



# **2024 LA County Fair**

## **Horticulture Competition**

### **Showbook**

**Farm Competitions Coordinator**

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# Horticulture Timetable

Landscape Entries Close	Monday, April 8, 2024
Container Plant Entries Close	Monday, April 15, 2024
Landscapes Build Days	Monday, April 15 through Thursday, May 2, 2024  Monday – Friday: 12pm to 8pm Saturday & Sunday: 8am to 4pm
Container Plant Drop Off Day	Monday, May 1, 2024: 10am to 6pm
Landscapes Installation Completion	Thursday, May 2 at 8pm
Landscapes & Container Plant Judging  <b>No exhibitors are allowed in the landscape area during judging time.</b>	Friday, May 3 at 10am
2024 LA County Fair  Landscapes on display for duration of the fair. Exhibits shall not be removed from display until after the completion of the LA County Fair on Monday, May 29 at 11pm.	Friday, May 3 through Monday, May 27, 2024
<b>Removal of landscape plots begins.</b>  Monetary awards will be withheld until the conclusion of the fair and after the exhibitor’s display area is free and clear of all materials and returned in the state to which the exhibitor received it prior to fair.  The LA County Fair pays premiums ONLY in those divisions and/or classes specifically listed. Premium checks will be mailed within eight (12) weeks following the close of the LA County Fair. The LA County Fair is not responsible for redemption of premiums.	Tuesday, May 28, 2024, at 12pm
<b>Container Plant Pick Up Day</b>  The LA County Fair pays premiums ONLY in those divisions and/or classes specifically listed. Premium checks will be mailed within eight (12) weeks following the close of the LA County Fair. The LA County Fair is not responsible for redemption of premiums.	Wednesday, May 29 from 12pm to 6pm.

# **Message from Our** **President & CEO**

## **Greetings from the LA County Fair**

I am pleased to welcome you as an exhibitor to one of the nation's largest and best county fairs. It is our mission to ensure that everyone involved in the Fair finds our event to be outstanding – from our guests to our valued partners to you, without whom we could not offer the exciting experience that is the one and only *LA County Fair*.

The 2024 Fair opens on Friday, May 3, and continues through Memorial Day (Monday, May 27), closing on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in between. We will offer 16 days of thrills, adventure, shopping and fantastic food.

We are excited to present this year's theme: *Stars, Stripes and Fun*, celebrating the 102<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the LA County Fair. LA County is one of the most diverse counties in the nation, brimming with a mix of cultures and communities, and the LA County Fair celebrates them all.

The main component of the Fair is fun. California specialty crops are featured in The Farm at Fairplex. Enjoy the varieties of flowers and plants in the Flower & Garden Pavilion. The Big Red Barn, stocked with animals and agriculture programming from Cal Poly Pomona's Huntley College of Agriculture, is a Fair favorite. America's Great Outdoors celebrates our local county and national parks with the US Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Land Management and Los Angeles County Fair Forest Division. And NextFest LA, the largest indie music festival in the US, returns.

We are thrilled to welcome back landscape competitions to the Fair this year. Agriculture is the foundation on which we built the Fair and what better way to celebrate that than by having FFA, 4H and agriculture enthusiasts from around the region show their green thumbs.

I want to thank you for your participation in the LA County Fair. Our partnerships with organizations and individuals such as you allow us to consistently deliver high-quality family entertainment and education to more than one million fair guests.

Our Fairplex team is here to assist you and ensure that you have a fantastic Fair!

Sincerely,

Walter M. Marquez  
President & CEO

# **General Rules & Information**

1. All 2023 State Rules for California Fairs set forth by the California Department of Food & Agriculture, Division of Fairs and Expositions apply. 2023 state rulebooks are available by clicking [HERE](#).
2. Exhibitors are responsible for reading and abiding by the guidelines stated herein.
3. All landscape entries must be completed online at [www.LACountyFair.com/Competitions](http://www.LACountyFair.com/Competitions) by end of day of the deadline date stated for that competition on page 2 of this booklet. Preregistration is required for all entries; no late entries accepted. All fees must be paid online, no cash or checks accepted.
4. There will be NO REFUNDS OF PROCESSING FEES, either for overpayment, duplicate entries, not showing or failure to bring in the entry.
5. For any questions or concerns regarding this competition, please contact the Farm Competitions Coordinator at [turnbull@fairplex.com](mailto:turnbull@fairplex.com).
6. No changes in divisions and classes are allowed after entry has been submitted. Entries are limited to one (1) entry per individual in Division 1000 and one (1) entry per group in Division 1050. There is no limit on the number of individual entries from a club/chapter.
7. All entries must remain on display at the LA County Fair as mandated by the dates set forth in the horticulture competition showbook. Any entry removed prior to the release date and time, unless consent is granted by the LA County Fair Farm Competitions Coordinator due to extenuating circumstances, shall be disqualified from any and all competitions and premiums are therefore forfeited.
8. After the close of entries, Fair Management reserves the right to combine classes and/or divisions if sufficient entries are not received. This combination will be made after papers are checked, in order to have an accurate number of entries. Fair Management reserves the right to cancel any classes or divisions due to lack of entries.
9. SECURITY – Exhibitors are cautioned to keep equipment stored where it will not be lost or stolen. The LA County Fair & Fairplex accepts no responsibility for any equipment.
10. The Danish system of Judging will be used for all competitions.
11. The Judge's decision shall be final.
12. Violation of any of the above rules may result in disqualification.

## **DRESS CODE**

It is important that exhibitors, both youth and adults participating at the LA County Fair are appropriately dressed for the occasion. Chapter or Club t-shirts can be worn in place of official dress while providing maintenance to landscape display during fair hours.

## **LIABILITY**

LA County Fair shall not be responsible for any damage to exhibits, merchandise or concession caused by thefts, wind, hail, fire, water or any cause whatsoever. Any persons shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless LA County Fair against any and all losses and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees), claims, costs, causes of action, damage to property, arising out of or in consequence of this agreement, but only to the extent such injuries or damages arise out of any act or omission of any persons, including officers, officials, employees, volunteers, agents, contractors, guests and invitees. LA County Fair shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless any persons, including officers, officials, employees, volunteers, agents, contractors, guests, vendors and invitees against any and all losses and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees), claims, costs, causes of action, damage to property, arising out of or in consequence of this agreement, but only to the extent such injuries or damages arise out of any act or omission of LACF including officers, officials, employees, volunteers, agents, contractors, guests and invitees.

## **DISCLAIMER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXHIBITS**

Exhibits at LACF are entered and displayed at the risk of the exhibitor. LACF accepts exhibits and will exercise due care to protect them. However, LACF cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage due to the conditions imposed by large crowds, the arrangement of the buildings in which displays are housed. Exhibitors who have exhibits of great sentimental and/or monetary value should carefully consider whether such exhibits should be exposed to the hazards of the fair. While the greatest possible care will be exercised by the management to protect patrons of the county fair, each individual will be held personally responsible for any injury.

# Landscape Exhibit

## ELIGIBILITY

- Open to all individuals 9 of age & older.
- Exhibitors ages 9 to 18 years old have the ability to install landscape with limited adult assistance. (example of adult assistance-lifting or moving heavy or bulky materials) Adult involvement is limited to supervision and limited assistance with landscape installation.
- **All exhibitors must be present at the time of their own landscape exhibit setup and build. If someone else (parents, teachers, advisors, friends, etc.) other than the exhibitor is present and setting up and/or building an exhibitor's landscape exhibit and the exhibitor is not present, that exhibitor will be disqualified and therefore forfeit any and all premiums they are eligible for.**

## EXHIBIT RULES & GUIDELINES

1. To insure fairness, each exhibit will be assigned a display spot by random drawing. A master copy of assigned spots will be available in the farm office.
2. The space provided for landscape exhibits will be located in "The Clocktower" area, it will be a **4-foot diameter stock tank for an individual entry and a 6-foot diameter stock tank for a group entry**; however, you should be prepared to make minor adjustments due to variation in building materials necessary for framing sites.
3. Landscape exhibits may use commercially grown plants.
4. The LA County Fair reserves the right to refuse any entry that has a serious disease or insect problem; or is under quarantine as specified under the California Department of Food and Agriculture.
5. Access to water, hoses and trash receptacles will be provided.
6. Landscape sketches need to identify plant materials and exhibit layout. Sketches should be mounted to wood frame and need to be erected in the left front corner of the exhibit. Plants shall be identified properly by the exhibitor prior to entry by the appropriate markings as both the scientific and common name.
7. **There will be no electricity available at the site for setup or operation of your landscape during fair. Please do not plan on use it.**
8. Landscapes will be in direct sunlight without a shade cover. Please plan accordingly with plants that can tolerate sunlight.
9. **No less than five types of live plant materials** should be used and they should be of a type and condition (balled or potted) which will stand-up for the duration of the fair.
10. Replacement of materials to freshen up the exhibit is the responsibility of the exhibitor in order to maintain the exhibit's appearance for the duration of the fair.
11. LA County Fair staff will water and care for exhibits each day. Exhibitors should plan time for basic maintenance of landscape (pull weeds, refresh plants, if necessary, etc.) at least one time per week.
12. Entries shall exemplify some phase of home landscaping or home beautification.

13. If The LA County Fair purchases materials to freshen up an exhibit, the cost will be deducted from the award.

## **Landscape Scorecard**

The Danish system of judging will be used for all competitions.  
The Judge's decision shall be final.

### **DESIGN-30 POINTS**

1. Beauty, harmony & balance-10 pts
2. Consistent with the theme-10 pts
3. Shows originality-10 pts

### **PLANT MATERIALS-30 POINTS**

1. Shows suitability to the exhibit-5 pts
2. Plant material of good quality-5 pts
3. Appropriate application/placement-5 pts
4. New &/or uncommon material used-5 pts
5. Appropriate for the season/exhibit-5 pts
6. Required minimum plant material (5) used-5 pts

### **NON-LIVING MATERIALS (ie rocks, bark, statue, etc)-20 POINTS**

1. Appropriate blend with exhibit/theme-5
2. Nonliving doesn't overpower exhibit-5
3. Construction show quality workmanship-5
4. Nonliving materials are appealing to the eye-5

### **SKETCH AND LABELING-20 Points**

1. Common and scientific names properly indicated-5
2. Sketch is readable and easily understood-5
3. Proper symbols used-5
4. Consistent with the display-2.5
5. Spelling is correct-2.5

### **TOTAL SCORE 100**



# Landscape Divisions & Classes

The Danish system of judging will be used for all competitions.  
The Judge's decision shall be final.

## Division 1000 – Open Individual Landscape

- 4 ft. Stock Tank
- No Electricity Available
- Landscapes will be in direct sunlight with no shade cloth. Please plan accordingly.
- Open to all individuals 9 years and older.
- Political information and/or displays are not permitted within any part of the exhibit.

**ENTRY FEE \$10.00**

***\*Please note entry fee is non-refundable***

**Class 1** – 2024 LA County Fair Theme: Stars, Stripes & Fun

### Premiums per Class

**1st - \$300 / 2nd - \$200 / 3rd - \$100**

Ribbons for Each

**Best of Show: Buckle & Rosette**

## Division 1050 – Open Group Landscape

- 6 ft. Stock Tank
- No Electricity Available
- Landscapes will be in direct sunlight with no shade cloth. Please plan accordingly.
- Group must consist of 3 individuals who are of at least 9 years old and older.
- Political information and/or displays are not permitted within any part of the exhibit.

**ENTRY FEE \$20.00**

***\*Please note entry fee is non-refundable***

**Class 1** – 2024 LA County Fair Theme: Stars, Stripes & Fun

### Premiums per Class

**1st - \$500 / 2nd - \$400 / 3rd - \$300**

Ribbons for Each

**Best of Show: Banner**

# Container Plant Exhibit

## ELIGIBILITY

- Open to all individuals 9 years of age & older.

## EXHIBIT RULES & GUIDELINES

1. Entries must be made under the name of the individual who prepared it – do not use business, fictitious, or group names. Multiple entries submitted by the same individual in the same class will be disqualified.
2. The LA County Fair reserves the right to refuse any entry that has a serious disease or insect problem; or is under quarantine as specified under the California Department of Food and Agriculture.
3. Judges have the authority to disqualify or transfer to the correct class any exhibit which does not meet the requirements of the division and class in which it is entered. Judges are not obligated to reevaluate a class after moving an entry.
4. Due to space constraints, size limitations are strictly enforced.
5. Hanging entries can be no larger than 24 inches from hook to bottom of the container and must come with a secure hanger provided by the exhibitor. No wall-mounted entries allowed.
6. All plants should come in clean containers and be well-established as evidenced by being firmly rooted (exceptions: air plants and plants grown hydroponically).
7. Entries will be displayed outdoors; plants adversely affected by these conditions should not be entered.
8. No items that may rot or cause unpleasant odors (i.e., asphalt, burned items, cooked food).
9. Plants will be watered as deemed appropriate by our expert staff. Exhibitors with plants that are very sensitive to watering may opt-out of our watering services. No other special requests can be honored.
10. Small items should be securely fastened to their containers. Items of great or sentimental value should not be used.
11. All exhibitors and entries must be checked in and inside the farm gate by the end of the delivery period (9:30 a.m.) Late entries will not be accepted.
12. Claim checks will be provided after exhibits are delivered. Tickets will be provided upon exit.
13. Hold Harmless  
Although reasonable efforts will be undertaken to safeguard exhibitors' property against loss, damage or theft, neither the Fairplex, LA County Fair, or LA County Fair Association will be responsible for any loss, damage or theft of exhibitors' property brought on the premises during the period of the LA County Fair. Every precaution will be taken in the handling and exhibiting of entries.
14. Ribbons and entries will be available to pick up during the Entry Pickup dates listed on the cover of this guide.
15. Items not picked up by the final Entry Pickup day become the property of the LA County Fair and may be discarded.

# Container Plant Division & Classes

The Danish system of judging will be used for all competitions.  
The Judge's decision shall be final.

## Division 2000 – Open Container Plant

- Open to all individuals 9 years of age & older.
- Exhibit is to be no larger than 36" in any dimension (L x W x H)
- Exhibit should weigh no more than 50 lbs.

**ENTRY FEE \$5.00**

***\*Please note entry fee is non-refundable***

**Class 1 – Herb Garden**

**Class 2 – Vintage Container**

**Class 3 – Succulents**

**Class 4 – Bonsai**

## AWARDS

**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> in Class: Flat Ribbons**

**Best of Class: \$30 + Rosette**

**Best of Show: \$50 + Rosette**