



## Maryland 4-H State Equine Art and Photography Contest Procedures & Regulations

### Objectives

The primary objectives of the Maryland 4-H Horse Virtual Art and Photography Contest is to provide an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H to demonstrate their artistic ability and showcase their interest in equine and equine-related subject matter in a virtual setting.

### General

- 1) Contest date and time:
  - a. Registration: Youth contestants must register for the contests via their family 4-H Online profiles. Registration opens July 1, 2026 and will close July 22, 2026.
  - b. Entry Deadline: 11:59 pm on July 22, 2026
- 2) Youth contestants will submit their art and/or photography pieces via 4-H Online when they register for the event. The portal accepts *jpeg*, *png*, and *gif* file types. However, *jpeg* files are the preferred option.
- 3) Once you submit your registration via 4H Online, your entry is final, and you cannot go back and change your art/photography piece.
- 4) This statewide event will be governed by the prescribed procedures and regulations. Additional rules may be promulgated for specific purposes. Contestants not complying with the rules will be disqualified.

### Contestants and Eligibility

- 1) All Contestants must be enrolled in 4-H online by the contest entry deadline and approved by the 4-H Extension Educator of their respective UME unit.
- 2) Maryland 4-H members must be between the ages of 8 - 18 as of January 1 of the current year.
- 3) Entries must be the work of the 4-H member submitting them to the contest. The entry must have been made/completed within the past 12 months.
- 4) There are three age divisions; age is determined as of January 1 of the current year: Juniors are ages 8 - 10; Intermediates are ages 11 - 13; and Seniors are ages 14 - 18.
- 5) There are three contest classes. Youth may submit one entry per class.
- 6) Award-winning entries will be displayed on the Maryland 4-H Equine webpage.
- 7) The usage of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to create significant portions of the artwork is strictly prohibited. A competitor's artwork should be their own, specific, accurate and honest.



## Contest Classes

- 1) Fine Arts: Entries must be original works of art. No cartoon or copyrighted characters, figures, logos, etc. may be used. No paint-by-numbers, scratch art kits, etc.
- 2) Photography: Photographs must be equine related and taken in the past 12 months. Photos may be color or black and white.
- 3) Visual Arts: Posters/Infographics must be equine related. Posters may be of any medium and may be oriented horizontally or vertically.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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