

CULTURAL ARTS AND HERITAGE

Cultural Arts Exhibit – STATE LEVEL RULES

- All Extension Homemakers are encouraged to submit “original” items of original design.
- Entries comprised primarily of 3-D printed materials will not be accepted.
- Each article must be the work of an Extension Homemaker member and must have been completed during the past 2 years.
- A Homemaker (exhibitor) may enter up to one item in each sub-category.
- If a Homemaker is a dues-paying member in more than one county, please choose ONLY ONE county in which to enter all Cultural Arts exhibits.
- Should a KEHA member who is in good standing happen to pass away before a qualified entry can advance to the next level of judging (county to area, area to state), the deceased member’s entry will remain eligible, and the club/county will have the option to enter it at the next level.
- Entries will be exhibited by category. Entries will be judged by subcategory when indicated.
- The exhibitor is responsible for category/subcategory determination. Extreme care should be taken at the county and area level to place entries in the correct category and subcategory.
- Entries in the wrong category will be moved to the correct category, *if possible*. Entries entered in the wrong category, where there is no correct category available or where there is already another entry, will be disqualified.
- AREAS may exhibit one item from each category and/or subcategory (maximum number is 100 for 2025 – 2026). Identification of item should be on tag provided by state and attached to exhibit.
- Blue ribbons are awarded for high quality work, the number depending on the quality of the entries. Only one championship purple ribbon is awarded to best of the blue ribbon entries in each category.
- BLUE Ribbon and PURPLE Ribbon exhibits from previous years in each subcategory (or category, if category has no subcategories) are not eligible for entry in another KEHA cultural arts contest.
- The exhibitor and/or their representative is responsible for transporting exhibits to and from the state meeting.
- Each exhibitor must provide their own materials to properly display their item. Tape and nails cannot be used on the walls. If items are best displayed vertically, please provide an easel or equipment to display the exhibit in a free-standing manner.
- Please label any easels, picture stands, hangers, or other display equipment with exhibitor name.
- All exhibits must remain displayed throughout the duration of the Cultural Arts Exhibit. In the case of an emergency, items may be removed only on approval of the state Cultural Arts Chairperson.
- Neither the Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association nor the University of Kentucky will be responsible for any lost, misplaced or broken items. We do not anticipate any misfortune, but this disclaimer must be clearly understood by all exhibitors.

CULTURAL ARTS AND HERITAGE

Cultural Arts Exhibit – CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

When evaluating Exhibits, keep the Elements & Principles of Art in mind:

- **Elements:** line, shape, space, texture, color
- **Principles:** balance, emphasis, contrast, movement, unity, variety, rhythm, pattern

A. All Categories (except for those listed separately):

- 1) Originality / Creativity
- 2) Artistic promise (inspires viewer & demonstrates effort by artist)
- 3) Technique is appropriate for the category
- 4) Artistic expression based on the elements and principles of art & design
- 5) Workmanship / Neatness
- 6) Degree of difficulty

B. Baskets:

- 1) Woven with natural materials (e.g. reed, cane, NO FABRIC / NO ROPE)
- 2) Level of difficulty
- 3) Uniform shape
- 4) Proper finishing: tight rim lashing, trimmed lashing, excessive splinters are clipped or singed
- 5) Start / stop rows hidden
- 6) Packed weave (no gaps)
- 7) For wooden base baskets: Hole in the center of base is plugged and sealed

C. Photography:

- 1) Originality
- 2) Content (Subject matter)
- 3) Clarity (Is it in focus? Good use of lighting?)
- 4) Technical competence (When appropriate, demonstrates awareness of aperture and shutter speed)
- 5) Composition

D. Quilts:

- 1) Skill / Techniques
- 2) Workmanship / Neatness
- 3) Originality / Creativity
- 4) Artistic expression based on the elements and principles of art & design

E. Scrapbooking – Please indicate page(s) to be judged if entire scrapbook is sent.

Contest is limited to one-page and two-page layouts only. **No framed entries:**

- 1) Quality of photography
- 2) Neatness & Lettering
- 3) Journaling (Does it tell a story?)
- 4) Artistic expression based on the elements and principles of art & design

CULTURAL ARTS AND HERITAGE

Cultural Arts Exhibit – RIBBON PROCEDURES

There are 27 CATEGORIES

- 25 of the 27 Categories also include Subcategories
- There are a TOTAL of 99 Category/Subcategory designations

Qualified entries should be placed in the most appropriate Category/Subcategory; **please do not place an item in the “miscellaneous” category because there is already a similar item in the appropriate category.**

Entries advancing to the next level (County to Area; Area to State) should remain in the same, appropriate Category/Subcategory the entire time.

RIBBONS (*suggested* recognitions)

- Blue = 1st Place
- Red = 2nd place (optional at County and Area levels; not used at State level)
- White = 3rd place (optional at County and Area levels; not used at State level)
- Purple = “Best of Category” (optional at the County /Area levels; 27 awarded at State level)

At the COUNTY LEVEL

- COUNTIES may award ribbons in Categories/Subcategories AS THEY SEE FIT
- COUNTIES should select only ONE top-winning entry from EACH of the 99 Categories/Subcategories at the COUNTY Level to advance to the AREA LEVEL Cultural Arts Exhibit
- Only ONE item from each of the 99 Subcategories advances from the COUNTY Level to the AREA Level

At the AREA LEVEL

- AREAS may award ribbons in Categories/Subcategories AS THEY SEE FIT
- AREAS should select only ONE top-winning entry from EACH of the 99 Categories/Subcategories at the AREA Level to advance to the STATE LEVEL Cultural Arts Exhibit
- Only ONE item from each of the 99 Subcategories advances from the AREA Level to the STATE Level

At the STATE LEVEL

- State Exhibit receives up to 99 items from each of the 14 Areas (up to 1,386 entries)
- State Judges award BLUE RIBBONS for what they deem the highest quality work
- Judges may award as many Blue Ribbons per Category/Subcategory as they see fit
- Red Ribbons and White Ribbons are not awarded at the State Level
- PURPLE RIBBONS are awarded to ONE ITEM within each of the 27 Categories
- A State Purple Ribbon item is chosen from a State Blue Ribbon winner
- Purple Ribbons are not awarded by Subcategory at the STATE LEVEL

2026 – 2027 • CULTURAL ARTS EXHIBIT – CATEGORIES

Effective 7-1-26 through 6-30-27

Please refer to the **CLARIFICATIONS** pages for more information.

- 01. SEWING (Apparel & Home Décor)**
 - 1a. Basic Garment APPAREL
 - 1b. Specialty Garment APPAREL
 - 1c. Accessory APPAREL
 - 1d. Basic HOME DÉCOR
 - 1e. Specialty HOME DÉCOR
- 02. ART, 3-Dimensional** (*see Clarifications*)
 - 2a. Carving
 - 2b. Sculpture / 3-d artistic forms
 - 2c. Glass
- 03. ART, Natural** (*see Clarifications*)
 - 3a. Wood
 - 3b. Other
- 04. REPURPOSED & UPCYCLED**
(**MUST include a "before" photo**)
 - 4a. Clothing
 - 4b. Household
 - 4c. Other (includes junk journals)
- 05. BASKETRY** (*see Clarifications*)
 - 5a. Cane (includes Nantucket)
 - 5b. Wooden Base (excludes Nantucket)
 - 5c. Miniature (under 4 inch)
 - 5d. Novelty
 - 5e. Non-Ribbed, Traditional
 - 5f. Ribbed, Traditional
- 06. BEADING** (*see Clarifications*)
 - 6a. Bead Weaving
 - 6b. Wearable (non-jewelry)
 - 6c. Other
 - 6d. Diamond Art Mosaic
- 07. CERAMICS & POTTERY** (*see Clarifications*)
 - 7a. Hand-formed
 - 7b. Molded
 - 7c. Pre-made
- 08. COUNTED CROSS STITCH**
 - 8a. 14 Count Fabric & Under
 - 8b. 16 to 22 Count Fabric
 - 8c. Specialty Cloth (linens, etc.)
- 09. CROCHET**
 - 9a. Accessories
 - 9b. Garment
 - 9c. Home Decor & Afghans
 - 9d. Thread
 - 9e. Figurine (includes amigurumi)
- 10. DOLL/TOY MAKING**
 - 10a. Doll (any medium)
 - 10b. Toy (any medium)
- 11. DRAWING** (*see Clarifications*)
 - 11a. Pastels
 - 11b. Pen and Ink
 - 11c. Pencil or Charcoal- Black
 - 11d. Pencil- Color
- 12. EMBROIDERY**
 - 12a. Basic
 - 12b. Candle Wicking
 - 12c. Crewel
 - 12d. Machine
 - 12e. Ribbon **or** Smocking
 - 12f. Swedish
 - 12g. Tatting/Lace Making
 - 12h. Chicken Scratch
 - 12i. Punch Needle (under 60" perimeter)
 - 12j. Other

Continued on the next page

2026 – 2027 • CULTURAL ARTS EXHIBIT – CATEGORIES (continued)

Effective 7-1-26 through 6-30-27

Please refer to the **CLARIFICATIONS** pages for more information.

13. FELTING (*see Clarifications*)

13a. Needle Method

13b. Wet Method

14. HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

14a. Autumn

14b. Spring

14c. Summer

14d. Winter

15. JEWELRY (*see Clarifications*)

15a. Beaded

15b. Mixed Media

15c. Artist Design

16. KNITTING (HAND - with knitting needles)

16a. Accessories

16b. Garment

16c. Home Decor and Afghans

16d. Figurine (includes amigurumi)

17. KNITTING (OTHER - machine/loom)

17a. Other

18. NEEDLEPOINT

18a. Cloth or Canvas

18b. Plastic

19. PAINTING, ART (*see Clarifications*)

19a. Acrylic

19b. Oil

19c. Watercolor

20. PAINTING, DECORATIVE

20a. Metal

20b. Wood

20c. Other

21. PHOTOGRAPHY (mounted or framed)

21a. Black & White

21b. Color

22. QUILTS (*see Clarifications*)

22a. 1 Hm, Sm., **Machine** Pieced & Quilted

22b. 1 Hm, Sm., **Hand** Pieced & Quilted

22c. 1 Hm, Sm., **Combo** (MP/HQ or HP/MQ)

22d. 1 Hm, Med., **Machine** Pieced & Quilted

22e. 1 Hm, Med., **Hand** Pieced & Quilted

22f. 1 Hm, Med., **Combo** (MP/HQ or HP/MQ)

22g. 1 Hm, Lrg., **Machine** Pieced & Quilted

22h. 1 Hm, Lrg., **Hand** Pieced & Quilted

22i. 1 Hm, Lrg., **Combo** (MP/HQ or HP/MQ)

22j. 2 Hm, Med., **Machine / Hand / Combo**

22k. 2 Hm, Lrg., **Machine / Hand / Combo**

22l. 3+ Hm, Med. or Lrg.,

Machine / Hand / Combo

22m. Fiber Arts/Mixed Media, 1Hm,
Sm. or Med. (*see Clarifications*)

23. PAPER CRAFTING

23a. Card Making (single card only)

23b. Origami

23c. Quilling

23d. Scrapbooking

24. RUG MAKING (*see Clarifications*)

24a. Braided or Woven

24b. Hooked or Punch Needle (60"+ perim.)

24c. Other

25. WALL or DOOR HANGING (*see Clarifications*)

25a. Fabric

25b. Other

26. WEAVING

26a. Hand (macrame, caning)

26b. Loom (includes pin weaving)

27. MISCELLANEOUS

27a. Miscellaneous

CULTURAL ARTS AND HERITAGE

Exhibit Category / Sub-Category CLARIFICATIONS

- PLEASE contact the State Cultural Arts Chairperson with any questions.
- Please refer to this section to assist with sub-category placement of entries.
- Not all Categories are defined; as time and resources permit, this list will grow to expand upon and clarify most Categories.
- **Perimeter** = the total measurement around the outside edges of a two-dimensional entry; maximum perimeters are noted in: Beading, Drawing, Painting, Photography, Quilts, Rugs.

1. SEWING (Apparel & Home Décor)

- Items are constructed by SEWING
- a. **Basic Garment APPAREL** = features more basic sewing techniques
- b. **Specialty Garment APPAREL** = features tailoring techniques, more structure; includes appliqued and quilted apparel
- c. **Accessory APPAREL** = tote bags / purses / hats
- d. **Basic HOME DÉCOR** = ex: simple pillows / pillowcases
- e. **Specialty HOME DÉCOR** = ex: rope bowls; includes appliqued or quilted pillows, runners

2. ART, 3-Dimensional

- a. **Glass** = may include 2-D or 3-D stained glass or blown glass

3. ART, Natural

- Use of natural materials such as wood, stone, and earth
- Kiln-dried clay and pottery should be placed in 7. CERAMICS & POTTERY
- b. **Other** = reserved for entries that are NOT made with wood

4. REPURPOSED & UPCYCLED

- Exhibits must be accompanied by a “before” picture that depicts items in their original form before they were “repurposed or recycled” into the final exhibit item
- Subcategories describe the resulting (end) project, for example, if a CLOTHING ITEM is “upcycled” into something for the HOUSEHOLD, then the exhibit should be entered in “b. Household”
- a. **Clothing** = item is made into something that can be worn
- b. **Household** = item is made into a household or decorative item
- c. **Other** = item is made into something other than clothing or a household/decorative item; please place junk journals in this sub-category

5. BASKETS

- Baskets should be woven with natural materials (e.g. reed, cane, pine needles, leather); no rope baskets (rope baskets may be entered in 1. SEWING e. Specialty Home Décor)
 - “Basket-shaped” items that are knit, crocheted, or constructed with a method other than weaving should be entered in the Category that demonstrates the skill used
 - Dyed materials should be placed in the same sub-category as undyed materials
 - Baskets with a wooden base that has a hole where it was attached to the mold during weaving, should have the hole closed with a wooden plug and sealed
 - Chairs and stools with woven seats should be entered in 26. WEAVING a. Hand
 - Brooms should be entered in 26. WEAVING a. Hand
 - Where size is concerned, handles are not included in this measurement
- a. **Cane** = includes Nantucket baskets; ribbed, woven with cane (cut from rattan plant, has a hard, smooth, shiny side and a dull, fibrous side); any shape or size allowed in which a wooden mold has been used for shaping; staves/stakes or hardwood, cane, or flat oval reed are inserted/attached to a wooden base; rim is hardwood, cane, or flat oval reed; if wooden base has a hole where it was attached to the mold during weaving, the hole should be closed with a wooden plug and sealed
- b. **Wooden Base** = any size reed basket (ribbed or non-ribbed) made with a wooden base (excludes Nantucket baskets)
- c. **Miniature** = 4” maximum in any direction (handles not included in measurement); includes Nantucket baskets, but other wooden base baskets of “miniature size” should be placed in the “wooden base” sub-category
- d. **Novelty** = any WOVEN item used for something other than a traditional basket (decorations, wall hanging, gourds, leather, etc.); includes COILED baskets made from natural materials (not rope or fabric); enter brooms in 26. WEAVING
- e. **Non-Ribbed, Traditional** = Any non-ribbed traditional reed basket larger than 4” in diameter that does not have a wooden base
- f. **Ribbed, Traditional** = Traditional Appalachian, no less than 4” in any direction, woven on a wooden frame with a series of ribs emerging from the lashing, binding parts of the frame together

6. BEADING

- Non-jewelry items created with beads that are either strung in an artistic manner or sewn/attached to an object
 - Although “Diamond Art” is not made with beads, the finished projects are most similar to art created with beads
- a. **Bead Weaving** = may be completed on a loom or off-loom; max perimeter of 130”
- b. **Wearable (non-jewelry)** = may include garments adorned with beads
- c. **Other** = formerly called “miscellaneous”
- d. **Diamond Art Mosaic** = tiny, resin “dots” attached to a surface in an artistic manner; item may be 2-D or 3-D; maximum perimeter of 2-D art is 130”

7. CERAMICS & POTTERY

- Functional or artistic items created with clay or other inorganic, non-metallic materials which are then dried or are fired at high temperatures
- a. **Hand-formed** = Homemaker shapes by hand, with or without a potter's wheel
- b. **Molded** = shaped or cast in a mold by the Homemaker
- c. **Pre-made** = object is already formed and/or dried; Homemaker adds decoration

10. DOLL / TOY MAKING

- A doll or a toy for any purpose that is made from any medium
- Dolls or toys that are either crocheted or knit should be placed in either the CROCHET or KNIT categories under the "figurine/amigurumi" sub-category

11. DRAWING

- Two-dimensional drawing on paper, canvas, or similar (intended to be hung or displayed)
 - Drawings do not need to be in a frame, but should be mounted (if they are on thin paper)
 - Maximum perimeter of drawings (including the optional frame) is 130"
- b. **Pen and Ink** = may be black and white or have color added with oil roughing

13. FELTING

- All felted items should be entered in the Felting category under one of the subcategories
- Felted items may be 2-D "picture-like" art or 3-D figurines or objects
- Items that have been knit / crocheted and wet felted should be entered in 13b. Wet Method

15. JEWELRY

- Any decorative/ornamental item worn for adornment (e.g. necklaces, rings, earrings, bracelets, broaches, hair items)
- a. **Beaded** = primarily made with beads of any style or size (charms are acceptable)
- b. **Mixed Media** = uses a mixture of elements such as fabric, glass, leather, rope, wire mesh, etc.
- c. **Artist Design** = constructed with non-traditional and/or upcycled elements used in an unconventional manner

19. PAINTING, ART

- Two-dimensional painted on canvas, paper, or similar (intended to be hung or displayed)
- Does not need to be in a frame, but should be mounted (if they are not on a canvas with stretchers)
- Maximum perimeter of paintings (including the optional frame) is 130"

21. PHOTOGRAPHY

- Photographs should be either mounted or in a frame – MATTING and/or GLASS is OPTIONAL
- Maximum perimeter of photographs (including the optional frame) is 130"

22. QUILTS

- **All quilt construction, including piecing and quilting, must be completed by KEHA member(s)** in good standing. Each quilt must have a front, back, and batting.
- Quilts will be judged based on *all* components of the quilt construction regardless of sub-category; this includes the **techniques** of piecing, quilting, needlework and applique, as well as the **design choices** such as fabric/textile selection, color, and contrast
- Quilted pillows, garments, and crafts are to be classified in other categories, outside of Quilts; these types of items will be disqualified if entered in the Quilts category
- Classification is based on the perimeter measurement (including border), the process used for piecing and quilting (machine or hand), and the number of Homemakers who completed the quilt (1, 2, or 3+); these are abbreviated in the Exhibit Categories list as follows:
 - **Hm** = Homemaker
 - **MP** = Machine Pieced
 - **MQ** = Machine Quilted
 - **HP** = Hand Pieced
 - **HQ** = Hand Quilted
 - **Combo (MP/HQ or HP/MQ)** = Constructed with the opposite piecing and quilting methods; MACHINE pieced / HAND quilted or HAND pieced / MACHINE quilted
- **Sub-Category sizing (perimeter measurement, including border):**
 - **Sm.** = Small, 180” or smaller perimeter, this includes quilt blocks
 - **Med.** = Medium, 181” to 319” or smaller perimeter
 - **Lrg.** = Large, 320” or larger perimeter
- **Multi-Homemaker Quilts (22j. / 22k. / 22l.):**
 - Made by 2 Homemakers (2 Hm) or 3+ Homemakers (3+ Hm)
 - Medium or Large size (minimum perimeter is 181”)
 - Each multi-homemaker quilt is to represent only one AREA at the State level
 - Each AREA may enter only one quilt per sub-category
 - Multi-homemaker quilts shall be entered under the name of one Homemaker only, or one Club name
 - The Homemaker name listed on the exhibit tag of the 2 Hm quilt is to be the Homemaker that pieced the quilt
 - Within each sub-category, a Homemaker or Club may not be listed on more than one exhibit tag
 - Multi-Homemaker winning quilts will receive only ONE RIBBON at the State Level
- **Fiber Arts / Mixed Media Quilts:**
 - Must be Machine / Hand / Combo by one Homemaker (no 2 Hm or 3+ Hm quilts)
 - Small or Medium size (maximum perimeter of 319”)
 - Quilted works of art made for display on wall; should include a rod pocket / hanging sleeve or other construction that enables it to be displayed
 - Any technique (including photo transfer), displaying innovative, contemporary design and materials, using fabric as the primary medium is acceptable
 - This quilt may include pictorial representation of a person, place or thing

23. PAPERCRAFTING

- a. **Card Making** = enter only one card; please do not enter sets of cards
- d. **Scrapbooking** = entries are limited to 1 or 2 pages; scrapbook pages should be displayed as if they are part of a scrapbook; loose pages or pages in sheet protectors are fine – but NO FRAMED SCRAPBOOK pages; if the entire scrapbook is sent, please designate pages to be judged; enter “junk journals” in 4. UPCYCLED & REPURPOSED, 4c. Other

24. RUG MAKING

- Items in these subcategories are created with the intent to be used as a floor covering, however they may be created for decorative purposes only
- Maximum perimeter in this category is 192”
- a. **Braided or Woven** = these two methods are in the same sub-category due to lack of entries in previous years; include rugs made with hand-braided strips
- b. **Hooked or Punch Needle** = these two methods are in the same sub-category due to lack of entries in previous years; Punch Needle entries UNDER 60” perimeter should be placed in the EMBROIDERY category
- c. **Other** = place rugs sewn with pre-made cord or rope in this sub-category

25. WALL or DOOR HANGING

- Items in these subcategories are created with the intent to display on a wall / door / vertical surface; item must be constructed or adapted in way in which they can be hung or mounted on a wall or door (i.e. they are not created “just to sit on a table” nor sit on the floor)
- Items may be displayed in the Cultural Arts Exhibit sitting on a table or chair, however please include a photo or description of the method of hanging this item on a wall or door

26. WEAVING

- Woven elements should be a significant part of the item; this may include clothing, accessories, furniture, brooms, etc.

27. MISCELLANEOUS

- This is reserved for entries for which no other Category/Sub-Category exists; please do not place entries in “Miscellaneous” that should be placed in another existing sub-category
- Entries arriving to the STATE CONTEST in the Miscellaneous Category that are best-placed in another sub-category will be removed, e.g. if an item is entered in Miscellaneous because a similar item is already in the appropriate sub-category, the entry in Miscellaneous will be removed