

IOWA COUNTY FAIR

JULY 8-12, 2026

OPEN CLASS EXHIBITS

Superintendents: Linda Grabau, Jean Reihman, Marcia Bear

Entry Fee: \$1.00 per item in all departments

Important Open Class Dates & Times

Exhibit Check In: Monday, July 6 6-8 pm
Tuesday, July 7 9-11 am
Open House: Wednesday, July 8 4-8 pm
Thursday, July 9 – Saturday July 11 9 am-8 pm

Exhibit Release Time: New Time for 2026

Sunday, July 12 9 AM – 11 AM

Exhibits must be picked up at this time. If you are unable to pick up your exhibits please arrange for someone else to check them out on your behalf. No early removal.

General Open Class Rules

1. Exhibitors may be residents of Iowa County or a surrounding county.
2. 4-H & FFA members cannot enter the same exhibit in both 4-H & FFA classes and Open Class.
3. All exhibits must be checked in Monday, July 6 from 6-8 pm **OR** Tuesday, July 7 from 9-11 am.
4. May include 3x5 card with a brief description with choices of material or process used. Not required.
5. Ribbons will be awarded to all exhibits. One exhibit in each department will be chosen "Best of Show".
6. Products of the Kitchen will be included in the Bake Sale. Proceeds will be used for Open Class awards.
7. All exhibits **MUST** be picked up on Sunday, July 12 from 9 am to 11 am. Entries must be checked out with an Open Class superintendent before removing. No early removal.
8. The superintendents and assistants reserve the right to reclassify an entry.
9. Exhibitors may enter any number of items per department.

Open Class superintendents are not responsible for broken or damaged goods. If it is a priceless item or fear of damage, please do not bring as an exhibit.

DEPARTMENT 1 – Art

All pictures/art must be ready for hanging. Suggested entries include:

- Painting
- Drawing
- Computer Generated Art
- Pottery
- Any other item

DEPARTMENT 2 – Crafts

Suggested items include:

- Jewelry
- Glass
- Leather
- Ceramics
- Basket Weaving
- Caning
- Any other item

DEPARTMENT 3 – Photography

All photos are to be mounted. Exhibitors may mount their own photo on mat board, use ready cut window mats, or have matting done professionally. Foam board may be added for stability. Framed photos will not be judged.

- Color Photos
- Photo Series
- Black and White Photography
- Digital (Modified, Enhanced)
- Any other item

DEPARTMENT 4– Professional Photography

All photos are to be mounted. Exhibitors may mount their own photo on mat board, use ready cut window mats, or have matting done professionally. Foam board may be added for stability. Framed photos will not be judged.

- Color Photos
- Photo Series
- Black and White Photography
- Digital (Modified, Enhanced)
- Any other item

DEPARTMENT 5 – Hobbies

A collection of 3 or more small articles. Example: marbles, pencils, pens, compacts, button, etc.

DEPARTMENT 6 – Heritage

Articles made by an ancestor. Example: clothing, quilts, small piece of furniture, toys, dolls, etc.

DEPARTMENT 7 – Textiles

All clothing must be brought on hangers. Exhibits may be brought in plastic bags to prevent soiling. Suggested items include:

- Needlework - Knitting, Crochet, Counted Cross Stitch, Embroidery, Needlepoint
- Constructed Clothing
- Weaving/Braided Rugs
- Any other item

DEPARTMENT 8 – Quilting

Exhibits may be brought in plastic bag to prevent soiling. All items must be quilted. Piecing and quilting may be done by two different individuals. Suggested entries include:

- Hand Quilted Quilt/Item
- Machine Quilted Quilt/Item
- Computerized Quilt/Item
- Hand Applique
- Any other item

DEPARTMENT 9 – Vegetables and Fruits

Entries must be grown by exhibitor. All exhibits to be placed on paper plate. Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to include the variety with their entry as this is helpful to the judge, not a requirement for entry.

- I. Vegetables
 - Beans.....6
 - Cole Crops1 head Cabbage, Cauliflower, Broccoli
 - Kohlrabi.....3
 - Cucumbers.....3
 - Root Crops.....3
 - Beets, Carrots, Potatoes, Radishes, Turnips, other
 - Onions.....3
 - Peppers.....3
 - Squash.....1
 - Tomatoes.....3
 - Herbs.....5 sprigs per bottle
 - Any other item
- II. Fruit
 - Berries.....6
 - Tree & Vine Bearing.....3
 - All other fruit.....3

DEPARTMENT 10 – Flowers

Entries to be grown by the exhibitor. Stem containers to be clear glass. Include variety/flower name on tags.

- Potted Plants
- Annual Flowers.....1 – 3 Stems
- Perennial Flowers.....1 – 3 Stems
- Any other item

DEPARTMENT 11 – Flower Show

- Fresh
- Dried
- Silk
- Any other item

DEPARTMENT 12 – Products of the Kitchen

All entries must be homemade by exhibitor, placed on paper plate and in plastic wrap or storage bag. Cakes to be unfrosted, with the exception of decorated cakes. Pies to be in disposable pie tin. No custard or cream pies.

Recipe must accompany each entry.

- Yeast Bread
- Other Bread Type: Frozen, Mixes, Bread Machine
- Quick Bread
- Yeast Rolls - 6 on a plate
- Muffins - 6 on a plate
- Cookies - 6 on a plate
- Cake, unfrosted
- Decorated Cake (may be mix & can be frosted)
- Pie
- Candy
- Any other item

Canned Goods - Exhibit includes two jars, recipe attached. One will be opened by the judge, other jar displayed. Jams, jellies, preserves, etc. processed in hot water bath with two piece lid. No paraffin wax.

DEPARTMENT 13 – Products of the WorkshopNew for 2026**

All entries must be made, constructed, refinished by the exhibitor. Suggested entries include:

Wood

Small furniture, cutting board, wall décor, etc.

Refinished

Recycled

Yard ornament

Any other item

Metal

Welded, forged, machined, sheet metal

Farm

Home

Tools

Plasma, laser cutting

Yard ornament/sign

Recycled

Any other item

DEPARTMENT 14 – Children’s Class

Exhibitor 12 years of age and younger. Suggested entries include:

Lego BuildsNew for 2026**

Art

Craft

Photography

Hobbies

Textiles

Fruits and Vegetables

Flowers

Products of the Kitchen

Products of the WorkshopNew for 2026**

Any other item