

FAQ About Open Class for the Eagle County Fair

Q: What is Open Class?

A: Open Class is part of our Eagle County Fair. Participants bring items that they have made, and enter them to be judged against like items. Every entry is given a ribbon, and displayed for the public to see during the Eagle County Fair.

Q: Who can enter Open Class?

A: Open Class is open to **all** residents of all ages of Eagle County, Colorado. Participants are judged against their own age group. There are different age categories for youth, 2-7 years old (are not judged, and receive a participation ribbon), 8-10 years, 11-13 years, and 14-17 years. Adults are judged separately, as well as professionals.

Q: What constitutes a professional entry?

A: Any individual whose earnings from the practice of a skill/craft exceeds \$500 per year is considered a professional. No price tag can be placed on your exhibit, but you can place a business card next to your entry after it has been judged and displayed.

Q: What if I enter as a professional and not all of my entries are from my professional craft?

A: Only the items that fall within your professional skill will be judged as professional. Any other entries can be entered in the adult category.

Q: What can I enter into the Open Class competition?

A: Any item made, or grown by you within the last 12 months. If an item took over one year to create, but was finished within the last 12 months, than you can enter it for judging.

Q: Do I have to personally bring/pick-up my Open Class entries to the Eagle River Center?

A: No. You can fill out the appropriate paperwork, and have someone else bring in your entries, or pick them up for you.

Q: Who judges Open Class?

A: Eagle County hires judges who live outside of Eagle County, who are knowledgeable about the craft in which they are judging. All names are covered during the judging process, so no judges even see the names of the entrants.

Q: Where do I bring my entries to enter?

A: The Eagle River Center at the Eagle County Fairgrounds.

Q: Do I need to pay to enter into Open Class?

A: No, it is free to enter.

Q: Is there a limit to how many entries I can bring?

A: No, there is not a limit of entries. You can only enter one entry in each class though. For example, there are 13 classes in the Cake Division. You could enter 13 different cakes, one of each class- white, yellow, chocolate, carrot, etc.

Q: I understand that there are some special requirements for entering my canned food. What are they?

A: Each canned entry needs to be marked with the product name, date of preparation, processing method (hot water bath or pressure canner), processing time, and elevation at which it was canned. The information can be written on the lid, or placed on a sticker or card attached to each jar. To see all of the general judging guidelines for food preservation, click on this link:
http://nchfp.uga.edu/publications/nchfp/tech_bull.html

Q: Why is only a slice of my baked good displayed?

A: A portion of your baked entry will be displayed on a plate, along with your ribbon. The rest of your baked good will be divided, wrapped, and sold to the public. It allows the public to taste the fair entries, and not let the food go to waste.