



2025 Nebraska State Fair

Community Decorating Contest Information

ENTRY DEADLINE: JULY 18TH

CONTEST IS OPEN TO ALL LOCAL NEBRASKA BUSINESSES, ORGANIZATIONS, & CIVIC GROUPS

CONTEST TIMELINE

JUNE 2ND: ENTRIES OPEN

JULY 18TH: DEADLINE! ENTRIES CLOSE!

JULY 23RD: ENTRIES NOTIFIED of selection

AUGUST 4TH: MATERIAL PICK UP! Selected groups who requested a specific medium from the Nebraska State Fair, can pick up during regular business hours: 8:30am - 5:00pm

AUGUST 4TH - 10TH: TIME TO DECORATE! (Be sure to review all guidelines before decorating)

AUGUST 11TH & 12TH: JUDGING HAPPENS

AUGUST 15TH: CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED!!! Prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) entries, plus one (1) People's Choice (PC will be determined by photo likes on the Nebraska State Fair Facebook page). Winners will receive twenty gate admission tickets & a NSF Rosette.

AUGUST 22ND - SEPTEMBER 1ST: Nebraska State Fair! Come out and celebrate our great state!

CONTEST JUDGING CRITERIA

- Eye Appeal, Construction, Use of Materials, Creativity
- Points will be deducted for contest guideline violations within the design (see guidelines above).
- Extra points will be given to those who incorporate the 2025 Nebraska State Fair theme, "Showcase Your Fair Face" into their design

CONTEST GUIDELINES

- Displays must be built out of recycled material/s of entry's choice. Entries are encouraged to find their own recycled materials, but, if needed, the NSF can provide recycled materials. A list of provided materials by NSF are available on entry form.
- Entries are built on your own, using your own materials and decorations, setting up and displaying at your selected location.
- If NSF is providing recycled materials, they must be picked up from the Nebraska State Fair Maintenance Shop August 4th during regular business hours: 8:30am - 5:00pm. State Fair staff can assist with loading, but not with unloading.
- Displays must stand a minimum of 5' tall and be at least 5' wide.
- Displays must be secure & attached to the ground, for safety & theft reasons.
- Each display needs to be placed onto a very sturdy base/structure: Grass or pavement is preferred. **They must be sound and secure.**
- All entries must be **RAIN & WIND TOLERANT**. They need to be built to last through September 1st.
- Use of business, organization, or civic groups logo, slogan, and/or mascot will **NOT** be allowed within the design. **NO** commercial, business or political signage of **ANY KIND** is allowed.
- The Nebraska State Fair will provide signage for each entry.
- Contestants are responsible for all cleanup and disposal at their sites after September 1st. If entry is on the fairgrounds, State Fair Operations will take care of disposal.



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ENTRY INFORMATION

NAME

CONTACT PERSON

FULL ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE

EMAIL ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

RECYCLED MATERIALS BEING USED

☐ We will use our own recycled materials

☐ NSF, please provide us either:

☐ One (1) Cable Reel

☐ One (1) Large Sack of Water Bottles

☐ Five (5) Wooden Pallets

LOCATION OF DISPLAY (REQUEST ONLY-NOT A GUARANTEE)

☐ NSF FAIRGROUNDS: Location chosen by the Operations Team (Details on decorating onsite will come later)

☐ We have secured our own location in the COMMUNITY at:

PLEASE ATTACH SKETCH/DIAGRAM OF ENTRY

Submit by July 18th, 2025

Mail or email your completed entry form to:

The Nebraska State Fair

Attn: Community Decorating Contest

501 E. Fonner Park Road, #200

Grand Island, NE 68801

hroush@statefair.org

Nebraska State Fair: August 22nd - September 1st, 2025



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JUDGING CRITERIA

5-VERY HIGH 4-HIGH 3-MODERATE 2-LOW 0-NONE

QUALITY OF CONSTRUCTION

Are all the items neatly placed on/around the display? How creative was the overall design?



CREATIVITY

Did the business put thought into the design? How creative was the overall design?



DESIGN

Has care been taken to balance all the images within the design? Are all the proportions appropriately sized & arranged well?



THEME

How well does the entry fit into the overall theme, "Show Your Fair Face"?



EYE APPEAL

How appealing is the design to the eye? Does it catch your attention?



DEDUCTIONS - FIVE POINT DEDUCTION FOR EVERY RULE NOT FOLLOWED

Did the entry follow the guidelines provided?

If no, please list rule/s broken & provide details:

TOTAL SCORE: /25 POINTS

JUDGES SIGNATURE: