

# **Custer County Fair**

**July 27 – August 1, 2026**

**Mackay, ID**

*Star Spangled Summer*

**OPEN CLASS ENTRY INFORMATION**

# 2026 Custer County Fair OPEN CLASS Exhibits

***Superintendent: Natalie Teichert: 208-589-2602***

Open class is an opportunity for Custer County residents to exhibit items they have created. Items will be judged, and premiums will be paid on blue (\$2) and red ribbon (\$1) exhibits. A “Best of Show” in each division will be selected and receive an additional \$20 premium. Articles submitted for judging must be made/completed within the last year. Any questions or grievances should be brought to the attention of the Open Class Superintendent or any member of the Custer County Fair Board.

**PLEASE READ THE OPEN CLASS SECTION THOROUGHLY, AS INFORMATION HAS CHANGED AND BEEN UPDATED!**

## **ENTERING EXHIBITS:**

- All exhibits entered must be accompanied by a complete entry form. An entry form is included with the Fair Book, Facebook page (Custer County Fair), or is available by visiting the Custer County Fair website at [www.custercountyidaho.org](http://www.custercountyidaho.org) (click on Fair Board tab)
- Entry forms must be filled out correctly. Please use the correct Division and Class numbers. If you are entering a quilt, you must fill out an additional form for judging. This form will be available during check-in.
- More than 1 item can be entered in each CLASS. Bring as many as you would like.
- There are three age groups for participants:
  - **Child:** 0-9
  - **Junior:** 10-18
  - **Adult:** 19 and older
  - Division and Class numbers will be the same, but entries will be separated into their respective age groups for judging. *Example: Juniors will be judged against other juniors only.*
- Entries will be accepted on **Monday, July 27, 2026.**
  - **CHALLIS:** 11:00 am -1:00 pm. Please bring entries to the Clerk's Office in the Custer County Courthouse on Main Street.
  - **MACKAY:** 10:30 am – 6:30 pm. Please bring entries to the Exhibit building located at the Custer County Fairgrounds.
- All exhibitors must pick up their entries at the Custer County Fairgrounds on **Saturday, August 1** from **4:30 - 6:00 pm** unless other arrangements have been made. Contact

Superintendent Natalie Teichert at 208-589-2602 or Fair Secretary Alexia Hysell at 208-993-3695 to make arrangements.

- Any items remaining after August 21 at 5:00 pm will be discarded and any premium associated with that entry will be considered a donation and be deposited into the Fair Board's general fund.
- **OPEN CLASS DIVISIONS:**
  - Agriculture & Horticulture (AH)
  - Antiques (A)
  - Crafts & Hobbies (CH)
  - Flowers (F)
  - Fine Arts (FA)
  - Home Arts (HA)
  - Needlework (N)
  - Photography (PC)

#### **AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE: (DIVISION AH)**

- *The Mackay FFA Greenhouse is sponsoring awards for items grown from their greenhouse. Please indicate if any of your AH or F Division entries originated from the FFA Greenhouse. Each class winner from the Greenhouse will receive a \$2 gift certificate, division winners will receive a \$10 gift certificate, and best of show winners will receive a \$20 gift certificate. All planters should incorporate 70% of the plants from the greenhouse to be eligible.*
- **Helpful hint:** *Vegetables and fruits are judged on uniformity of size, shape and color. Exhibits should be free from blemishes and insect damage. Items to be displayed on a paper plate with no cover or plastic wrap.*

#### **Agriculture Vegetables is divided:**

##### **Class 1: Grown in Greenhouse**

##### **Class 2: Vegetables Grown Outside**

1. **Beans** (plate of 4 pods)
2. **Beets, Turnips, Parsnips, Kohlrabi** (Plate of 1-2; leave 1" top & tail on; may be washed or brushed)
3. **Broccoli & Cauliflower** (1 head, cut close to bottom; must be solid; peel outer leaves)
4. **Carrots** (Plate of 5, leave 1" top and tail on; may be washed or brushed)
5. **Corn** (Plate of 2 ears; ½" stem at butt, ½" husked; do not trim top)
6. **Cucumbers** (Plate of 1, must have stems on)
7. **Garlic** (3 bulbs brushed; 1" top & roots on)
8. **Onions** (Plate of 2; 1" top & roots on; to clean-remove dirt only)

9. **Peas** (Plate of 4 pods)
10. **Peppers** (Plate of 1-2)
11. **Potatoes** (Plate of 3)
12. **Squash** (Plate of 1; stems must be left on)
13. **Tomatoes** (plate of 2)
14. **Herb** (3 sprigs)
15. **Radishes** (Plate of 4)
16. **Other**

### **Class 3: Horticulture (Fruits)**

1. **Apples** (plate of 3; stems on, state variety)
2. **Apricots** (plate of 5; stems on)
3. **Berries** (Plate of 5; leave stems on strawberries)
4. **Cherries** (Plate of 5 or more)
5. **Melons** (1)
6. **Plums/Prunes** (plate of 4; stems on)
7. **Rhubarb** (Plate of 5 stalks)
8. **Fruit grown in green house** (small 4 per plate, medium 2 per plate)
9. **Other**

### **ANTIQUES (DIVISION A)**

- Dishes must be washed and other articles cleaned.
- Jewelry and other small items must be in jeweler boxes and secured.
- No damaged or chipped articles will be accepted. Exceptions at superintendent's discretion.
- Blue ribbon items cannot be entered or receive a ribbon for another 5 years.
- The Custer County Fair will take reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of exhibits entered. However, the owners themselves must take the risk of exhibiting the articles. The person entering the articles for exhibit is responsible for them and must pick them up. Please do not enter family heirlooms. In no case will the Custer County Fair be responsible in any way for loss or damage to articles submitted. Presentation of article to be entered and submission to entry form shall be deemed acceptance of this rule.
- Criteria for judging will be based upon age, condition, rarity, overall appearance and cleanliness.
- Acceptance of items presented for judging will be based on the discretion of the judges.
- Vintage clothing is not accepted at the time.

#### **CLASS 1: Bottles**

- Example: Mason, Perfume, Soda, Medical, or Colored

#### **CLASS 2: Glass**

- Example: Blown, green, pressed, etched

#### **CLASS 3: Porcelain**

- Example: bowl, cup, pitcher, plate, salt and pepper

#### **CLASS 4: Miscellaneous**

- Example: Camera, clock, telephone, instrument

#### **CLASS 5: Toys**

- Example: Doll, games, animal

#### **CLASS 6: Books**

- Example: fiction, children's, non-fiction, reference

#### **CLASS 7: Metal**

- Example: Silverware, Jewelry, Bell

#### **CLASS 8: Kitchen**

- Example: Churn, crock, woodenware, laundry, container

#### **CLASS 9: Tack**

- Example: Branding Iron, fishing pole, lantern, military

#### **CLASS 10: Artifacts**

- Example: basket, beadwork, pottery, rug, stone tool

#### **CLASS 11: Tools**

- Example: hammer, wrench, saw, chisel, screwdriver

### **CRAFTS AND HOBBIES (Division CH)**

- Small items will be grouped at the discretion of judges. Please state on form and entry tag a description of items.

## **CLASS 1: Crafts and Hobbies**

1. Rugs
2. Leather goods
3. Self-made pottery
4. Models
5. Holiday items
6. Metal art
7. Jewelry
8. Woodworking
9. Ceramics
10. Toile painting
11. Toys
12. Macrame
13. Wall pieces
14. Baskets
15. Dolls
16. Other- large
17. Other-small
18. Collections
19. Braiding
20. Lego's
21. Stained glass
22. Refurbished
23. Furniture

## **FLOWERS (Division F)**

- Flowers must be cultivated; no collecting from the wild.

### **CLASS 1: Planter/Hanging/Baskets/Live Potted/ Herbs**

- Containers will be checked for drainage and sturdiness. Plant material will be examined for pests, health, vigorous growth, and lushness of the bloom.

### **CLASS 2: Dried, Preserved Arrangements, or Floral Art**

- Entries must be entirely natural. No silk, paper or plastic flowers or foliage may be used. Rope, metal, pottery glass, or other materials may be incorporated as additional design elements.

### **CLASS 3: Fresh Cut Arrangements (fresh cut flowers and foliage's in an arrangement)**

- Flowers and foliage's will be checked for pests and freshness. Vases will not be judged. We discourage the use of antique and expensive vases.
    - o Small Arrangement
    - o Medium Arrangement
    - o Large Arrangement
1. Pansy (5 stems with foliage)
  2. Petunias
  3. Flox (3 stems with foliage) any color
  4. Roses (1 stem 8-12" long w/ foliage, bloomed ½ to ¾ open)
  5. Snapdragons (5-7 stems)
  6. Strawflowers (3-5 stems)
  7. Sweet Peas (5 stems, foliage)
  8. Zinnia (3 stems, foliage)
  9. Other (state variety)

### **CLASS 4: One Flower Variety (Flowers only, no added foliage)**

1. Bachelor Button (3 branched stems)
2. Black Eyed Susan (3-5 stems)
3. Calendulas (3 stems with foliage)
4. Chrysanthemum (1 stem with foliage)
5. Columbine (3 stems with foliage)
6. Coneflower (3 stems with foliage)
7. Cosmos (3-5 stems)
8. Dahlia (3-5 stems)
9. Delphinium (1 stem, at least as long as bloom spike)
10. Dianthus (at least 5)
11. Gaillardia (at least 5)
12. Gladiolus (One stem at least as long as bloom spike)
13. Gloriosa Daisy (3 stems with foliage)
14. Shasta Daisy (3 stems with foliage)
15. Golden Glow
16. Hollyhock (1 stem, at least as long as a bloom spike)
17. Liatris (no more than 3 spikes)
18. Lily (1 stem 6-8" long)
19. Marigolds (3 branching stems with foliage)

20. Nasturtium (3 stems with leaf)

21. Other: state variety

## **FINE ARTS (DIVISION FA)**

- Items in frames must be ready to hang. Please state a description of exhibit on form and entry tag.

### **CLASS 1: Paintings**

1. Oils
2. Acrylic
3. Watercolor
4. Mixed Media
5. Other
6. Paintings done on other items, like wood, saw blades, milk cans, etc.

### **CLASS 2: Drawings**

1. Pen and ink
2. Pencil
3. Charcoal
4. Commercial coloring books
5. Crayon
6. Other

## **HOME ARTS (DIVISION HA)**

### **CLASS 1: Canning**

- Canned exhibits are judged on appearance of pack, uniformity of size, shape, color, clearness or liquid arrangement, and selection of product and container.
- Jars must be labeled on the bottom, stating product, canning method (boiling water vs pressure), and length of time. If not included exhibit will receive a white ribbon. All canned entries must meet the USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning or current Ball Blue Book, Guide to Home Canning, Freezing and Dehydration standards.
- Pack: Fullness. All space except proper head space filled; neatness and uniformity.
- Liquid: Must cover product with no excess; clear with little or no cloudiness or small particles; free from gas bubbles, appearance or pack, uniformity of size, shape, color, clearness of liquid arrangement, and selection of product and container.

- Product: Absence of defects. Original food high quality, free from indicated spoilage; meat properly rimmed. Uniformity: pieces of food reasonable uniform in size.
- Color: As nearly that of standard cooked products as possible; free from foreign matter and undue discoloration. Consistency: tender without over cooking
- All entries shall consist of clear jars and sealed metal lids.
- Bottles must be clean with NO RING.
- Use correct USDA recommendations
  - Quart or pint jars for fruit, meat, and vegetables except corn, which must be canned in pints.
  - Pint or half pints for fish, pickles, relishes, jam, jelly, preserves
- Use appropriate head space in jars
  - 1/4" for jams and jellies
  - 1/2" for tomatoes, fruits, pickles
  - 1/2" to 1" for vegetables
  - 1 to 1/4" for meats

1. Fruits: Example: apples, pie filling, pears
2. Vegetables: Example: carrots, peas, potatoes
3. Canned Specialties: Example: spaghetti sauce, salsa, dilled or mixed vegetables
4. Jelly
5. Jams
6. Butters
7. Preserves
8. Marmalades
9. Conserves
10. Pickles, relishes, sauces
11. Meat
12. Dried Fruit, Vegetables, & Herbs
13. Honey
14. Other

## **CLASS 2: Baked Foods**

- Place exhibits on paper plate inserted into a clear plastic zip lock bag. (No plastic/saran type wrap.) Exhibits must be finished product.
- Baking exhibits such as breads, cookies, cakes, etc. are judged on general appearance (size, shape, crust)
- Breads should be completely baked. An excellent loaf of bread should be uniform golden-brown color.

1. **Yeast breads** (1 loaf or 4 rolls) Example: croissant, rolls, machine make, raisin, sour dough, doughnuts.
2. **Quick breads** (1 loaf or 4 muffins/biscuits) Example: corn meal, banana, muffins
3. **Cookies** (plate of 4) Example: molded, drop, bar, sandwich
4. **Cakes** (1 cake) Example: cupcakes, cake doughnuts, cheesecake, layered cake, bundt

### **CLASS 3: Pies and Pastries**

- The criteria for judging pies are appearance, filling, crust and flavor. Flavor is the most important consideration of both crust and filling. Using an 8-9" disposable pie tin for open class is recommended.
- The crust should be evenly browned; the filling should be adequate in amount, uniform texture, and smooth consistency. The crust should be tender, flaky and crisp.
- Examples: Fruit (apple, cherry, berry), cream, cream puffs, crepes, pecan

### **CLASS 4: Candy (4 pieces)**

- Example: divinity, fudge, suckers, peanut brittle, mints

### **CLASS 5: Other**

## **NEEDLEWORK (DIVISION N)**

- Needlecraft is judged on workmanship and appearance. Workmanship includes complexity of pattern, execution of pattern, uniform stitches and design, & construction precision. Appearance includes cleanliness, pressing and blocking, suitability of color, pattern and fabric, and overall visual impact.
- State type/pattern on entry form and tag
- More than 1 item can be entered in each CLASS. Bring as many as you'd like.

Clothing (Sewn) is divided:

1. Child's clothing
2. Ladies clothing
3. Men's clothing
4. Crochet items. Example: Afghan, pillow, doilies, scarves, hats, toys
5. Knitted items. Example: Afghan, garment, accessories
6. Quilts: Project must have been finished since last years fair. Example: bed size, baby, wall hangings
7. Handiwork. Example: embroidery, counted cross stich, needlepoint, plastic canvas
8. Sewing. Example: pillowcases, apron, table clothes, runners, hot pads, bags, place mats

## 9. Other

### **PHOTOGRAPHY (DIVISION PC)**

- All competitive entries must have been taken during the last 24 months by the exhibitor. NO ITEMS CAN BE ENTERED IN CUSTER COUNTY FAIR COMPETITION FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR.
- No matted photos will be accepted.
- Items must be mounted. Example: mounted on a foam core or a firm mount board.  
Please note: no photographs will be accepted unless they are mounted and no photos will be accepted with frames.
  - Mounting is a hard backing behind the print. By mount board, we refer to heavy cardboard or foam core used for displaying photographs and available at craft stores. Mounts should not exceed ¼ inch thick. The mounting may not exceed more than 1/2 inch around the print.
- The minimum print size allowed is 8"x10" and the maximum print is 11"x13"
- Photos may be mounted vertically or horizontally.
- Prints in frames or mounted on wood, glass, plastic or Formica are not acceptable.
- No writing or markings of any kind may be places on front of the photograph or mount board.

#### **CLASS 1: Black and White Prints**

#### **CLASS 2: Color prints**

#### **CLASS 3: Computer enhanced, edited, AI generated**

1. Animal
2. Sunrise, sunset, night sky
3. Nature, flowers, woods
4. People and environment
5. Portrait
6. Landscape and cityscape
7. Clouds and rainbows
8. Action and sports action
9. Water scene
10. Lights, fire, lightning
11. Buildings
12. Weddings
13. Still life
14. Other—abstract, artistic, design, impressionistic