

Laredo International Fair and Exposition

February 22- March 1, 2025

62nd Annual



**Laredo International
Fair & Exposition**

Rules and Regulations

Baking, Canning & Sewing

GENERAL RULES

1. COMPETITION-

Competition is open to any Elementary (3rd grade – 5th grade or be at least 9 years old), Middle School or High School student who is actively enrolled and in good standing of an FFA chapter, 4-H club, baking, canning or sewing club or FCCLA (Family Career & Community Leaders of America) organization in Webb County that competes at L.I.F.E. Exhibitor(s) must have personally baked, canned or sewn, etc. the entries in accordance with the rules and regulations set by the Laredo International Fair & Exposition (L.I.F.E.)

2. SCHOOL STATUS & ELIGIBILITY FORM-

Students who have graduated, dropped out of school, are enrolled in a Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) or a Justice Juvenile Alternative Education Program (JJAEP), or are not enrolled in school in Webb County are ineligible to participate. In accordance with Texas Education Agency and local public school board policies, L.I.F.E. will require all 4-H and FFA exhibitors to submit a **House Bill 72 form/eligibility form by February 3rd, 2025 at 5pm**. Form must be submitted to the L.I.F.E. office by CEA/AST on or before ANY EXHIBITOR THAT DOES NOT SUBMIT FORM BY DEADLINE WILL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM PARTICIPATING IN ANY L.I.F.E. ACTIVITIES. 4-H House bill 72 form does need to be turned in to Extension and L.I.F.E.

3. LIMIT OF ENTRIES-

3.1 Enter a total of two exhibits

3.2 Exhibitors may show up to a total of eight (8) projects. However, Exhibitor may not show no more than two projects/exhibits per division which includes Livestock (including Poultry and Rabbits), Ag Mechanics, Canning, Baking and Sewing, and Art. **(Breeding livestock for exhibition are not included)**

Example: Two (2) Livestock (including poultry & rabbits) projects, Two (2) Ag Mechanics projects, Two (2) Canning, Baking or Sewing projects, and Two (2) Art projects for a total of eight (8) exhibits.

3.3 An exhibitor may sell one (1) Livestock project (including Poultry and Rabbits) **and** one (1) Non-Livestock project (Ag Mechanics, Canning, Baking, Sewing or Art)

4. ENTRY CARDS- The entry card must have the following:

1. Name of the exhibitor,
2. Name of FCCLA organization, 4-H Club, or FFA Chapter, Baking, Canning & Sewing Club
3. Signature of sponsor of the FCCLA organization, 4-H club or FFA Chapter, Baking Canning Club
4. Signature of Parent/Guardian.

5. Judged items will be sold at the awards ceremony and proceeds will go back to the exhibitor in the form of a check. Subject to sale fee.

5. ENTRY FEE-An entry fee must be paid with an entry card and delivered by the County Extension Agent (CEA), Agriculture Science Teacher (AST), Art teacher or Art club Sponsor. Entry fees must be paid by Cashier's Check, Postal Money Order, School District Check, or 4-H Club Check, Cash or Card.

Baking, Canning & Sewing (\$30.00 FEE) -Participants will be given 2 tickets (one exhibitor, one guest) for Awards Ceremony. Additional tickets may be purchased for \$10.00 at L.I.F.E. office.

6. ENTRY CLOSING DATE- All entry cards and fee must be at the L.I.F.E office by 5 p.m. on or before February 3rd, 2025.

7. EXHIBITORS -Exhibits in Baking, Canning, and Sewing will be divided into the following:

Elementary- 3rd grade or 9 years old -5th grade
Middle School 6th – 8th grade
High School 9th – 12th grade

8. SALE- Grand and Reserve Grand Champion projects will be placed on a silent auction on , **March 1st, 2025** during the Live Auction.

9. SALE FEE: A sale commission not to exceed 5% will be withheld from each exhibitor on all projects. This amount will be determined and voted on by the L.I.F.E. Board at the meeting during which the fair budget is determined.

10. THANK YOU LETTERS: All Thank You, letters must be submitted to L.I.F.E. office by the second Friday in May (May 9, 2025). Late submissions will be accepted after the deadline through the second Friday in June (June 13, 2025); and a 10 % late fee will be assessed. After this time, Exhibitor forfeits all funds and funds will be allotted for L.I.F.E. scholarship fund.

11. DROP- OFF OF PROJECTS- Will be at the L.I.F.E. Pavilion from 8:00- 9:00 AM. No late entries will be accepted.

12. BAKING, CANNING, & SEWING JUDGING- Will take place during a closed door judging at 10:00 am **Wednesday, February 12th, 2025 at the L.I.F.E. Pavilion.**

13. AWARDS CEREMONY- There will be an Awards Ceremony on **Wednesday, February 12th, 2025** at 6:00 p.m. at **L.I.F.E Pavilion**. Each exhibitor will receive two (2) complimentary tickets (one for exhibitor and one for a guest). Awards Ceremony is open to the public, family and friends. Tickets will be available for purchase for \$10.00. Tickets must be purchased at the L.I.F.E. office.

No tickets will be sold at the door. Deadline to purchase tickets for Awards Ceremony will be Monday, February 10th 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

14. WINNERS WILL ONLY BE ANNOUNCED AT AWARDS CEREMONY.
Wednesday, February 12th, 2025.

15. AUCTION Grand and Reserve Grand Champion projects in the Canning, Baking and Sewing competition will be placed on a silent auction on Saturday, **March 1st, 2025** during the Live Auction.

BAKING DIVISION

CATEGORIES

1. Cakes
2. Cookies
3. Bars/ Brownies
4. Breads
5. Pastries
6. Pies (non-refrigerated)

BAKING RULES

1. All Baking entries will be sold at awards ceremony and proceeds will go back to the exhibitor in the form of a check. Subject to sale fee.
2. All Baked Products must be produced by the exhibitor.
3. An entry that does not qualify under a category will not be accepted.
4. Exhibitors are limited to 1 entry per category, not exceeding 2 total entries at L.I.F.E.
5. Baked products must be delivered to **L.I.F.E. PAVILLION** on Wednesday **February 12th, 2025**, between 8:00 am -9:00 am. **No late entries will be accepted.**
6. Judging of the Baked entries will be by category and age group. Judging will be held **Wednesday, February 12th, 2025** at 10:00am during a CLOSED-DOOR judging at **L.I.F.E. PAVILLION**.
7. All entries must include a Recipe Card. The recipe must be written on an index card. Entries without a Recipe Card will be disqualified. **DO NOT put exhibitor's name on the Recipe card or container.** The recipe card must include a photo of your product for reference.
8. All products must be submitted in a disposable container with a lid. All recipes must fit in the disposable container.
9. No entries requiring refrigeration will be allowed.
10. No non-edible embellishments or garnishes may be used.

11. No alcohol may be used in any recipe.
12. Ribbons will be awarded to the first 3 places in each category. Medals would be awarded to the first 3 places. When there is no competition, entry will be awarded to merit of entry.
13. Grand Champion winner will be awarded to the best entry from all categories from all divisions and placed on a silent auction on Saturday, **March 1st, 2025** during the Live Auction. There will be a Grand Champion in each Baking category.
14. Reserve Grand Champion winner will be awarded to the best entry from all categories from all divisions and placed on a silent auction on **Saturday, March 1st, 2025** during the Live Auction. **There will be a Reserve Grand Champion in each Baking category.**
15. Grand and Reserve Grand Champion will re-bake entries for a silent auction on Saturday-**March 1st, 2025**.
16. A photo of your baked product must be attached to your recipe card for reference only.
17. Baking products will be sold at **L.I.F.E. PAVILLION** on **Wednesday, February 12th, 2025**, during the Canning Baking and Sewing Awards Ceremony.

Recipe Card must include:

1. Recipe Name
2. Ingredients and Measurements
3. Directions
4. Pan Size
5. Temperature for Baking
6. Baking time required
7. Garnishes (list items used)
8. Yield (if applicable) Do NOT write exhibitors name on the Recipe card
9. Photo of baked product must be attached to the recipe card.

CANNING DIVISION

CATEGORIES

1. Pickles and Relishes
2. Jelly or Jam
3. Salsa

CANNING RULES

1. All canning entries will be sold at awards ceremony and proceeds will go back to the exhibitor in the form of a check. Subject to sale fee.
2. All canned products must be produced by the exhibitor.
3. An entry that does not qualify or fall under a category will not be accepted.
4. Exhibitors are limited to 1 entry per category, not to exceed two (2) total entries at L.I.F.E
5. Each entry is a collection of 3 canned products from the same batch.
6. Canned products must be delivered to **L.I.F.E. PAVILLION** on -, between 8:00am-9:00am. NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED.
7. Judging of canned entries will be by category and held on **Wednesday, February 12th, 2025** at 10:00 am during a CLOSED-DOOR judging at **L.I.F.E. PAVILLION**.
8. Canned entries must be preserved within a calendar year of show.
9. Canned entries MUST be displayed in a sealed canning jar or another vacuum sealed container provided by exhibitor.
10. Three sealed jars or vacuum sealed containers MUST be provided. All jars or containers MUST have a label with:
 - a. The type of food it is.
 - b. The date of canning clearly marked.
11. Jars or containers with broken seals will not be judged and will be disqualified.
12. All canned entries must be submitted with a Recipe card and a photo attached for reference.

13. Processing must ensure **PROPER SEALING** of all products including jelly. Water baths must be used for fruits. No wax seals allowed. Any jar NOT properly sealed will be disqualified.
14. Never invert jars of preserved after filling. Due to serious health and safety concerns for the judges and the public, preserves sealed by inverted jars are banned from all competition.
15. Only one canned product will be judged for taste. The collection of 3 canned products will be judged for uniformity, good color, proper seal, and quality.
16. Ribbons will be awarded to the first 3 places in each category. Medals will be awarded to first 3 places.
17. Grand Champion winner will be awarded to the best entry from each category from all divisions and placed on a silent auction on Saturday **MARCH 1ST, 2025** during the Live Auction.
18. Reserve Grand Champion winner will be awarded to the best entry from each category from all divisions and placed on a silent auction on Saturday **March 1st, 2025** during the Live Auction.
19. **A PHOTO OF YOUR CANNED PRODUCT MUST BE ATTACHED TO YOUR RECIPE CARD.**

RECIPE CARD must include

1. **Recipe name**
2. **Ingredients and measurements**
3. **Recipe directions**
4. **Temperature**
5. **Canning method**
6. **Photo of product (4x6)**

SEWING DIVISION

CATEGORIES

1. Quilt/Comforter/Throw/Wall Hanging
2. Household items: pillows, placemats, tablecloth/runner etc.
3. Clothing: Male or Female apparel
4. Embellishments: enhancement on any garment, which must include some machine or hand stitch work.

SEWING RULES

1. All sewing products must be produced by the exhibitor.
2. An entry card that does not qualify or fall under a category will not be accepted. **Entry Card must have a starting bid.**
3. Exhibitors are limited to 1 entry per category, not to exceed two (2) total entries at L.I.F.E.
4. Sewing products must be delivered to the **L.I.F.E. PAVILLION ON Wednesday, February 12th, 2025** between 8:00am -9:00am. **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**
5. Judging of the sewing products will be by category and will be held on **Wednesday, February 12th, 2025**, at 10:00am during a CLOSED-DOOR judging at **L.I.F.E. Pavillion.**
6. All sewing products must be made by the exhibitor within the past 12 months.
7. Article must be finished, clean and sanitary.
8. All exhibits must be covered in a clear dry cleaners bag or a clear covering to protect items from the elements. Larger items must also be on a hanger.
9. Sewing entries will be required to provide an entry page with a brief description of the instructions of the project and a minimum of 1 close photo of the product being made.
10. Ribbons will be awarded to the first 3 places in each category. Medals would be awarded to the first 3 places.

11. Grand Champion winner will be awarded to the best from entry each categories from all divisions and placed on a silent auction on **Saturday March 1st, 2025**, during the Live Auction.
12. Reserve Grand Champion winner will be awarded to the best entry from each category from all divisions and placed on a silent auction on Saturday **March 1st, 2025** ,during the Live Auction.
14. **A PHOTO OF YOUR PRODUCT MUST BE ATTACHED TO YOUR ENTRY.**
15. All entries will be available for pickup on **Thursday, February 13th, 2025**, from 1pm to 5pm at the L.I.F.E. Office.