

# **Welcome to the Arts & Crafts and Plants Department of The 2025 Charlotte County Fair.**

All items are for competition, exhibition, education and demonstration purposes. Sale of entries is not permitted while on display during the Fair. Since we are trying to increase the number of exhibitors we have added Divisions and Classes. We hope there is a category for everyone to participate.

Entries **for Arts & Crafts** will be accepted Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at the Charlotte County Fairgrounds, 2333 El Jobean Rd., Port Charlotte, FL 33948 at the back of the main building from 9 A.M. to 12 Noon. This includes **original artwork, paintings and photography.**

**Plants** will be accepted Wednesday, January 29, 2025 from 9 am to noon.

**Food** will be accepted Thursday, January 30, 2025 from 9 am to noon. Only unopened food will be returned. The rules have really changed for this category so be sure to check the Rules and Regulations.

All items must be picked up Monday, February 10, 2025 between 10 A.M. and 2 P.M. **All remaining items will be disposed of.**

All entries must follow the Rules and Regulations found on this: [TheCharlotteCountyFair.com](http://TheCharlotteCountyFair.com) website. The 2 page entry form is also on the website and must be completed before bringing in your items. When entries are brought in a claim check will be given for each item. You must bring the claim check to pick up your items.

All articles must be clean, handiwork of the exhibitor, and have been completed between January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.  
All articles cannot have been exhibited at the CC Fair previously.

## **Divisions**

### **Rules & Regulations:**

#### **Fabrics and Threads**

All General Rules Apply

Limit three (3) items per division

Items must have been assembled within the past year. Entries must be clean and in show condition.

#### Fabrics & Threads

##### Division 101 Crochet

Class A: Afghans

Class B: Clothing

Class C: Tatting

Class D: Miscellaneous

##### Division 102 Cross Stitch

Class A: Fabric

Class B: Plastic Canvas

##### Division 103 Embroidery

Class A: Crewel

Class B: Hand

Class C: Machine

Class D: Silk Ribbon

##### Division 104 Knitting

Class A: Afghans

Class B: Clothing

Class C: Miscellaneous

##### Division 105 Latch Hook

Class A: Miscellaneous

##### Division 106 Needlepoint

Class A: Canvas

Class B: Fabric

Class C: Plastic

##### Division 107 Quilting

Class A: Applique Hand

Class B: Applique Machine

Class C: Art Quilting

4" Sleeve must be attached for handling

Class D: Combination of Methods

Class E: Piecing Pieces by Hand

Class F: Piecing Pieces by Machine

Class G: Made by a Group or Partner

Class H: Machine Embroidery

Class I: Paper Piecing

Class J: Miniature Max 24"

Division 108 Sewing

Class A: Accessories

Class B: Garments

Class C: Miscellaneous

Division 109 Surface Design

Class A: Dying

Class B: Miscellaneous

Division 110 Weaving & Spinning

Class A: Woven Clothing

Class B: Woven Household

Class C: Other

Class D: Spinning Handspun Yarn

## **Handcrafts**

All General Rules Apply

Limit three (3) items per division but no more than twenty (20) total items.

### Handcrafts

Division 201 Ceramics

Class A: Basic, Oven or Air Dry

Molds may be poured by either the Exhibitor or a ceramic shop and pieces must be incised with the year

Class B: Hand Building, Pinch, Coil, or Slab

Class D: Wheel Throwing

Class E: Glazed

Division 202 Pottery

Insides of all vases must be glazed and bottoms of pieces must not be covered with felt or any other material. Pottery pieces may be glazed or unglazed. All pieces must be incised with the year.

Class A: Hand

Class B: Molded

Class C: Wheel

Division 203 Doll Making

Class A: Cloth

Class B: Porcelain

Class C: Vinyl

Division 204 Glass Art

- Class A: Fused
- Class B: Mosaic
- Class C: Stained
- Class D: Other

Division 205 Jewelry

- Class A: Bead
- Class B: Gold
- Class C: Silver
- Class D: Other

Division 206 Leather

All leather items will be judged on overall leather craftsmanship, originality and general appearance.

- Class A: Small items, (belts, Wallets, etc.)
- Class B: Miscellaneous/Other

Division 207 Silk and/or Dried Flower Arrangements

- Class A: Table Top
- Class B: Wall
- Class C: Wreath

Division 208 Woodworking, Carving and Metal Works

No kits allowed. Indicate on entry form if item is an original design, from a pattern, or commercial design. Judging will be considered equally on: Construction Workmanship, Decorative Value, Finish and Presentation, Shape & Form

- Class A: Original - painted or stained
- Class B: Original - unpainted or unstained
- Class C: Whittling/Walking Sticks
- Class D: Wood burning

Division 209 Basketry

- Class A: Original, handcrafted by Exhibitor
- Class B: Purchased and decorated/painted

Division 210 Birdhouses

No Kits or building from an existing birdhouse permitted. Birdhouses may be hung or setting on a table.

- Class A: Handmade & Painted
- Class B: Natural-handmade & unpainted

Division 211 Fairy Gardens

No larger than 12" x 18"

Division 212 Origami

Use any type of paper. No glue, staples, tape or any other kind of adhesive may be used to hold the origami piece together.

Entries may not be cut or torn.

Division 213 Miscellaneous

- Class A: Bead work
- Class B: Bean Pictures
- Class C: China Painting
- Class D: Christmas and other Holiday Art
- Class E: Clothes Pin Crafts
- Class F: Gourds: may be decorated or painted
- Class G: Natural Materials
- Class H: Paper Mache
- Class I: Paper Tole (Decoupage)
- Class J: Quilling
- Class K: Shell Craft
- Class L: Soap Making
- Class M: Stone Art
- Class N: String Art
- Class O: Toys
- Class P: Scrap Book Pages: Any color or size may be used, enter a two-page layout. Stickers, die-cuts and embellishments are allowed. Must use plastic sleeves for display purposes. Do not enter entire scrapbook.

## **Canned Foods & Culinary**

### **Judging Standards for all Classes in Culinary:**

1. Flavor
2. Frosting or crust
3. General Appearance
4. Grain
5. Lightness
6. Texture

### **Canned Foods**

#### **Division 301**

All General Rules Apply

One (1) entry per person, per class

Items must be in clear, standard, sealed canning jars with lids in good condition - dirty or rusted rings will result in elimination. Each entry must be labeled with the name of the product and date canned - must have been canned since January 1, 2024. Recipe and method of canning must be attached to each entry. No artificial coloring

permitted. Bring 2 jars of the same item, first jar for display, second jar can be small to be opened and judged.

- Class A: Fruit
- Class B: Honey
- Class C: Butter, Jams, Marmalades
- Class D: Jellies, Preserves
- Class E: Pickles & Relishes
- Class F: Vegetables
- Class G: Sauces, BBQ, etc.

### **Culinary - Baked Goods**

#### **Division 30 2**

All General Rules Apply

One (1) entry per person per class

Recipes can be from scratch or mix with other items added.

Entry must have the recipe attached on a 4 x 6" index card, and showing if a mix was used. Entries must be in or on a disposable covered container. Bread and cakes must be in their original uncut form - no "pieces" will be accepted. Cupcakes, Cookies, Brownies, Muffins, Rolls & Candy - 10 pieces per entry required.

No entries will be returned to the exhibitor.

- Class A: Biscuits, Rolls & Muffins
- Class B: Breads
- Class C: Brownies
- Class D: Cakes
- Class E: Candy
- Class F: Cookies
- Class G: Cupcakes
- Class H: Pie

### **FAUX Cake Decorating**

#### **Division 303**

##### **Rules:**

All General Rules Apply

Your entry is a dummy decorated cake with faux icing.

Cakes will be on display the entire fair

Entries will be judged on originality, creativity, workmanship and degree of difficulty and overall appearance.

This competition is open to all cake decorators as well as culinary and cake decorating students and will be divided as follows:

- Class A: Those starting out, Ages 13-20

Class B: Non-professional decorators who primarily decorate cakes as a hobby. Ages 21 & over

Class C: Advanced/professional - those who sell their cakes and/or teach cake decorating. No moving parts are allowed. Cake base is to be no larger than 20" x 20" as maximum display area is 24". Ages 21 & over. Entry may be the work of one exhibitor or a group. Only one entry per exhibitor or group.

## **Recycled Art**

All General Rules Apply

Limit 2 entries per exhibitor

Design an item from recyclable and/or non-recyclable material where the materials are used for a purpose other than its original use and remade.

Project may use many different materials.

No poison or hazardous materials may be used or displayed.

A picture of the item must be taken before the recycling process and must be included with each entry and your description. A description of the item(s) prior to start and the procedure used to accomplish your new creation must be included.

Please type or print description on one or more index cards.

Judging will be based on descriptive information, construction difficulty, creative use of item, and overall success in the reclamation process.

Examples of items to make: jewelry, baskets, ornament, toys, wall hangings, vests, etc.

## **Recycled Art**

### **Division 401**

Class A: Plastics

Milk/Bleach jugs, buttons, strawberry baskets

Class B: Fabrics

Jeans, Clothing, linens, quilts

Class C: Paper

Leftover wallpaper, cardboard, magazines, etc.

Class D: Glass, Wood, or Natural Products

Shells, Pinecones, etc.

Class E: Metal, Iron, Tin, Steel

Brillo Pads, etc.

Class F:

## **Art**

All General Rules Apply

Limit 3 entries per Art Division

Amateurs only, no professionals please

Art pieces previously entered are not eligible. All entries must be framed, except canvas gallery wrap paintings with finished sides.

All entries except canvas gallery wrap paintings must be ready to hang.

Only wire hangers all the way across back of frames will be accepted, no saw tooth hangers. Tape is not allowed on frame or back.

Names must appear on back of entry, upper right corner.

All entries must be consistent with the family program and Fair Management reserves the right to display or not to display any item.

### **Decorative Arts - Copied Art - from Existing Originals**

#### **Division 501**

- Class A: Acrylic
- Class B: Charcoal & Chalk
- Class C: Colored Pencil
- Class D: Folk Art
- Class E: Mixed Media
- Class F: Oils
- Class G: On Fabric
- Class H: Pen & Ink
- Class I: Reverse Oil on Glass
- Class J: Watercolors

### **Fine Arts - Original Arts**

#### **Division 502**

- Class A: Acrylic
- Class B: Batik
- Class C: Mixed Media
- Class D: Oils
- Class E: Pastels
- Class F: Pencils, Charcoal & Chalk
- Class G: Pen & Ink
- Class H: Watercolors



## **Photography**

### **Division 601:**

All General Rules Apply

Limit two.

Pictures must be 8" x 10". Smaller pictures will not be accepted.

Name must be on the back on the entry, upper right corner.

All entries must be consistent with the family program and Fair Management reserves the right to display or not to display any item.

Class A: Animals

Class B: Flowers/Plants/Trees

Class C: Old Structures

Class D: People

Class E: Scenery

Class F: Seascapes

Class G: Still Life - such as Fruit, candles, etc.

Class H: Vehicles

Class I: Black & White

Class J: Mixed - will be used if main subject matter cannot be determined.

# The 2025 Charlotte County Fair

## January 31, 2025 - February 9, 2025

### PLANTS

All items are for competition, exhibition, education and demonstration purposes.

Sale of entries is not permitted while on display during the Fair. Since we are trying to increase the number of exhibitors we have added Divisions and Classes. We hope there is a category for everyone to participate.

The Plant Department is for Container Grown Ornamental Plants, Vegetables & Fruit Plants, and Citrus, Fruits, and Nuts.

Any items that do not meet the requirements will not be accepted. If an item is accepted as an oversight, it may later be disqualified and/or not judged or displayed.

Entries **for PLANTS** will be accepted Wednesday, January 29, 2025 at the Charlotte County Fairgrounds, 2333 El Jobean Rd., Port Charlotte, FL 33948 in the main display building from 9 A.M. to 12 Noon with a limit of 3 items per division

All items must be picked up Monday, February 10, 2025 between 9 A.M. and 2 P.M. **The Fair Association is not responsible for and will dispose of any remaining articles not picked up by 2 P.M. February 10, 2025.**

All entries must follow the Rules and Regulations found on this website: [TheCharlotteCountyFair.com](http://TheCharlotteCountyFair.com). The 2 page entry form is also on the website and must be completed before bringing in your items. When entries are brought in a claim check will be given for each item. You must bring the claim check to pick up your items.

Each entry will be judged on its own merit, using the Danish System of Judging. Judging is done by the most qualified judges available and their decision will be final. The names of the exhibitors are concealed during judging so that each entry will be judged fairly on its own merit. The entry

of only one item in a division does not necessarily guarantee the top award for that entry.

All exhibits in the Plant Department are under the management of the Fair Association. The Fair Association will take every precaution to protect exhibits, however, the Association, its Officers or Agents will not be responsible for accident, loss, or damage of any entry. The Fair Association reserves the right to display or not to display at any time.

**Plant Rules:**

All General Rules apply

Limit of three (3) entries per Division.

All plant material must be fresh and have been grown by the exhibitor. When entering, include plant species & if known, variety. Indicate how plant was grown: Seed (S), Graft (G), Cutting (C), Division (D), ID Books will be available at the entry table.

If your entry has to be watered, please include tray or saucer to prevent water drips. Include care of plant while at Fair.

Evasive plants accepted only if grown in controlled containers, if not in controlled containers, they will not be judged or receive ribbons or premiums.

**Standards for all Judging:**

1. Clean, free from injury, disease, insects, and uniform in size, shape & color.
2. Of best market size & Quality.
3. Following General & Division Rules.

**Container Grown Ornamental Plants**

**Division 101**

Class A: Bonsai

Class B: Bromeliad or Air Plant

Class C: Dish Garden

List the plants

Class D: Evasive Plants

Class E: Ferns

Class F: Florida Native Plants

From Outdoors - Foliage

Class G: Florida Native Plants

From Outdoors - Flowering

Class H: Geranium

Any color, must be in bloom

- Class I: Hanging Baskets
  - List the plants
- Class J: Herbs
- Class K: Orchid
- Class L: Rose
- Class M: Succulent or Cactus Plan
  - Can be a group or 1 item
- Class N: Terrariums
  - List the plants
- Class O: Tropical Exotic Plants

#### Vegetable & Fruit Plant Rules:

- The variety name is to be noted on the entry form
- All entries must be clean, free from insects and diseases, and in good condition
- Water instructions should be noted on entry ticket
- One plant per container – except Herb Gardens
- All entries must be displayed on a 8 inch or 9 inch paper plate, except for entries in pots
- No glass, ceramic or plastic plates

#### Division 201 Vegetable and Fruit Plants

- Class A: Vegetable
  - Eggplant, Broccoli, Squash, Zucchini, Cabbage, Lettuce, Spinach, Chard, etc.
- Class B: Herb Dish Garden
- Class C: Herb Plant
- Class D: Pepper Plant
- Class E: Seedling/Propagation
  - Multiple plants in container
- Class F: Tomato

#### Citrus, Fruits, and Nut Rules:

- Fruits entered in this category would be fruits that are not considered to be vegetables in any part of their growth, i.e. Peaches, Oranges, Tangerines, Grapefruit, Nuts
- Each entry must consist of two (2) examples of each fruit displayed. Exception to this rule, due to the size and mature of the display, is pumpkins, watermelons, etc. – need only one (1) example.
- Each entry must be of comparable size .
- All fruits must be displayed on sturdy 8 inch or 9 inch paper plate.

No glass, ceramic or plastic plates accepted.

All fruits entered must be cleaned, free from insects and diseases, and in good condition.

One fruit may be cut and examined. Entries may be washed, but not waxed, oiled or polished with any additive. Entries may be removed at the discretion of the chairperson for reasons such as insects, etc. after judging.

#### Division 301

Class A: Citrus

Class B: Fruit

Class C: Nuts

## Judging Standards, using the Danish System of Judging

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| • Overall general appearance of item                                  | 25        |
| • Use, choice, difficulty & creative use of compatible materials      | 25        |
| • Attention to detail & craftsmanship                                 | 15        |
| • Suitable finish consistent with technique                           | 15        |
| • Appropriate presentation of item                                    | 10        |
| • Correctly completing exhibitor entry form with accurate information | <u>10</u> |
|   | 100       |

### About the Danish System of Judging

The Danish System of Judging is based upon established standards of quality for each type of product. In this system each exhibit is judged according to how well it meets the standard rather than how it compares with other exhibits. The judge evaluates whether the requirements have been met. Ribbons are awarded according to the degree that the exhibitor's project meets the standards. Also, in the Danish System, everyone whose work fulfils the minimum qualifications receives a ribbon.

"Excellent" Blue Ribbon Award – Exhibits that rank "Excellent meets the standards and fit well within the ability of most of the exhibitors." Excellent does not indicate perfection, but indicates a high degree of achievement toward the elements in the standards for the exhibits \$5.00 Premium

"Good" Red Ribbon Award – Exhibits that rank "Good" in relation to the project standards or expected achievement. Red indicates good quality; however, there is room for improvement in the exhibit. \$3.00 Premium

"Fair" White Ribbon Award - Exhibits that barely meet the product standards and need improvement \$2.00 Premium

"Participant" Red, White & Blue Ribbon Award – no premium monies, does not meet judging standards, but is displayed .00 Premium

Best in Division – The very best of the exhibits. There is no limit to the number of Blue Rosettes awarded. Best of Show awards will be chosen from the Blue Rosette winning exhibit. \$6.00 Premium

Best of Show – One "Best of Show" awarded in some areas of **Arts & Crafts and Plants Department.** \$10.00 Premium