

HUNTERDON COUNTY 4-H & AGRICULTURAL FAIR

4-H CREATIVE WRITING EXHIBIT

Entries Received: the THURSDAY before the Fair, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Superintendent: Harry Brochinsky

Location: EXTENSION CENTER

Entries will be displayed in the Ramsburg Building on Fairgrounds

1. Refer to general rules for all Hunterdon County 4-H Exhibits. These classes are open to all Hunterdon County 4-H members grades 4th -13th. (Grade is based on grade completed not grade entering.)
2. **All entries must be brought to the 4-H office by the Thursday before the Fair, between 6:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Late entries will not be accepted.**
3. **Project book, exhibitor card and scoresheet must be completed and brought to the entry drop off on the Thursday before the Fair. If sheets are not included with items your items will not be accepted. No exceptions.**
4. **An exhibitor card and appropriate score sheet must accompany each entry.** Score sheets and exhibitor cards are available at the 4-H office, and you can also find score sheets on the Fair website hunterdoncountyfair.com. Your name should not appear anywhere on the score sheet or your creative writing project. Your exhibitor number will be your identification. You need to call the 4-H office for this number. **Division I 4th - 7th grade and Division II 8th - 13th grade. All paperwork must be completed by the time of arrival, or your entry will not be accepted.**
5. **All creative writing entries must be original** and written by 4-H member during the current 4-H year.
6. No entry can be more than 750 words or three pages. Everything must be double spaced and single sided.

All fair exhibits must remain on display for the duration of the fair. Nothing can be removed prior to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday. The 4-H office, the fair and the superintendents are not responsible for fair exhibits not picked up after 6:00 p.m. Please plan with a family member or friend to pick up your items if you cannot pick them up yourself.

Awards: 4-H members will receive a participation certificate for their fair entries in this project area.

Creative Writing Classes:

- 1. Fiction**
- 2. Non-fiction**
- 3. Fantasy**
- 4. My Best 4-H Experience**
- 5. Where do I See Myself in 10 Years?**
- 6. Historical**
- 7. Mystery**
- 8. Humorous**
- 9. Miscellaneous**
- 10. Poetry**

STEPS TO BETTER WRITING (AND BETTER WRITING GRADES!)

1. Use Action verbs. Avoid passive verbs; forms of “to be”: is, are, were, was.
2. Avoid wordiness. Example: When he wrote in his book, Huckleberry Finn. Twain clearly...Better: In Huckleberry Finn Twain clearly...
3. State your thesis clearly.
4. State your ideas precisely. Use specific, concrete words. Refer to details.
5. Support your ideas with examples, quotations, paraphrases, and/or summaries followed by appropriate documentation.
6. Organize your ideas so that they lead the reader convincingly to your conclusion.
7. Revise your writing. Give yourself enough time.
8. Use transition words, phrases, sentences, and/or short transition paragraphs to bridge ideas.
9. Avoid run-on sentences and sentence fragments.
10. Punctuate carefully.
11. Learn correct conventions for titles. Underline the titles of books. Example: Huckleberry Finn; use quotation marks around titles of stories, articles, poems found in books.
12. Avoid cliches.
13. Proofread carefully before submitting.