



YOUTH ART CONTEST 2026

AGES 5 years through 18 years

RULES, REGULATIONS, AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

YOUTH ART CONTEST (Ages 5-years-old through 18-years-old)

The theme is “DENTON” or “A DAY AT THE FAIR”, and this should be reflected in your artwork. This is very open-ended, but could include anything that gives a “Denton, Texas” feel, or anything that is related to the North Texas Fair & Rodeo (such as, the carnival, ferris wheel, rodeo, rides, concerts, cowboys, cowgirls, rodeo queen contest, parade, livestock shows, and other attractions). Most artwork will be displayed (except inappropriate art), but artwork that does not adhere to the theme will not be eligible for any grand prize ribbons.

People’s Choice voting will be open through the final Saturday of the fair. Ballots will be counted and a winner will be announced by Sunday (the final day of the fair).

Dates & Deadlines:

- Entries will be **accepted online** (tinyurl.com/2026youthart) starting March 24, 2026 through **August 8, 2026 (DEADLINE)**.
- Entries will be **displayed** during the fair in the **Exhibits Building** (2217 N Carroll Blvd, Denton, TX), **8/21 – 8/30**
- **People’s Choice** Voting will start **August 21st** at the Exhibits Bldg, and will **end on Saturday, August 29, 2026**.

Entrants:

- Youth Artwork created by Youth ages 5-years-old through 18-years-old as of September 1st of this year.

Rules:

- Entries should relate to the North Texas State Fair and/or Denton, Texas in general.
- No Sculptures, or other large items that are not on FLAT PAPER. This is a 2-dimensional contest (with the exception of small 3D embellishments to 2D artwork, such as cotton balls, strings foil, etc). Artwork should be able to be hung.

Cost:

- Free

Categories:

- **Painting** (watercolor, acrylic, oil, or gouache, on canvas or paper)
- **Drawing** (pencil, charcoal, ink, pastel, pen, marker, or crayon, on paper)
- **Mixed Media** (use of multiple art mediums, such as paint + collage, or glued items such as ribbons, buttons, etc)
- **Collage** (unique compositions made by assembling paper, fabric, and other materials)
- **Digital Art Illustrations** (art created with digital tools and software)

Prizes & Ribbons:

- The school with the most entries will receive a certificate from the North Texas Fair & Rodeo for \$500 for the art department!
- A \$200 Amazon Gift Card will be given to the Grand Overall Winner!
- All contestants will receive a ribbon.
- We will award a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbon for each Category in each Age Division.
- A Grand, and Reserve Grand will be awarded for each Age Division.
- Grand Overall Winner will be awarded a ribbon and a prize.
- Reserve Grand Overall Winner will be awarded a ribbon and a prize.
- People’s Choice Winner will be awarded a ribbon and a prize.
- The winners will be listed in the Exhibits Building during the Fair and will not be announced online or in the newspaper until the final day of the fair.

Other Information:

- Entering a piece of art into this contest does **NOT** get you a free ticket to the fair. If you wish to visit the fair to see your displayed artwork, please visit the website at www.ntfair.com for information regarding dates, hours of operation, and purchasing tickets.
- Most art will be displayed in the Exhibit Hall all week during the fair and can be voted on for the People’s Choice Award.
- The chairman of this committee are Haleigh Harrison and Jordan Crider and can be contacted at youthartNFRdenton@gmail.com
- tinyurl.com/2026youthart is the link to submit the entry form and to submit your artwork.