

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR SEPTEMBER 9th - 12th, 2026



FAIR BOOK

General and Department Specific Rules,
Divisions/Classes, Premium Schedule

Board of Directors



CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
Hannah McDaniel



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ENTERTAINMENT DIRECTOR
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VENDOR COORDINATOR
Julie Hazen



ENTRIES AND AWARDS

Departments & Superintendents

<u>Department</u>	<u>Superintendent</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Agriculture/ Floriculture Horticulture	Paul Wolterbeek	928-200-0728
Culinary Arts	Ashton Thompson	928-961-1804
Dog Show	Carol Ptak	253-279-3291
4-H Still Exhibits	Toni DeAnda	928-978-8511
FFA Still Exhibits	Toni DeAnda	928-978-8511
Fine Arts	Alexandra White	928-812-5273
Homemaking Arts	Maria Melendez	928-812-2035
Homemaking Arts	Peggy Porter	928-701-1488
Hobbies & Handicrafts	Adrea Ricke	915-449-3566
Horse	Amber Martinez	520-604-6971
Livestock	Frankie DalMolin	928-812-0861
School Exhibits	Cyndi Cragmyle	928-812-0390
Smallstock	Jennie Steveson	928-200-2369
Photography	Bobbie Jimenez	602-577-9135

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

GENERAL RULES



FAIR PARTICIPATION DISCLAIMER

By submitting an entry to the Gila County Fair, each exhibitor or concessionaire agrees to follow all rules and regulations set by the Gila County Fair Committee (“the Committee”). The Committee reserves the right to interpret, change, or add to these rules as needed. Decisions made by the Committee are final and binding.

The Committee will take reasonable steps to protect exhibits and ensure safety. However, it is not responsible for any loss, damage, or injury to exhibits, animals, or individuals. Exhibitors and concessionaires are fully responsible for any harm or damage caused by their entries and must cover any resulting legal claims or costs.

Submitting an entry form signifies your acceptance of these terms and conditions. A claim check must be presented to pick up your entry.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entries must be made by the person who created or grew the item during the current fair year, unless stated otherwise.

Residency Requirement

- Exhibitors must be full-time residents of Gila County (living in the county for at least 90 days prior to the fair), or reside within 10 miles of the county border.
- Non-residents may display entries; however:
 - They are not eligible to receive premiums.
 - They must pay the \$3 exhibitor fee.

All competitive entries must be submitted between July 1st, 2026 and August 19th, 2026 online at www.gilacountyfair.com, or in person at the Live Entry Event on August 19th, 2026 at the Globe-Miami Chamber of Commerce between noon and 7:00 PM. **Entry fees are \$3 per entry.**

Each exhibit may only be entered at one county fair—either Payson or Globe.

The Committee may reject any entry it considers unsafe, inappropriate, or unfit for exhibition.

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

GENERAL RULES



ENTRY DEADLINES AND RELEASE TIMES

- All Exhibit Hall/Still exhibits, except fresh flowers & culinary, must be brought to the Boice Exhibit Hall at the Gila County Fairgrounds on Friday, August 28th, between Noon and 7 p.m.
- Culinary (perishable items), Fresh flowers, and fresh floral arrangements must be delivered to the exhibit hall on the Tuesday of fair week, September 8th, 2026, between 6:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.
- Judging of all still exhibits will take place during receiving, depending on division and scheduling needs.
- The Boice Exhibit will remain closed to the public August 28th, 2026 through September 8th, 2026.
- Best of Show awards will be determined only after all exhibits have been judged and ribbons have been awarded. Final selections will be made once all divisions are complete.
- Livestock and smallstock animals must arrive on Tuesday September 8th, 2026. Weigh-in and sifting will take place between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. that day.
- Animal judging may be observed from outside the show ring. No interference with judging is permitted.
- Boice Exhibit Hall will open to the public at Noon on the Wednesday of fair week, unless otherwise published.
- No exhibits may be removed before 10 a.m. on the Sunday, September 13th, 2026, following the fair. Early removal will result in forfeiture of premium ribbons and awards.
- Still Exhibits release is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Sunday, September 13th, 2026, after the fair. Livestock and Smallstock release will occur that morning per instructions from department superintendents, shared at the Youth Livestock and Smallstock Exhibitor/Parent meeting.
- Any property left longer than two days after the fair closes becomes the property of the Gila County Fair. Please arrange to pick up your entry on the Sunday following the fair.

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR GENERAL RULES



- Exhibit buildings are open to the public daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. unless otherwise posted. All exhibits will be ready for viewing during these hours.
- Still exhibits will include divisions and classes for:
 - Youth Level 1 – Ages 4 & under
 - Youth Level 2 – Ages 5–8; simple, beginner-level projects
 - Youth Level 3 – Ages 9–13; intermediate projects with more complexity, detail, and clear themes
 - Youth Level 4 – Suggested ages 14–17; advanced creations with significant detail, technical elements, and storytelling
 - Youth Assisted – For youth who require assistance completing their project
 - Adult
 - Adult 75+
 - Person with Disability: Open to exhibitors of any age who identify as having a disability
 - Group/Family Entry: For collaborative entries created by two or more individuals
 - Professional: For individuals who earn income from their craft, trade, or creative work. This includes those who sell, teach, or produce work as part of a business or occupation. Entries in this division should reflect a high level of skill and presentation.

Division Eligibility Guidelines for Still Exhibits

To ensure fair and inclusive participation, all exhibitor entries must be placed in the appropriate division based on the exhibitor's age and experience. The exhibitor's age determines age as of January 1st of the fair year.

Youth exhibitors may enter in the division that best reflects their skill level, with the following guidelines:

- Younger youth may move up to a higher division if their project demonstrates advanced skill, detail, or complexity.
- Older youth may not move down to a lower division, regardless of experience level.
- Youth who require assistance to complete their project may enter in the Youth Assisted division, regardless of age.

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GENERAL RULES



- Livestock exhibitors must keep animals uncovered and visible between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. unless otherwise posted.
- Livestock stall areas must be kept neat and clean. All litter must be placed in designated areas as directed by the department superintendent.
- Only attendants or participants in proper attire (see Livestock Rules) may enter the show ring.
- Livestock exhibitor vehicles must use designated passes for entry and exit.
- Division and class numbers for Adult, Adult 75+, and Youth sections are combined across departments but judged separately. Be sure to enter under the correct division.
- Youth exhibitors must be under 18, except for 4-H/FFA members who are completing their project year after turning 18. All youth exhibitors must provide their birth date.
- Superintendents make exhibit space assignments. Exhibitors may not enter exhibit areas after drop-off until the fair officially opens.
- Entry tags and claim tickets will be provided at drop-off and must be shown at pick-up.
- Fair staff are instructed to prevent the removal of any exhibit before the official release time.

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

Judging Guidelines and Danish System Overview



The Danish judging system will be used for all exhibitors, regardless of age or experience level.

All entries will be awarded ribbons based on merit, as determined by the judges. Fair management reserves the right to withhold or prohibit the display of any item deemed inappropriate or unsuitable for exhibition.

About the Danish Judging System

This system is designed to provide constructive feedback and recognize the effort of every exhibitor. Each entry is evaluated on its own merit using a set of criteria specific to its category. Entries are judged against an ideal standard—not against other entries.

Ribbon Awards

Exhibitors are awarded ribbons based on the merit of their work on their entry as follows:

Blue Ribbon (Excellent): Outstanding quality that meets or exceeds the highest standards.

Red Ribbon (Good): Good quality, meeting most category standards.

White Ribbon (Fair/Participation): Basic standards met, with commendable effort shown.

In addition to Danish system ribbons, **Best of Show** awards may be appointed by the judge or the Fair Chairman of the Board following the completion of all judging. These honors recognize entries that exemplify outstanding craftsmanship, creativity, and presentation across their category. While Best of Show may be awarded in any division and any class, it is not guaranteed and will only be given when an entry is deemed truly exceptional.

Judging Rules and Conduct

Judges will not award ribbons to entries that do not meet the merit requirements. Ribbons are awarded for all entries based on merit.

Judges may combine or divide classes if entry numbers are too low or if entries warrant a new category.

Any interference or disrespect toward judges must be reported to the Superintendent or Fair Chairman.

Judges and clerks must ensure accurate recording of awards, as these determine premium payments.

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR GENERAL RULES



Judging Guidelines and Danish System Overview

Exhibit placings must be documented and signed by the judge, superintendent, and clerk immediately after each class is judged.

Award records are confidential until audited and finalized. Only authorized officers may inspect them.

Any questions about entry eligibility must be reported to the superintendent for resolution.

No exhibitor or individual may interfere with judging or criticize other entries. Violators will be removed from the area and disqualified.

Grounds for disqualification include:

- Rough or abusive treatment of animals
- Unsportsmanlike conduct by exhibitors, parents, or leaders
- Use of abusive language
- Final decision rests with the judge, field judge, or show superintendent

Premiums

- Only judges' books will be used to verify premium payments. Ribbons or cards are not accepted as proof of award.
- Premium checks will be available for pick-up at the Entries Office in the Boice Exhibit Hall on the Sunday following the fair, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Checks not picked up during that time will be mailed the next day to the address provided in the ShoWorks entry portal. Please notify the Entries & Awards Chairman of any address changes.
- **All premium checks must be cashed within 90 days of issuance and will become void after that time.**
- Any errors in premium payments must be reported within 10 days after the fair closes. No corrections will be made after that deadline.

Premium amounts are:

\$3 for Blue Award (Excellent)

\$2 for Red Award (Good)

\$1 for White Award (Fair/Participation)

No premiums are awarded for Showmanship ribbons.

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

FAIR PASSES – EXHIBITORS



All 4-H and FFA youth exhibitors will receive one (1) wristband for their personal entry into the fair.

Families with livestock or small stock entries will receive one (1) parent pass to allow a designated adult to assist with animal care and supervision.

Example: The Smith family has four children enrolled in 4-H, each showing livestock. Each child receives their own wristband, and the family is issued one parent pass for an adult to oversee and assist with the animals during the fair.

For still exhibits (including Exhibit Hall entries), exhibitors will receive one (1) single-day entry pass. Additional passes or weekly wristbands may be purchased for \$20 each at entry drop-off.

Distribution of Passes:

Livestock and small stock exhibitors will receive their wristbands and parent pass in their exhibitor packets at weigh-in.

Still exhibit exhibitors will receive their passes at the time of exhibit check-in.

Youth with both livestock/small stock and still exhibit entries will receive all wristbands in their livestock exhibitor packet at weigh-in.

2026 Gila County Fair - Official Exhibitor Information

This publication serves as the official Fair Book for the 2026 Gila County Fair. It provides complete information regarding entry opportunities, classifications, rules, and participation guidelines for all exhibitors. Whether you are a returning participant or joining us for the first time, we invite you to take part in celebrating the talent, creativity, and heritage of our community.

All exhibitors are responsible for reviewing and complying with the rules, requirements, deadlines, and judging criteria outlined in this Fair Book. Any updates or clarifications issued by the Gila County Fair Board will be considered official.

Entry Information

Entry Period & Fees

Entries will open on July 1, 2026, and close on August 19th, 2026, at 10:00 PM. The Fair reserves the right to close entries earlier if capacity is reached.

Entry fees are \$3.00 per entry. Each exhibitor will receive one (1) complimentary fair pass, regardless of the total number of entries submitted.

Exhibitor & Community Engagement

Special Contests & Sponsorship Opportunities

Individuals, businesses, and organizations interested in sponsoring or proposing a special contest are encouraged to contact the Fair. Please email info@gilacountyfair.com for more information.

Fair Book Accuracy

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this publication. If discrepancies, omissions, or needed corrections are identified, please report them to Fair staff. The Fair reserves the right to interpret rules and make final decisions in all cases.

Sponsorship Statement

The sponsorship opportunities outlined within this publication are specific to the Exhibit Hall and do not represent the full scope of sponsorship opportunities available through the Gila County Fair. This exhibit-focused sponsorship model is designed to promote accessibility and encourage participation from a broad range of businesses, organizations, and community partners. By offering a variety of sponsorship levels, the Fair seeks to ensure meaningful engagement and visibility for contributors of all sizes.

Sponsor a Spotlight Moment at the Gila County Fair

Support creativity, tradition, and youth leadership by sponsoring one of our featured contests or challenges! Your contribution helps cover materials, awards, premiums and outreach—ensuring every participant feels seen, celebrated, and inspired.

Each sponsored contest will feature a Community Choice Award, selected by a judge provided by the sponsor on the Monday preceding the fair (with the exception of the mullet contest). This award is separate from Best of Show and may include monetary prizes, gifts, or other sponsor-selected recognitions. Please contact Hannah McDaniel to secure sponsorship today! hannah@gilacountyfair.com

Spotlight Sponsorship Levels

Level	Benefits
Community Supporter \$150	One wristband for full-week fair admission, name & logo listed in fair book and website.
Local Champion \$250-\$500	Name & Logo in fair book, banner advertisement, social media campaign, two wristbands for full-week fair admission
Fair Partner \$750-\$1000	Name & Logo in fairbook and website, 2 banner advertisement(s), social media campaign(s), four wrist bands for full week admission to fair.

 **Battle of the Boxes – Boxed Cake Mix Challenge:** Help us turn pantry staples into showstoppers! This sweet showdown invites bakers of all ages to transform boxed cake mix into edible art.

 **Traditions in Thread:** Celebrate heritage and handicraft! This exhibit honors quilting, embroidery, and textile arts that have been passed down through generations.

 **Sowing the Seeds of the Future – LEGO Competition:** Fuel imagination and agricultural innovation! Youth design farm-inspired LEGO creations that reflect sustainability, stewardship, and rural pride.

 **Gila County Agriculture Legacy Photo Contest:** Capture the heart of our land and legacy. This contest invites photographers to share images that honor local agriculture, past and present.

 **Mullet Mania – Hair-Raising Heritage Contest:** Support self-expression and hometown pride! This lighthearted competition celebrates the boldest cuts and most patriotic coifs across generations—from baby mullets to vintage legends.

Inaugural Contest:

Gila County Fair Mullet Contest

Business in the front. Party in the back. GLORY all around.

Join us for the most legendary locks showdown of the season! Whether you're rocking baby bangs or decades-deep waterfall, we've got a category for your flow.

Contest Categories

Age Bracket	Description
Lil' Lappers	Ages 0-5: Even toddlers can bring the thunder.
Junior Flow Division	Ages 6-12: Training mullets with major attitude
Teen Tails	Ages 13-18: Hormones and hair flips collide.
Prime Time Party	Ages 19 - 49: Adulting with a side of sideburns
Semi Vintage Swagger	Ages 50 - 70: Mullet veterans with 10-20 years of follicle finesse
Vintage Vortex	Ages 70+ : Timeless Titans of the tail. If your mullet has seen a cassette tape, you belong here.

Special Awards:

Best of Grow – For the most impressive transformation from fuzz to full flow.

Spirit of America – Awarded to the most patriotic mullet, judged on style, accessories, and red-white-and-blue bravado.

Sponsored by:

 Date: [TBD]

 Location: Gila County Fairgrounds

 Registration one hour prior to event.

 Prizes, bragging rights, and eternal mullet glory await



2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

Agriculture, Floriculture & Horticulture

Department Regulations

- Any fresh entry exhibited in this department must be grown in the current fair year by the person exhibiting the article.
- Dried material may be from a previous harvest.
- All entries must be cleaned.
- LIMIT: (3) three entries per class per Exhibitor. Exhibitors can only enter one variety per class for entries.
- Members of a family are considered one exhibitor.
- Sheaf and Stalk exhibit will be judged for age value, and heds will be judged for grain value.
- Fruits and Vegetables, in classes where there is more than one, should be uniform.

Fruits & Vegetables Divisions

100 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)

101 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5–8)

103 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9–13)

104 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14–17)

105 - Youth Assisted

106 - Adult (Ages 18–74)

107 - Adult 75+

108 - Persons with Disabilities

109 - Group / Family

110 - Professional

Fruit Classes

01. Apples

02. Apricots

03. Acorns

04. Blackberries

05. Cherries

06. Figs

07. Grapes

08. Melons

09. Peaches

10. Pears

11. Pomegranates

12. Quince

13. Strawberries

14. Watermelon

15. Wild Berries

16. Any other fruit, specify

Vegetable Classes

17. Agave

18. Beans (green, yellow, snap, butter)

19. Beets

20. Broccoli

21. Brussel Sprouts

22. Cabbage

23. Carrots

24. Cauliflower

25. Chard

26. Corn (sweet, traditional variety)

27. Cucumbers

28. Eggplant

29. Garlic

30. Jerusalem Artichoke

31. Kale

32. Any other vegetable, specify

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

Agriculture, Floriculture & Horticulture

Divisions and Classes Continued

The following section repeats division numbers for ease of reference. Class numbers remain consistent across both listings.

Fruits & Vegetables Divisions

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 111 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under) | 116 - Adult (Ages 18-74) |
| 112 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5-8) | 117 - Adult 75+ |
| 113 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9-13) | 118 - Persons with Disabilities |
| 114 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14-17) | 119 - Group / Family |
| 115 - Youth Assisted | 120 - Professional |

Vegetable Classes Continued

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 33. Kohlrabi | 46. Sunflower Seeds |
| 34. Lettuce | 47. Tomatoes (any variety) |
| 35. Mustard Greens | 48. Wild Greens |
| 36. Okra | 49. Any other, not listed vegetable |
| 37. Onions (green, dry) | 50. Most unusual vegetable |
| 38. Parsnips | 51. Potted Vegetable |
| 39. Peas | 52. Vegetable Collection |
| 40. Peppers (sweet, hot) | 53. Pepper Collection |
| 41. Potatoes (any variety) | 54. Any Stalk |
| 42. Pumpkin | 55. Dried Vegetable |
| 43. Radishes | 56. Dried Fruit |
| 44. Spinach | 57. Nuts & Berries (1quart, in shell) |
| 45. Squash | |

Important Details

Potted vegetables are live displays, free of parasites.

Vegetable collections are a curated display of arranged vegetables on a tray, highlighting variety, quality and creativity.

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

Agriculture, Floriculture & Horticulture

Divisions and Classes Continued

SPECIAL REGULATIONS – FLORICULTURE

- All floriculture entries must be delivered on Tuesday of fair week to ensure freshness for display.
- The exhibitor must water potted plants throughout the fair. Fair staff will not provide watering.
- Plants listed on conservation or protected species lists are prohibited, unless entered as cultivated potted specimens. A 3x5 card must be attached stating where the plant was obtained.
- All entries must be grown or arranged by the exhibitor.
- Entries should be clean, healthy, and free of pests.
- No artificial flowers, foliage, or sprayed/dyed plant material may be used.
- Exhibitors may enter up to 3 entries per class, provided each is a different variety or color.
- If multiple entries from the same household are considered for Best of Show, only the youth exhibitor will be eligible to receive the award.
- Junior entries are welcome in all divisions and will be judged separately.
- Hanging baskets must be entered in the designated division and include a hanger.
- All containers must be labeled with the exhibitor's name and address on the bottom.
- Commercial nursery pots are not allowed unless the plant has been transplanted into them.
- Judging will be based on variety, color, health, and presentation.

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

Agriculture, Floriculture & Horticulture

Divisions and Classes Continued

Floriculture Division

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 131 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under) | 136 - Adult (Ages 18-74) |
| 132 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5-8) | 137 - Adult 75+ |
| 133 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9-13) | 138 - Persons with Disabilities |
| 134 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14-17) | 139 - Group / Family |
| 135 - Youth Assisted | 140 - Professional |

Floriculture Classes

Cut Flowers

01. Asters
02. Chrysanthemums
03. Dahlias
04. Daisies
05. Gladiolus
06. Lillies
07. Marigolds
08. Roses
09. Snapdragons
10. Sunflowers
11. Zinnias
12. Any other cut flower, not listed

Potted Plants

13. African Violet
14. Begonia
15. Cactus
16. Fern
17. Geranium
18. Succulent
19. Any other potted plant, not listed

Flowering Plants in Bloom

20. Flowering Hanging Basket
21. Foliage Hanging Basket
22. Mixed Hanging Basket

Arrangements

23. Fresh Flower Arrangement
24. Dried Flower Arrangement
25. Wildflower Arrangement
26. Miniature Arrangement (Under 6")
27. Themed Arrangement
(e.g., holiday, heritage, fair theme)
28. Any other, not listed arrangement

Specialty & Cultural Plants

29. Traditional Apache Medicinal
30. Culinary Plants
31. Native Arizona Wildflower
32. Conservation-sensitive plant
(must be potted and labeled)
33. Any other specialty plant, not listed
34. Any other cultural plant, not listed

Culinary Arts

REGULATIONS

Welcome to the Culinary Arts Department! We celebrate homemade goodness, creativity and heritage. Here is what you need to know to enter with confidence:

General Requirements

- All entries must be delivered to the exhibit hall on Tuesday of fair week between 8:00 am and 9:30 am.
- Cookies & Cupcakes: Each entry must include six (6) cookies or six (6) cupcakes.
- Cakes:
 - All cakes must be placed on a cake board.
 - The cake must fit entirely within the cake board.
 - Cake boards may not exceed 10 inches in diameter or width.
- Containers:
 - Entries must be submitted in disposable, purchased containers such as plain white paper plates, foil pans, or disposable cake boards (not larger than 10 inches).
 - Mason jars are acceptable for canned items.
- **ALL FOOD WILL BE DISPOSED OF AFTER THE FAIR.**

Household & Entry Limits

- Each exhibitor may enter up to three items per class, provided each item is a different recipe or variety.
- Families may enter the same class, but not the same item. Example: One person enters chocolate chip cookies, another enters peanut butter cookies.
- If duplicate entries are submitted from the same household, only the youngest exhibitor's item will be judged.

Entry Requirements

- All food must be made from scratch – no boxed mixes or pre-made doughs.
- **EXCEPTION: The Battle of the Boxes** contest is the only category where boxed cake mixes are permitted. This special contest celebrates creativity and presentation using boxed cake as a base.

Culinary Arts

REGULATIONS CONTINUED

Culinary Division

- 200 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)
- 201 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5-8)
- 202 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9-13)
- 203 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14-17)
- 204 - Youth Assisted

- 205 - Adult (Ages 18-74)
- 206 - Adult 75+
- 207 - Persons with Disabilities
- 208 - Group / Family
- 209 - Professional

Classes

Sourdough

- 01. Plain Sourdough Loaf
- 02. Sourdough with inclusions
(e.g. herbs, cheese, fruit)
- 03. Sourdough Discard
(e.g., crackers, muffins, scones etc)
- 04. Sweet Sourdough
- 05. Sourdough - Gluten Free
- 06. Sourdough not listed, describe

Breads

- 07. Yeast Bread
- 08. Rolls - Yeast or Non-Sourdough
- 09. Quick Bread
- 10. Heritage Grain Bread
- 11. Gluten-Free Bread
- 12. Frybread
- 13. Tortillas (flour or corn)
- 14. Gluten-Free Tortillas
- 15. Any other bread not listed, describe

Cookies

- 16. Drop Cookies (e.g. chocolate chip, oatmeal)
- 17. Rolled or Cut-Out Cookies
- 18. Bar Cookies
- 19. Sandwich Cookies
- 20. Decorated Cookies (appearance only)
- 21. Gluten-Free Cookies
- 22. No-Bake Cookies
- 23. Any other cookie not listed, describe

Cakes

- 24. Decorated Cake (appearance only)
- 25. Cake (judged on taste)
- 26. Cupcakes
- 27. Miniature Cakes
- 28. Cake Pops
- 29. Gluten-Free Cake
- 30. Any other cake not listed, describe

Culinary Arts

REGULATIONS CONTINUED

Culinary Division

- 200 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)
- 201 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5–8)
- 202 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9–13)
- 203 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14–17)
- 204 - Youth Assisted

- 205 - Adult (Ages 18–74)
- 206 - Adult 75+
- 207 - Persons with Disabilities
- 208 - Group / Family
- 209 - Professional

Classes

Pies and Pastries

- 31. Fruit Pie
- 32. Cream Pie
- 33. Custard Pie
- 34. Hand Pies or Turnovers
- 35. Pastry – Sweet or Savory
- 36. Fusion Pastry
(e.g. mochi danish, churro waffle)
- 37. Gluten-Free Pie
- 38. Any other pie not listed, describe

Preserved Foods

- 44. Jams
- 45. Jellies
- 46. Pickles
- 47. Fermented Vegetables
- 48. Dehydrated Snack
(e.g. fruit leather, veggie chips)
- 49. Any other preserved item
not listed, describe

Speciality & Trend Inspired

- 39. Global Flavor Entry
(e.g., matcha, ube, tahini, mesquite)
- 40. Low/No Waste creation
(e.g., bread pudding from scraps)
- 41. Decorated Item – Fully Edible
- 42. Heritage Recipe
(Include short story or origin)
- 43. Tamales (Traditional or Fusion)

Culinary Arts

Battle of the Boxes

Boxed Cake Mix Contest

New in 2026, the Gila County Fair will host its first Battle of the Boxes - Boxed Cake Mix Challenge.

Celebrate culinary artistry and presentation by challenging participants to transform a standard cake box into a showcase of baked goods, creativity, and storytelling.

Entry Guidelines

All entries must be presented on a disposable plate and be made from a boxed cake mix. Include a short description card: name of bake(s), inspiration, and any cultural or personal significance.

Judging based on:

- Taste
- Presentation and creativity
- Storytelling or theme

Battle of the Boxes Divisions

210 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)	215 - Adult (Ages 18-74)
211 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5-8)	216 - Adult 75+
212 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9-13)	217 - Persons with Disabilities
213 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14-17)	218 - Group / Family
214 - Youth Assisted	219 - Professional

Classes

Boxed Cake Mix

01. Cookies
02. Bread
03. Cakes
04. Pastries
05. Cultural Bakes

Sponsored by:



2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

4-H Still Exhibits



The 4-H Still Exhibit Department celebrates the creativity, curiosity, and dedication of youth across all project areas. Whether you're raising livestock, baking sourdough, coding robots, or exploring the outdoors, there's a place for your work to be seen, appreciated, and celebrated. All 4-H members are encouraged to enter still exhibits that showcase what they've learned and created through their projects. You don't have to stick to just one category—if you show animals, you can also submit a quilt, a geology display, or a plate of cookies. This is your chance to share your full range of interests and talents.

Department Regulations

- Entries must represent the current 4-H club year and reflect the member's active project work.
- Poster Board Projects should be presented on a 22x28 poster board or foam board. No hand-cut cardboard shall be permitted.
- Clover Projects shall receive a participation award and will not be considered for Best of Show.
- Record books may be entered as educational exhibits and will be judged on completeness, clarity, and effort

Division: 4-H Still Exhibits

400 - Cloverbuds (Ages 5-7)

401 - Juniors (Ages 8-10)

402 - Intermediate (11-13)

403 - Seniors (Ages 14-18)

404 - Group / Club Project

Classes

1. Archery

2. Cat

3. Cooking

4. Dog

5. Exploring 4-H

6. Equine

7. Farm to Table

8. Fiber Arts

9. Gardening

10. Geology

11. Leadership

12. Kayaking

13. Livestock

14. National 4-H Experience

15. Outdoor Recreation

16. Record Book

17. Reptile

18. Robotics

19. Sewing

20. Shooting Sports

21. Small Stock

22. State 4-H Experience

23. Quilting

24. Woodworking

25. Any other, not listed

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

FFA



The FFA Still Exhibit Department celebrates the innovation, skill, and leadership of agricultural youth. Whether you're welding a trailer, growing native plants, crafting ag-based products, or designing a livestock management plan, this is your space to showcase what you've built, learned, and led through your FFA experience.

FFA members are encouraged to enter still exhibits that reflect the full scope of their projects—from mechanics and plant science to food systems and community service. You don't have to stick to just one area—if you raise animals, you can also submit a woodworking project, a conservation display, or a handmade product. This is your opportunity to share your talents, your growth, and your impact.

At the conclusion of the fair, FFA members may sell their projects. Sale items must be clearly marked with a “For Sale” tag, including pricing and contact information. All sales are private transactions between the exhibitor and buyer.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

- Exhibitors must be active FFA members enrolled in agricultural education and approved by their chapter advisor.
- All entries must be the original work of the exhibitor and completed during the current membership year.
- Projects must reflect agricultural, mechanical, environmental, or leadership skills developed through FFA participation.
- Each exhibitor may enter up to three projects per division, provided each is a different item or concept.
- Sale items must be clearly marked with a “For Sale” tag provided at check-in. Pricing and contact information must be visible.
- Projects must be clean, safe, and ready for public display.
- Exhibitors are responsible for setting up and removing their projects according to the fair schedule.
- Judging will be based on workmanship, originality, relevance to FFA learning, and presentation.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct or failure to follow fair rules may result in disqualification and exhibit sale(s).

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

FFA CONTINUED



DIVISIONS

- 500 - FFA MIDDLE SCHOOLER
- 501 - FFA FRESHMAN
- 502 - FFA SOPHOMORE
- 503 - FFA JUNIOR
- 504 - FFA SENIOR
- 505 - FFA COLLEGIATE
- 506 - FFA GROUP

Classes

AG MECHANICS

- 1. Welded Project
(e.g., trailer, gate, sculpture)
- 2. Woodworking Project
(e.g., planter box, bench, livestock feeder)
- 3. Small Engine or display
- 4. Electrical Wiring Board or
Demonstration
- 5. Metal Fabrication
(e.g., branding irons, tools)
- 6. Any other mechanical project, not listed

Plant & Soil Science

- 7. Hydroponic or Aquaponic System
- 8. Soil Profile Display
- 9. Native Plant Identification Board
- 10. Irrigation System Model
- 11. Any other plant science project, not listed

Animal Science

- 12. Livestock Nutrition Display
- 13. Animal Housing & Equipment Design
- 14. Veterinary Science Poster or Model
- 15. Livestock Management Plan
- 16. Wildlife Habitat Display
- 17. Any other animal science project, not listed

Food & Natural Resources

- 18. Ag-Based Product
(e.g., soap, jerky, preserves)
- 19. Conservation or Sustainability Display
- 20. Water Quality Testing Kit or Results
- 21. Renewable Energy Model
(e.g., solar, wind)
- 22. Any other environmental project, not listed

Leadership & Communication

- 23. Chapter Scrapbook or Promotional Display
- 24. FFA Creed Presentation Board
- 25. CDE/LDE Presentation Board
- 26. Community Service Project Display
- 27. Ag Career Exploration Display
- 28. Any other leadership project, not listed

2026 GILA COUNTY FAIR

FFA CONTINUED



FFA Divisions Continued

- 500 - FFA MIDDLE SCHOOLER
- 501 - FFA FRESHMAN
- 502 - FFA SOPHMORE
- 503 - FFA JUNIOR
- 504 - FFA SENIOR
- 505 - FFA COLLEGIATE
- 506 - FFA GROUP

Classes

Floriculture

- 29. Fresh Cut Flower - Single Stem
- 30. Fresh Cut Floral Arrangement
- 31. Potted Plant
- 32. Container Garden
- 33. Pollinator Display
- 34. Any other floriculture exhibit not listed,
describe

FINE ARTS

Fine Arts are visual artworks created to express imagination, emotion, or skill. These pieces are typically meant for display and include paintings, drawings, sculptures, ceramics, metalwork, and mixed media. They are not functional items, but rather works that invite reflection, appreciation, and interpretation.

Department Regulations

- All entries must be original and created by the exhibitor within the past year.
- Exhibitors may submit up to 3 entries per class.
- Entries must be ready for display (e.g., framed, wired for hanging, or stable for tabletop presentation).

Fine Arts Division

600 – Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)

601 – Youth Level 2 (Ages 5–8)

602 – Youth Level 3 (Ages 9–13)

603 – Youth Level 4 (Ages 14–17)

604 – Youth Assisted

605 – Adult (Ages 18–74)

606 – Adult 75+

607 – Persons with Disabilities

608 – Group / Family

609 – Professional

Classes

Ceramics

1. Ceramic
2. Clay
3. Ceramic, Exhibitor Choice
4. Ceramic, other not listed
5. Plaster of Paris

Porcelains

6. Acrylic
7. Air Brush
8. Chalk
9. China Paint
10. Dry Brushing
11. Glaze / Overglaze
12. Lace Draping
13. Christmas Item
14. Other Holiday Items
15. Porcelains, other not listed

FINE ARTS

Divisions & Classes Continued

Fine Arts Division

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 600 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under) | 605 - Adult (Ages 18-74) |
| 601 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5-8) | 606 - Adult 75+ |
| 602 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9-13) | 607 - Persons with Disabilities |
| 603 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14-17) | 608 - Group / Family |
| 604 - Youth Assisted | 609 - Professional |

Classes

Artist

16. Acrylic
17. Airbrush
18. Chalk
19. Charcoal
20. Collage, assemblage, mosaics, glass
21. Computer Graphics
22. Crayon
23. Marker
24. Mixed Media
25. Oil
26. Pastel
27. Pencil
28. Sculpture
29. Silkscreen
30. Water Color
31. Artist, Exhibitors' Choice
32. Other, not listed

HOBBIES & HANDICRAFTS

REGULATIONS

Hobbies and Handicrafts include handmade items created for enjoyment, tradition, or practical use. These works reflect personal skill, creativity, and care—whether passed down through generations or discovered through modern crafting trends. Items may be decorative or functional, but must be stable enough to stand or sit securely on their own.

- All entries must be made by the exhibitor within the past year.
- Exhibitors may submit only one (1) entry per class.
- Entries must be original and not previously entered.
- Items must be clean, complete, and ready for display.
- No kits or mass-produced items are allowed unless otherwise stated.
- Collections
 - Each collection must include a minimum of three (3) items.
- Exhibitors must provide a 3x5 notecard with their entry. The notecard should explain:
 - How long the exhibitor has been collecting.
 - The total number of items in the collection.
 - Any special details that give judges a perspective on the collection's significance.

Hobbies & Handicrafts
continued on the next page.

HOBBIES & HANDICRAFTS

REGULATIONS

Hobbies & Handicrafts Division

700 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)	705 - Adult (Ages 18-74)
701 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5-8)	706 - Adult 75+
702 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9-13)	707 - Persons with Disabilities
703 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14-17)	708 - Group / Family
704 - Youth Assisted	709 - Professional

Classes

Collections

1. Antique (Prior to 1926)
2. Semi-Antique (1926 - 1976)
3. Modern (1976 - current)
4. Coin
5. Pressed Penny
6. Collection, Exhibitor's Choice
7. Collection, Other Not Listed, describe

Models

8. Model Kit
9. Model (No Kit)
10. Model Exhibitor's Choice

Hobbies & Handicrafts
continued on the next page.

HOBBIES & HANDICRAFTS

Divisions & Classes Continued

Hobbies & Handicrafts Division

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 700 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under) | 705 - Adult (Ages 18-74) |
| 701 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5-8) | 706 - Adult 75+ |
| 702 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9-13) | 707 - Persons with Disabilities |
| 703 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14-17) | 708 - Group / Family |
| 704 - Youth Assisted | 709 - Professional |

Classes

Native American Arts

- 11. Basket Weaving
- 12. Beaded Article
- 13. Bow & Arrow w/ Quiver
- 14. Cradleboard
- 15. Doll
- 16. Exhibitor's Choice
- 17. Jewelry
- 18. Leather Craft
- 19. Mocassions
- 20. Native American Arts, not listed

Miscellaneous Crafts

- 21. 3D Printed Item
- 22. Beaded Item (Non-Native American)
- 23. Candle, handmade functional
- 24. Candle, handmade decorative
- 25. Centerpieces
- 26. Copper Item
- 27. Decoupage
- 28. Diamond Art
- 29. Electrical Device (kit)
- 30. Electrical Device (scratch)
- 31. Glass Etching
- 32. Holiday Decoration

Miscellaneous Crafts

- 33. Holiday, Wreath
- 34. Jewelry (Non- Native American)
- 35. Lapidary
- 36. Lapidary, any specify
- 37. Metal Craft
- 38. Metal Craft Painted
- 39. Metal Craft, Exhibitor's Choice
- 40. Mosaic
- 41. Paper Craft
- 42. Plaster of Paris
- 43. Resin
- 44. Scrapbooking
- 45. Smart Cutting Machine (Cricut, Lazer, etc)
- 46. Soap, carved
- 47. Soap, handmade
- 48. Sublimation
- 49. Table Decor
- 50. Tin Can Art
- 51. Toys, handmade
- 52. Woodcraft
- 53. Wood, any other not listed
- 54. Wood, Exhibitor's Choice
- 55. Wreath, non-holiday
- 56. Any other, not listed

HOBBIES & HANDICRAFTS

REGULATIONS

LEGOS

1. All entries must be the original work of the exhibitor(s) or a completed kit.
2. Entries must be stable and securely fastened to a base (a LEGO base plate, piece of wood. Etc.) to prevent pieces from coming apart during transport.
3. Entries must be clean and in good repair.
4. Exhibitors may enter only one item per class.
5. Project must have been completed during the past year.

Hobbies & Handicrafts LEGO Division

710 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)

711 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5–8)

712 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9–13)

713 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14–17)

714 - Youth Assisted

715 - Adult (Ages 18–74)

716 - Adult 75+

717 - Persons with Disabilities

718 - Group / Family

719 - Professional

Scratch Builds

This section is for exhibitors who use their imagination and a variety of LEGO pieces to create something completely new. Entries will be judged on creativity, originality and building technique.

Scratch Build Classes

1. Vehicles
2. Building(s) / Structure(s)
3. Scene / Diorama
4. Animal / Creature
5. Robot / Mechanical
6. Exhibitors Choice

Kit Builds

This section is for entries built from a LEGO kit following the instructions. Entries will be judged on the accuracy of the build, neatness and completeness.

Kit Classes

7. Kit less than 200 pieces
8. Kit 200 – 500 pieces
9. Kit 500 – 1,000 pieces
10. Kit over 1,000 pieces
11. Lego Classic
12. Lego City
13. Lego Technic
14. Lego Creator 3 in 1
15. Lego Architecture
16. Lego Themes (Star Wars, Marvel, etc.)

HOBBIES & HANDICRAFTS

“SOWING THE SEEDS OF THE FUTURE”

LEGO COMPETITION

New in 2026, Gila County Fair will host it's first Lego Competition. This year's LEGO contest theme is "Sowing the Seeds of the Future" focusing on the next generation of agriculture. We encourage all builders to use their creativity to showcase how technology and innovation are shaping the future of farming. Whether it's a model of a robotic tractor or a design for a sustainable greenhouse, your creations will help us celebrate the future of agriculture. Entries will be judged by Fair Board Chairman (or their designee) on creativity, originality, and how well they fit the theme. Below are ideas to help you get started.

The Future of Farming: What will farms look like in the future? Will they be on rooftops, underwater, or even in space? Build your vision of the Farm of Tomorrow!

Smart Solutions: How can technology make farming more efficient? Your creation could show a smart irrigation system, a robot that harvests crops, or a drone that monitors a field.

Saving Our Resources: Build a model that highlights the importance of sustainability. Ideas could include a system for rainwater collection, a compost-powered machine, or a habitat for beneficial insects like bees.

From Field to Factory: Show the process of how food is grown, harvested, and processed. Your scene could highlight a unique part of the journey, from a high-tech greenhouse to a sustainable food processing plant.

Hobbies & Handicrafts LEGO Division

720 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)

721 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5-8)

722 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9-13)

723 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14-17)

724 - Youth Assisted

725 - Adult (Ages 18-74)

726 - Adult 75+

727 - Persons with Disabilities

728 - Group / Family

729- Professional

Sponsored by:

Lego Competition Class

1. Lego Contest



Homemaking Arts

REGULATIONS

Celebrate the heart of home and heritage through handcrafted creations that reflect skill, imagination, and personal expression. This department welcomes entries across sewing, quilting, fiber arts, embroidery, and more—from timeless techniques to fresh, trend-inspired innovations. Whether you're preserving tradition or exploring new forms, there's a place for your work here. All ages and abilities are encouraged to participate.

Department Regulations

- All entries must be made by the exhibitor within the past year.
- There are no limits for this class unless posted within the class.
- Entries must be original and not previously entered.
- Items must be clean, complete, and ready for display.

Homemaking Arts Sewing Division

800 – Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)

801 – Youth Level 2 (Ages 5–8)

802 – Youth Level 3 (Ages 9–13)

803 – Youth Level 4 (Ages 14–17)

804 – Youth Assisted

805 – Adult (Ages 18–74)

806 – Adult 75+

807 – Persons with Disabilities

808 – Group / Family

809 – Professional

Classes

1. Cotton
2. Crocheting
3. Cultural Garments
4. Cutwork
5. DIY Kit, Specify
6. Felt
7. Hand Embroidery
8. Knitting
9. Machine Embroidery
10. Sewing with a Serger
11. Silk
12. Synthetics
13. Tatting
14. Upcycled Fashion
15. Visible Mending
16. Wool
17. Any other, not listed

Quilts

18. Block of the Month or Kit Quilt
19. Eco-Friendly (recycled fabric) or T-Shirt Quilt
20. Hand Quilted
21. Panel or Whole Cloth Quilt
22. Placemats (4)
23. Quilt Top
24. Quilted Garment
25. Table Runner
26. Wall Hanging
27. Any other, not listed quilt

Homemaking Arts

“Traditions in Thread”

Special Contest

New in 2026, Gila County Fair will host a special contest celebrating a holiday or cultural tradition through fiber arts. The challenge is to create a handmade item that reflects a meaningful holiday memory, cultural or family tradiiton. Entries can include wall hangings, ornaments, table decor, wearable items - anything made primarily with fabric, thread, yarn or other textile materials.

Entry Requirements

Must include a short written story explaining the tradition or story behind the item.

Homemaking Arts Special Contest

810 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)

811 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5-8)

812 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9-13)

813 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14-17)

814 - Youth Assisted

815 - Adult (Ages 18-74)

816 - Adult 75+

817 - Persons with Disabilities

818 - Group / Family

819- Professional

Class

1. Special Contest

Sponsored by:



Homemaking Arts

REGULATIONS

Homemaking Arts Holiday Division

800 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)

801 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5-8)

802 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9-13)

803 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14-17)

804 - Youth Assisted

805 - Adult (Ages 18-74)

806 - Adult 75+

807 - Persons with Disabilities

808 - Group / Family

809 - Professional

Classes

1. Advent or Countdown Calendar

2. Cultural Celebration Set

3. Cultural Celebration Set

4. Garland

5. Handmade Gift Wrap/ Reusable Bag

6. Holiday Decor (non-denominational,
interfaith)

7. Ornaments

8. Quilt

Important Information:

Wreaths are listed as a hobby/handicraft
item on page 25.

LIVESTOCK / SMALL STOCK / HORSE

Important Livestock Rules – Quick Reference

This section highlights frequently overlooked livestock rules and deadlines to help exhibitors prepare for the upcoming fair. It is intended as a quick reference only and does not replace the official Gila County Fair Livestock Rules.

Exhibitor Responsibility Notice

All exhibitors are responsible for reading and complying with the complete and official livestock rules as published on the Gila County Fair website. Rules, requirements, and procedures outlined online are considered the official and governing standards for participation. Failure to review and follow the official rules may result in disqualification or ineligibility to exhibit.

The following items are provided as reminders of critical requirements that are often missed:

Livestock Purchase Deadlines

- Steers: Must be purchased by May 1 each year
- Swine, Goats, and Lambs: Must be purchased by June 1 each year

Entry Forms

- Livestock entry forms are due the first Wednesday of June and must be submitted through the ShoWorks portal
- Horse and Dog entries are due through ShoWorks by September 1

Supporting Documents

Supporting documents must be submitted to your 4-H Leader or FFA Advisor by the last Wednesday of July, and received by the Livestock Committee no later than the last Friday of July.

Required documents include:

- Seasonal pass
- YQCA certification
- Bill of Sale
- Three (3) required photographs

Animal Eligibility

- The Gila County Fair does not accept intact livestock for exhibition or competition
- All animals must meet fair eligibility requirements prior to entry

Mandatory Sifting Process

- All livestock exhibitors must participate in a mandatory sifting process during check-in
- Animals will be evaluated for health, temperament, and compliance with fair rules
- This process is conducted to ensure the safety of exhibitors, animals, and the public

LIVESTOCK / SMALL STOCK / HORSE

EXHIBITOR QUICK GUIDE

(See full rules at Gila County Fair website for complete details)

Requirements

- Exhibitors must raise and show their own project animal and provide proof of ownership.
- YQCA certification is required for all large and small stock in Department K.
- Seasonal Pass required for cattle, sheep, goats, and swine (apply through AZ Dept. of Agriculture).
- Ear Tagging:
 - Steers – 2nd Thursday in May (make-up Saturday)
 - Swine, Lambs, Goats – 2nd Thursday in July (make-up Saturday)

Official Dress

- 4-H: Long-sleeve collared shirt (solid green, solid white, or green/white mix), dark pants/skirt, belt, boots/closed-toe shoes, green neckwear.
- FFA: Official FFA Jacket, white collared shirt, dark jeans, belt, closed-toe shoes/boots, official tie/scarf.

Important Notes

- Purchasing an animal does not guarantee eligibility to show.
- Showing an animal does not guarantee a profit.
- Buyers are not guaranteed for every animal.

Auction Notes

- Grand and Reserve Champions are required to sell
- Exhibitors must sign a waiver at weigh-in indicating which animal will sell
- All animals entering the sale ring must sell

Final Authority

The Livestock Superintendent has full authority and final decision-making power regarding exhibitor and animal eligibility. Decisions made during the sifting process are final and not subject to appeal.

LIVESTOCK / SMALL STOCK / HORSE

LIVESTOCK SALE PROCEEDS & CHECK ISSUANCE

To promote transparency and set clear expectations, exhibitors and families should be aware of how livestock sale proceeds are processed following the fair.

Livestock sale checks cannot be issued until the Gila County Fair has received all buyer payments from the sale. Buyers operate under a variety of standard business payment terms, which may include Net 30, Net 60, Net 90, or longer, depending on the buyer's internal financial practices.

Because of this:

- The fair does not have access to all sale funds immediately following the auction
- Checks to exhibitors are issued only after all proceeds from the sale have been fully collected
- It may take up to 120 days following the conclusion of the fair for all payments to be received and exhibitor checks to be issued
- Delays in check issuance do not indicate non-payment by buyers or intentional withholding of funds by the fair

The Gila County Fair works closely with buyers and partners to collect payments as efficiently as possible while honoring standard corporate and business billing practices. Once all funds are received, exhibitor checks are processed and distributed as quickly as possible.

We appreciate the patience and understanding of exhibitors, families, and buyers as we navigate these required financial procedures to ensure accurate and equitable payment for all participants.

LIVESTOCK

Beef / Dairy / Swine Classes

The Gila County Fair offers two introductory opportunities for our youngest exhibitors to experience livestock showing. Pee Wee Showmanship is a non-competitive, discovery class designed for pre-4-H youth ages 5 to 8. In this class, participants borrow an animal from a current fair exhibitor, and the animal must already be entered in the fair by its owner. Pee Wee classes are meant to spark interest in agriculture and livestock while providing a safe, supportive environment—every participant will be recognized for their involvement. Youth Showmanship, also for ages 5 to 8, allows exhibitors to show their own animal, which must be entered in the fair. These classes are judged on showmanship skills and exhibitors are placed accordingly.

Division: LARGE LIVESTOCK

4-H / FFA Division

900 - Juniors (Ages 8-13)

901 - Seniors (Ages 14-18)

OPEN DIVISION

902 - Pee -Wee

903 - Youth Showmanship

Beef Classes

1. Breeding Cow (Over 2 years)
2. Breeding Heifer (Under 2 years, no calf)
3. Breeding Heifer Calf
4. Replacement Heifer
5. Prospect Steer
6. Market Steer
7. Showmanship
8. Gila County Bred & Fed

Swine Classes

13. Market Swine
14. Prospect Swine
15. Gilt - Breeding Stock (animal must be a breeding project)
16. Boar - Breeding Stock (animal must be a breeding project)
17. Showmanship
18. Gila County Bred and Fed

Dairy Cattle

9. Dairy Cow
10. Dairy Heifer
11. Veal Holstein
12. Showmanship

LIVESTOCK

Lamb / Goat / Sheep Classes

The Gila County Fair offers two introductory opportunities for our youngest exhibitors to experience livestock showing. Pee Wee Showmanship is a non-competitive, discovery class designed for pre-4-H youth ages 5 to 8. In this class, participants borrow an animal from a current fair exhibitor, and the animal must already be entered in the fair by its owner. Pee Wee classes are meant to spark interest in agriculture and livestock while providing a safe, supportive environment—every participant will be recognized for their involvement. Youth Showmanship, also for ages 5 to 8, allows exhibitors to show their own animal, which must be entered in the fair. These classes are judged on showmanship skills and exhibitors are placed accordingly.

Division: LARGE LIVESTOCK

4-H / FFA Division

900 - Juniors (Ages 8-13)

901 - Seniors (Ages 14-18)

OPEN DIVISION

902 - Pee -Wee

903 - Youth Showmanship

Lamb Classes

19. Market Lamb

20. Prospect Lamb

21. Ewe- Breeding Stock (animal must be a breeding project)

22. Ram - Breeding Stock (animal must be a breeding project)

Sheep Classes

23. Wool Sheep: Ewe - Breeding stock

24. Wool Sheep: Ram - Breeding Stock

25. Wool Sheep: Ewe - Non-breeding stock

26. Wool Sheep: Wether - non-breeding stock

27. Wool Sheep Showmanship

Goat Classes

28. Market Goat (Doe or wether, 50lbs and above)

29. Prospect Meat Goat

30. Gila County Bred and Fed

31. Meat Goat Showmanship

32. Meat Goat Breeding: Doe (Animal must be a breeding stock)

33. Meat Goat Breeding: Buck (Animal must be a breeding stock)

34. Dairy Goat Showmanship

35. Dairy Goat: Junior Doe (under 12 months)

36. Dairy Goat: Junior Buck (under 12 months)

37. Dairy Goat: Yearling Doe (never freshened)

38. Dairy Goat: Junior milking doe (under 2 years in milk)

39. Dairy Goat: Senior milking doe (over 2 years in milk)

40. Dairy Goat: Mature Buck

41. Dairy Goat: Mature Doe

SMALL STOCK

Poultry/Turkey/Game/Pigeon Classes

The Gila County Fair offers two introductory opportunities for our youngest exhibitors to experience small stock showing. Pee Wee Showmanship is a non-competitive, discovery class designed for pre-4-H youth ages 5 to 8. In this class, participants borrow an animal from a current fair exhibitor, and the animal must already be entered in the fair by its owner. Pee Wee classes are meant to spark interest in agriculture and livestock while providing a safe, supportive environment—every participant will be recognized for their involvement. Youth Showmanship, also for ages 5 to 8, allows exhibitors to show their own animal, which must be entered in the fair. These classes are judged on showmanship skills and exhibitors are placed accordingly.

Division: SMALL STOCK

4-H / FFA Division

1000 - Juniors (Ages 8-13)

1001 - Seniors (Ages 14-18)

OPEN DIVISION

1002 - Pee -Wee

1003 - Youth Showmanship

Poultry Classes

1. Poultry: Rooster
2. Poultry: Hen
3. Poultry: Cockerel
4. Poultry: Pullet
5. Poultry: Old Trio
6. Poultry: Young Trio

Game Classes

7. Game Birds: Guinea Hen
8. Game Birds: Male Peafowl
9. Game Birds: Female Peafowl
10. Game Birds: Pheasant Hen
11. Game Birds: Pheasant Rooster

Pigeon Classes

12. Pigeons: Old Cock
13. Pigeons: Old Hen
14. Pigeons: Young Cock
15. Pigeons: Young Hen

Turkey Classes

13. Turkey: Old Tom
14. Turkey: Old Hen
15. Turkey: Young Tom
16. Turkey: Young Hen

Game Classes

17. Waterfowl: Old Drake
18. Waterfowl: Old Duck
19. Waterfowl: Young Drake
20. Waterfowl: Young Duck
21. Waterfowl: Old Gander
22. Waterfowl: Old Goose
23. Waterfowl: Young Gander
24. Waterfowl: Young Goose

SMALL STOCK

Rabbit / Cavy/ Guinea

The Gila County Fair offers two introductory opportunities for our youngest exhibitors to experience small stock showing. Pee Wee Showmanship is a non-competitive, discovery class designed for pre-4-H youth ages 5 to 8. In this class, participants borrow an animal from a current fair exhibitor, and the animal must already be entered in the fair by its owner. Pee Wee classes are meant to spark interest in agriculture and livestock while providing a safe, supportive environment—every participant will be recognized for their involvement. Youth Showmanship, also for ages 5 to 8, allows exhibitors to show their own animal, which must be entered in the fair. These classes are judged on showmanship skills and exhibitors are placed accordingly.

Division: SMALL STOCK

4-H / FFA Division

1000 - Juniors (Ages 8-13)

1001 - Seniors (Ages 14-18)

OPEN DIVISION

1002 - Pee -Wee

1003 - Youth Showmanship

Rabbit

25. Rabbit Mean Pen (3 Head)

26. Market Rabbit

27. Breeding: Doe (under 6 months)

28. Breeding: Intermediate (6 -8 months)

29. Breeding: Senior Doe (Over 8 Months)

30. Breeding: Buck (under 6 months)

31. Breeding: Buck (6 -8 months)

32. Breeding: Buck (Over 8 Months)

33. Rabbit Showmanship

Cavy

34. Junior Sow (under 4 months)

35. Intermediate Sow (4 to 6 month)

36. Senior Sow (over 6 months)

37. Junior Boar (under 4 months)

38. Intermediate Boar (4 to 6 months)

39. Senior Boar (Over 6 months)

40. Cavy Showmanship

HORSE SHOW

Horse Show Overview

The Gila County Fair Horse Show is a sanctioned 4-H event and is governed by the 2025–2028 Arizona State 4-H Horse Show Rule Book. All exhibitors are expected to follow the official rules and regulations outlined in this document, which serves as the guiding standard for competition.

In addition, 4-H and FFA Official Dress is required for participation, as detailed in the rule book. This ensures consistency, fairness, and respect for the traditions of youth equestrian competition. Exhibitors and families should carefully review the rule book prior to the show to ensure full compliance and preparedness.

Bareback Horsemanship is offered as a special event at the Gila County Fair Horse Show. Riders must demonstrate readiness and safety before being allowed to compete. **All participants will go through a sifting process, and final approval must be granted by either the Horse Show Superintendent or the Fair Board President prior to entering the arena.** This requirement ensures that only qualified riders participate, maintaining the safety of both exhibitors and animals.

Division: Horse Show

4-H / FFA Division

1100 – Juniors (Ages 8–13)

1101 – Seniors (Ages 14–18)

OPEN DIVISION

1102 – Pee –Wee

1103 – OPEN

Open to any Gila County Resident regardless of age.

Horse Classes

1. English: Showmanship
2. English: Horsemanship
3. English: Pleasure
4. English: Trail
5. Western: Horsemanship
6. Western: Showmanship
7. Western: Pleasure
8. Western: Trail
9. SPECIAL EVENT: Bareback

PHOTOGRAPHY

REGULATIONS

1. All entries must be the original work of the exhibitor and taken within the past year.
2. Five entries per class is allowed.
3. Photos may be developed or printed commercially.
4. Previously exhibited photos are not eligible.

Photo Size & Matting Requirements

- Prints must be between 5"x7" and 8"x10" in size.
- Each photo must be mounted on a mat not exceeding 11"x14"
- Mats must be cleanly cut and suitable for vertical or horizontal display.
- No frames, foam board, or posterboard allowed.
- This requirement ensures consistent presentation and safe, fair display for all entries.

Judging Criteria for Photography Entries

- Composition – How well the photo is framed and arranged; includes use of space, balance, and visual flow.
- Sharp Focus – Clarity and crispness of the subject; avoids blurriness unless intentionally used for artistic effect.
- Color & Lighting – Effective use of natural or artificial light and color tones to enhance mood, depth, and visibility.
- Print Quality – Clean presentation with good contrast, resolution, and surface finish; free from smudges or damage.
- Impact & Viewer Response – Emotional or visual effect on the viewer; how memorable, expressive, or thought-provoking the image is.

Photography Division

1200 - Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)

1201 - Youth Level 2 (Ages 5–8)

1202 - Youth Level 3 (Ages 9–13)

1203 - Youth Level 4 (Ages 14–17)

1204 - Youth Assisted

1205 - Adult (Ages 18–74)

1206 - Adult 75+

1207 - Persons with Disabilities

1208 - Group / Family

1209 - Professional

Classes

1. Black and White Print

2. Color

3. Cell Phone / Digital

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gila County Agriculture Legacy Photo Contest

This contest celebrates the rich agricultural heritage of Gila County through storytelling and photography. Exhibitors are invited to share the journey of a local farmer, rancher, grower, backyard garden hobbyist, 4-H/FFA youth or agricultural family—past or present—whose work has shaped the land and community.

Requirements

1. Submit 5 photographs that tell the story of your subject's agricultural life.
2. Use 5 different prints, any size, mounted together on one board not exceeding 12"x18".
3. Include a brief story (up to 250 words) describing your subject's agricultural journey, values, or impact.
4. At least one photo must be taken by the exhibitor; others may be archival or family sourced.

Suggested Photo Sequence

Photo 1: Early Years – Childhood or early farming/ranching days

Photo 2: Work in Progress – Daily life, tools, crops, livestock

Photo 3: Traditions – Family, cultural practices, or seasonal rituals

Photo 4: Community Impact – Markets, fairs, or local events

Photo 5: Current Portrait – A recent photo taken by the exhibitor

Legacy Photo Divisions

1210 – Youth Level 1 (Ages 4 & under)

1211 – Youth Level 2 (Ages 5–8)

1212 – Youth Level 3 (Ages 9–13)

1213 – Youth Level 4 (Ages 14–17)

1214 – Youth Assisted

1215 – Adult (Ages 18–74)

1216 – Adult 75+

1217 – Persons with Disabilities

1218 – Group / Family

1219 – Professional

Classes

1. Legacy Photo Contest

Sponsored by:



SCHOOLS

The School Exhibits Department celebrates the creativity, learning, and achievements of students across Gila County. Whether they're building models, writing stories, exploring science, creating art, or working on classroom projects, this department provides a place for students to showcase their hard work and growth.

Schools are encouraged to submit a wide range of student projects. Exhibits may come from any subject area—science, art, language arts, social studies, STEM, agriculture, and more. Teachers may submit class projects, group displays, or individual student work. This is an opportunity for students to share what they've learned and created throughout the school year.

Requirements:

- Entries must be created by school-aged youth residing in Gila County, including public, charter, private, homeschool, online, and alternative education students.
- Schools may submit class projects, group displays, or individual student work.
- Youth may also enter projects individually, even if their school or teacher does not submit a group entry.
- Exhibits must be clean, safe, and ready for public display.
- **Classroom projects that are heavy or contain multiple layers must be mounted on foam board to ensure stability and proper display. This requirement helps prevent damage from heavy artwork mounted on bulletin board paper, which cannot support its weight.**
- Teachers may use up to two trifold foam boards per classroom display.
- On group projects, please indicate the number of students in the class on the back of the project so that participation ribbons can be provided for all students who took part.
- Teachers or school representatives are responsible for coordinating the delivery and pickup of classroom entries.

SCHOOLS

School Divisions

1400 - Daycare	1408 - 6 th Grade
1401 - Pre-K	1409 - 7 th Grade
1402 - Kindergarten	1410 - 8 th Grade
1403 - 1 st Grade	1411 - 9 th Grade
1404 - 2 nd Grade	1412 - 10 th Grade
1405 - 3 rd Grade	1413 - 11 th Grade
1406 - 4 th Grade	1414 - 12 th Grade
1407 - 5 th Grade	1415 - Group/ Multiple Grades/ Cohort

Classes

1. FARM TO FORK CONTEST* (SEE NEXT PAGE FOR FULL DETAILS)
2. ART & CREATIVE EXPRESSION
3. STEM & INNOVATION
4. LANGUAGE ARTS & HUMANITIES
5. MATH & PROBLEM SOLVING
6. AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL
7. PRACTICAL & CREATIVE SKILLS
8. SCHOOL SPIRIT & COMMUNITY

SCHOOLS

Farm to Fork Contest

New in 2026, the Seed Art Contests “Farm to Fork” allows students to explore the journey of food from farm to table through seed art and personal reflection. This contest is open to all, including but not limited to public, charter, homeschool and online students.

Entry Requirements:

- One art piece per student on 5x7" cardstock.
- One artist statement per student, including:
Student name, why they chose their design, and something they learned.
- Please have the teacher bind all artist statements into a classroom booklet.
- Artwork must be mounted on a trifold foam board.

Lesson Plans and material guide available, [click here](#).

School Divisions

1400 - Daycare	1408 - 6 th Grade
1401 - Pre-K	1409 - 7 th Grade
1402 - Kindergarten	1410 - 8 th Grade
1403 - 1 st Grade	1411- 9 th Grade
1404 - 2 nd Grade	1412 - 10 th Grade
1405 - 3 rd Grade	1413- 11 th Grade
1406 - 4 th Grade	1414 - 12 th Grade
1407 - 5 th Grade	1415 - Group/ Multiple Grades/ Cohort

Classes

1. FARM TO FORK CONTEST

Thank you to our community for your continued support of the fair. Your dedication, participation, and enthusiasm keep this tradition alive year after year. From exhibitors and volunteers to families and local partners, each of you plays an important role in making our fair a success.

We invite you to join us again—bring your friends, celebrate local talent, and create lasting memories. We look forward to seeing you at the fair!

