, and finished/ long-armed by someone else.)
14. Baby quilt, or quilt other than listed

HANDIWORK DEPARTMENT

Division 3-Needlework

15. Knitted- Afghan, any variety
16. Knitted garment or accessory
17. Knitted household item
18. Crocheted – Afghan, any variety
19. Crocheted garment or accessory
20. Crocheted household item
21. Counted cross-stitch (14 ct.)
22. Counted cross-stitch-miniature (16-22 ct.)
23. Hand embroidered item (includes basic, crewel, candle wicking, tatting, smocking, ribbon, Swedish, and lacemaking)
24. Needlework, other than listed

Division 4-Fiber Arts

25. Weaving
26. Felting, wet method (crochet or knit)
27. Felting, needle method
28. Felting from hand-made fiber
29. Hand-dyed fiber
30. Hand-spun yarn
31. Hand spun finished article
32. Fiber arts, other than listed
33. Open Youth (age 18 & under) any Sewing, Quilt, Needlework, or Fiber Art class in divisions 1,2, 3 or 4.

HERITAGE SKILLS DEPARTMENT

Division 5-Fine Arts & Craftsmanship

34. Basket (market, decorated, with color, pie)
35. Miniature basket
36. Basket, other than listed
37. Woven bottom stool or chair
38. Woodwork – functional
39. Woodwork – art
40. Carving, any medium, except gourds
41. Wood burning
42. Rug-hooking
43. Leather craft
44. Jewelry
45. Metal art
46. Sculpture, any medium
47. Painting, decorative - 3 dimensional (wood, metal, other)
48. [Print Making \(woodcut/ linocut, etc.\)](#)
49. Fine arts & crafts, other than listed

HERITAGE SKILLS DEPARTMENT

Division 6-Crafts

50. All gourds (carved, painted, sculpted, or wood burned)
51. Dolls/toys
52. Wall hanging, non-quilted, includes wreaths
53. Holiday decoration, not including wreaths
54. Scrapbooking
55. Greeting cards
56. Origami and other paper crafts
57. Ceramics

58. Recycled art, must include before picture
59. Macramé
60. Handcrafted Soaps
61. Homemade Candles
62. 3D printed projects- (created from doodler or pen)
63. Best Dressed Taxidermy
64. Crafts, other than listed
65. Clay Items (other than sculpture)
66. Open Youth (age 18 & under) any Craft class in Divisions 5 or 6.

VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

Division 7-Painting/Drawing (Two-dimensional art only)

67. Oil
68. Acrylic
69. Pen or ink
70. Pencil (included colored pencil)
71. Watercolor
72. Pastels
73. Mixed media (collages...etc.)
74. Charcoal
75. Cartoon/ Anime' /Manga
76. Painting or drawing, other than listed
77. Painted Yard ornaments (Porch Goose, bird bath, gnomes, bird house, etc.)
78. Guache
79. Open Youth (age 18 & under) any piece eligible for a class in the Painting/Drawing Division.

Division 8-Photography

Matted or framed/ready to hang. Minimum 5x7", maximum 11x14" (taken since last fair)

80. Color: Nature or landscape
81. Color: Animal, insect, or creature
82. Color: Still life/inanimate object
83. Color: Portrait
84. Color: Madison County photo, (must indicate where taken)
85. Black and White: Nature or landscape
86. Black and White: Animal, insect, or creature
87. Black and White: Still life/inanimate object
88. Black and White: Portrait
89. Black and White: Madison County photo, (must indicate where taken)
90. Cell phone image (digitally altered or enhanced)
91. Processed film
92. Open Youth (age 18 & under) any Photography in Division 8.

HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Produce exhibits must be displayed on a heavy disposable plate and enclosed in a large zip lock bag. (One entry= 3 specimens unless otherwise noted)

Division 9-Vegetables and Herbs

93. Tomatoes - slicing, cherry, grape or paste (any color)
94. Cucumbers - slicing, pickling
95. Squash – summer (zucchini, or yellow, pattypan)
96. Peppers – sweet or hot
97. Beans – green, wax, etc *need 12 beans for this exhibit
98. Root Vegetables - Root vegetables (examples are carrot, beets, radishes. Exhibit can be all one type of vegetable or a mixture)
99. Best odd-shaped or “funniest looking” vegetable
100. Best decorated vegetable
101. Heaviest tomato
102. Fresh culinary herbs (single stem or collection in vase)
103. Best collection of 5 different vegetables
104. Open Youth

FLOWER, ARRANGEMENTS AND GARDEN DEPARTMENT

Flower Specimen - A single plant bloom, spike or spray with foliage in a glass bottle or vase. We are not responsible for vase or bottle. Keep in mind exhibits will NOT be judged the same day they are entered. Do not use water beads with entries.

Division 10-Flowers

105. Zinnia: dwarf, flower head under 2 ½ inches
106. Zinnia: giant, flower head over 2 ½ inches
107. Best sunflower head: can be cut head only or with stem in vase
108. Marigold
109. Cosmos
110. Flower other than listed
111. Open Youth (age 18 & under) Any entry for flowers class in Division 10.

Division 11-Plants, Arrangements & Garden Whimsy

Pot and vase/containers are considered in overall judging.

For flower arrangements, the majority of flowers must be harvested, grown and/or gathered by the exhibitor.

- 112. Hanging baskets, must have owned three months
- 113. Succulents, must have owned plant one year
- 114. Houseplant, must have owned the plant one year
- 115. Potted herb
- 116. Container Garden
- 117. Tea Cup arrangement
- 118. Fairy garden (does not have to contain real plants)
- 119. Best painted and decorated garden rock
- 120. Arrangement of fresh flowers, grown by exhibitor
- 121. Miniature arrangements (under 4 inches
- 122. In honor of our country's 250th Birthday, arrangement highlighting the colors of red, white and blue! Flowers should be grown or collected by exhibitor.
- 123. Open Youth (ages 18 and under) any exhibit for classes listed in Division 11.

CANNING DEPARTMENT

Must be sealed in a standard canning jar with a 2-piece metal lid. No decorative cover.

Division 12-Canned Vegetables

- 124. Green beans
- 125. Tomatoes
- 126. Tomato juice
- 127. Sauces (BBQ/ hot sauce/ or other such as taco or rhubarb)
- 128. Canned vegetable, other than listed

Division 13-Pickles & Relishes

- 129. Pickles (sweet, bread & butter, dill)
- 130. Relish, any variety
- 131. Pickled veggies/produce
- 132. Salsa

Division 14-Fruits, Jams, Jellies & Preserves

- 133. Canned fruit (blackberries, strawberries, pears, peaches, other)
- 134. Jams, any variety
- 135. Preserves, any variety
- 136. Applesauce and other purees
- 137. Butters, any variety (apple, pear, pumpkin, etc.)
- 138. Jelly, any variety.
- 139. Open Youth (18 and under) Any entry for classes in div. 12,13, or 14

FOODS DEPARTMENT

Food exhibits must be displayed on a heavy disposable plate, with multiple pieces enclosed in large zip lock bag.

Division 15-Breads

- 140. White yeast bread (1/2 loaf or 1/2 round)
- 141. Yeast bread, other than listed (1/2 loaf or 1/2 round, or plate of 4 yeast rolls)
- 142. 1/2 Coffee cake
- 143. Plate of biscuits- 4
- 144. Plate of muffins- 4 (corn, bran, sweet, etc.)
- 145. Quick breads, other than listed (1/2 loaf or 1/2 round) (includes Banana)
- 146. Sourdough bread (1/2 loaf or 1/2 round)

Division 16-Cakes

- 147. 1/4 Chocolate cake or 4 cupcakes – iced
- 148. 1/4 Cake or 4 cupcakes – iced (any variety other than chocolate)
- 149. 1/4 Cake or 4 cupcakes, other than listed
- 150. Decorated cake or 4 decorated cupcakes by amateur (real or Styrofoam base, ***not tasted***)

Division 17-Cookies

- 151. Plate of brownies- 4
- 152. Plate of oatmeal cookies- 4
- 153. Plate of chocolate chip cookies- 4
- 154. Plate of sugar cookies-4
- 155. Plate of peanut butter cookies- 4
- 156. Plate of cookies, other than listed- 4

Division 18-Candy

- 157. Plate of fudge- 4 pieces, any flavor
- 158. Candy, other than listed, 4 pieces

Division 19-Pies

Traditional pies must be submitted as half of the pie.

- 159. Cream pie (if refrigeration required, it may not be displayed)
- 160. Fruit pie
- 161. Hand pies (baked or fried, 2 total minimum)
- 162. Pie, other than listed
- 163. Open Youth (Ages 18 and under) Any food entry eligible for classes in Divisions 15-19.

HONEY DEPARTMENT

Honey without comb should be submitted in 1 lb. Queen Line jars, no decorative cover or label. Honey with comb must be displayed in wide-mouth jar. No honey bear containers of any kind allowed. Classes assigned at Judge's discretion.

Division 20-Honey (without comb)

- 164. Water white jar of honey, without comb
- 165. Light amber jar of honey, without comb
- 166. Medium amber jar of honey, without comb
- 167. Dark amber jar of honey, without comb
- 168. Black jar of honey, without comb (jar painted black)

Division 21-Honey (with comb)

- 169. Water white jar of honey, with comb
- 170. Light amber jar of honey, with comb
- 171. Medium amber jar of honey, with comb
- 172. Dark amber jar of honey, with comb

Division 22 Frame Honey Display

- 173. Frame honey display

Division 23 Beeswax

- 174. 1 pound block of cleaned beeswax
- 175. Candles made from exhibitor's beeswax.

EGG DEPARTMENT

Eggs should be exhibited in carton or container furnished by exhibitor and be a product of their farm. Please wipe off eggs, but DO NOT RINSE, as the bloom needs to remain intact for room temperature exhibition.

Division 24 Poultry Eggs

- 176. Half dozen – white shell
- 177. Half dozen – brown shell
- 178. Half dozen – other color shell
- 179. Half dozen- bantam breeds (chicken only)
- 180. Half dozen – other than chicken (please indicate, Turkey, Duck (any size variety)/ Peacock/ Emu/ Ostrich, etc.)
- 181. Open Youth (Ages 18 & under) any half-dozen of eggs in any egg class.