

CULTURAL ARTS and HERITAGE

Cultural Arts Exhibit – STATE LEVEL RULES

- All Extension Homemakers are encouraged to submit “original” items for competition in state exhibits.
- Each article must be the work of an Extension Homemaker member and must have been completed during the past 2 years.
- 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.
- Entries entered 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. A 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 means of hanging exhibit from the wall.
- 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.

2025 – 2026 • Cultural Arts Exhibit – CATEGORIES

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

- 2a. Carving
- 2b. Sculpture

03. ART, Natural

- 3a. Wood
- 3b. Other

04. REPURPOSED & UPCYCLED (MUST include a "before" photo)

- 4a. Clothing (end product)
- 4b. Household (end product)
- 4c. Other

05. BASKETRY

- 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

- 6a. Bead Weaving
- 6b. Non-jewelry Item/Wearable
- 6c. Miscellaneous

07. CERAMICS

- 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

10. DOLL/TOY MAKING

- 10a. Cloth
- 10b. Handmade Toy other than
Porcelain/China or Cloth
- 10c. Porcelain/China

11. DRAWING

- 11a. Pastels
- 11b. Pen and Ink
- 11c. Pen and Ink with Oil Roughing
- 11d. Pencil or Charcoal- Black
- 11e. Pencil- Color

12. EMBROIDERY

- 12a. Basic
- 12b. Candle Wicking
- 12c. Crewel
- 12d. Machine
- 12e. Ribbon
- 12f. Smocking
- 12g. Swedish
- 12h. Tatting/Lace Making
- 12i. Chicken Scratch
- 12j. Punch Needle (under 60" perimeter)
- 12k. Miscellaneous

Continued on the next page

2025 – 2026 • Cultural Arts Exhibit – CATEGORIES (continued)

Please refer to the CLARIFICATIONS pages for more information.

13. FELTING

- 13a. Needle Method
- 13b. Wet Method

14. HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

- 14a. Autumn
- 14b. Spring
- 14c. Summer
- 14d. Winter

15. JEWELRY

- 15a. Beaded
- 15b. Mixed Media
(wire, chain maille, mixed with beads)
- 15c. Original Design

16. KNITTING (HAND - with knitting needles)

- 16a. Accessories
- 16b. Garment
- 16c. Home Decor and Afghans
- 16d. Figurine

17. KNITTING (OTHER - machine/loom)

- 17a. Other

18. NEEDLEPOINT

- 18a. Cloth or Canvas
- 18b. Plastic

19. PAINTING, ART

- 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

- 22a. Baby-size or Lap-size (hand quilted)
- 22b. Baby-size or Lap-size (machine quilted)
- 22c. Hand Applique (hand quilted)
- 22d. Hand Pieced (hand quilted)
- 22e. Machine Applique (machine quilted)
- 22f. Machine Pieced (hand quilted)
- 22g. Machine Pieced (machine quilted)
- 22h. Novelty (hand quilted)
(stenciled, embroidered, miniature, etc.)
- 22i. Novelty (machine quilted)
(stenciled, embroidered, miniature, etc.)
- 22j. Technology Based (hand or machine quilted)
- 22k. Miscellaneous (hand or machine quilted)

23. PAPER CRAFTING

- 23a. Card Making
- 23b. Origami
- 23c. Quilling
- 23d. Scrapbooking

24. RUG MAKING

- 24a. Braided
- 24b. Hooked
- 24c. Punch Needle, rug (over 60" perimeter)
- 24d. Woven

25. WALL or DOOR HANGING

- 25a. Fabric
- 25b. Other
- 25c. Diamond Art Mosaic

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 refer to this section to assist with sub-category placement of entries.
As time and resources permit, this list will grow to expand upon and clarify most Categories.

PLEASE contact the State Cultural Arts Chairperson with any questions.

1. SEWING (Apparel & Home Décor)

- Items are constructed by SEWING

Sewing Sub-Category definitions:

- 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

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”

5. BASKETS

- Baskets should be woven with natural materials (e.g., reed, cane, x, or x); no rope baskets (rope baskets may be entered in 1. SEWING e. Specialty Home Décor)
- 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
- Where size is concerned, handles are not included in this measurement

Basket Sub-Category definitions:

- 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.); COILED baskets made from natural materials (not rope or fabric)
- 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 an oak frame with a series of ribs emerging from the lashing, binding parts of the frame together

13. FELTING

- All felted items should be entered in the Felting category under one of the subcategories. Items that have been knitted or crocheted and wet felted should not be entered in Knitting or Crochet.

21. PHOTOGRAPHY

- Photographs should be either mounted and/or in a frame – MATTING and/or GLASS is OPTIONAL

22. QUILTS

- Quilts must be completely done by the KEHA member exhibitor. This includes quilting.

23. PAPER CRAFTING

- 23d. Scrapbooking entries are limited to 1 or 2 pages; If the entire scrapbook is sent, please designate pages to be judged.

CULTURAL ARTS and HERITAGE

Cultural Arts Exhibit – JUDGING CRITERIA

- A. Three-dimensional art, decorative painting, drawing, art painting, and ceramics:**
- 1) Originality
 - 2) Artistic promise
 - 3) Technique
 - 4) Composition
- B. Apparel, beading, counted cross stitch, crochet, embroidery, felting, holiday decorations, jewelry, knitting, natural art, needlepoint, pillows, quilts, recycled art, rug making, toy/doll making, wall or door hanging, weaving, and miscellaneous:**
- 1) Originality
 - 2) Workmanship
 - 3) General appearance
- C. Baskets:**
- 1) Made 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
- D. 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
- 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.**
- 1) Balance and symmetry
 - 2) Color coordination
 - 3) Quality of photography
 - 4) Use of space
 - 5) Neatness
 - 6) Lettering
 - 7) Journaling
 - 8) Use of embellishment
 - 9) Does it tell a story

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 100 Category/Subcategory designations

Qualified entries should be placed in the most appropriate Category/Subcategory

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 the County and Area levels; not used at the State level)
- White = 3rd place (optional at the County and Area levels; not used at the State level)
- Purple = “Best of” (optional at the County and Area levels; 27 awarded at the 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 100 Categories/Subcategories at the COUNTY Level to advance to the AREA LEVEL
Cultural Arts Exhibit
- Only ONE item from each of the 100 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 100 Categories/Subcategories at the AREA Level to advance to the STATE LEVEL
Cultural Arts Exhibit
- Only ONE item from each of the 100 Subcategories advances from the AREA Level to the STATE Level

At the STATE LEVEL

- State Exhibit receives up to 100 items from each of the 14 Areas (up to 1,400 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