



The World I See

A 4-H Photography Event

Alabama is the home of many great photographers. People like William Christenberry find beauty, humor and drama in the world around us.

The World I See lets you:

- Show off your creativity.
- Share your ability in selecting and arranging subjects.
- Find what is interesting or unusual in your community, your school, or your home.

What You Will Learn

- **The World I See** will help you learn the basics of good photography.
- **The World I See** will help you learn to recognize good photographic composition and techniques.
- **The World I See** will help you learn to explore your own personal preferences and make choices.
- **The World I See** will help you develop skills that will be useful in a variety of careers.

Who Can Participate

Any Alabama young person may participate in **The World I See** or any 4-H competitive event. However, you must be a member of an Alabama 4-H Club. It's easy and quick to join – just call or e-mail your county Alabama Cooperative Extension System Office for information (for contact information, go to www.aces.edu/counties).

If you and your friends are interested, you might wish to start a 4-H Project Club that focuses on Photography, The Visual Arts, Communications, Tek-Arts or some other aspect of art, photography, and communications. For more information, see **Starting a 4-H Club** (www.Alabama4H.com).

Levels of Competition

Look at **General Event Policy for eligibility**.
http://www.aces.edu/fourh/docs/programs/General_Contest_Policy.pdf

Check the **Alabama 4-H Age and Eligibility Chart to determine the divisions of 4-H Membership**.
http://www.aces.edu/fourh/docs/programs/Eligibility_Chart.pdf

The Rules for The World I See

- This is an individual entry. Teams are not appropriate.
- Photos may be in color, black-and-white or sepia.
- Prints must be 5"x7" or larger. They should be no larger than 18" x 18".
- You may use a film print or digital camera. Digital photos generally look better when printed on a commercial printer. Use 300 dpi or higher when printing digital images on quality photo paper.
- If you need to lighten your photo or fix the color, you may make small changes using your computer or in the darkroom.
- Do not submit photos in frames or with cut-out mat-boards.
- Photos should be simply mounted flat on plain white or black poster board or foam board. Mount board size may be no larger than 20" x 20".
- Do not include titles or other information on the front of the mount board.
- One photo per entrant.
- Photos must have been taken by the youth submitting the entry.
- Photos must have been taken during the current 4-H calendar year.
- Photos will be laid flat on a table for judging. Use no easels or props.
- You must accompany your photograph to the competition. Be ready to talk about your work.
- **The World I See** and **The World I Imagine** are separate events. Rules regarding entering only one event apply.

Parents' and Volunteers' Guide

Like all 4-H projects, this activity is just for young people. It is expected that the young person create an original presentation. The role of adult helper is to support and encourage youth in their efforts, to ask and answer questions about the project, and to help youth learn specific techniques that they might use in their project.



Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, and other related acts, in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A & M University and Auburn University) offers educational programs, materials, and equal opportunity employment to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability.

The Day of the Big Event

Each county or region/area will schedule its own **The World I See** competition. It may be part of a County Round-Up or Regional/Area Congress. Some places may have the event as part of an arts festival or community fair. Some may have workshops that will help you build your artistic skills and meet other artists and photographers.

Judging should be lots of fun for kids and judges – not anything high stress! Be ready to **informally** talk to the judges about what you did. They might have questions like:

- How did you select your subject?
- What sort of camera did you use?
- What time of day did you take the picture?
- What do you like about your photograph?

Hint: Judges really like it when they feel that you put lots of thought into your work.

What Judges Will Look At

- How the photo is put together: Is the photo well arranged? Did the photographer use the best angle or point of view?
- Focus and Sharpness - Is the photo in focus? If it's not in sharp focus, did you mean it for an artistic effect?
- Lighting - Did you use proper lighting?
- Creativity – Are you showing creativity?

Hint: Digital photos printed on a commercial printer (such as a Walgreens, CVS, Wal-Mart or your local camera shop) generally look better than photos printed on most home computer printers.

Judging Guidelines

The selection of the judges is important to the success of the event. The ideal judge knows about photography and can easily chat with young people. The selection of professional photographers and art or photography teachers provides a perfect judging panel.

The judges will talk informally with the participants about their photographs. Judges are encouraged to positively offer their comments on the originality of the photograph, what was most effective in the choices, and suggestions for improvement.

Advancing Through Competition

Congratulations! The judges recognize that you have come up with a really good photo and made great choices. Your hard work and your skill created something wonderful.

4-H Regional/Area Awards will be determined by the planning committee for that event. Notice will be sent to each county involved.

State Competition and Awards

Each county may register one Senior Level I and one Senior Level II individual in each event that is offered.

On the state level, ribbons will be awarded to 50% of the participants in a contest using ordinal rankings up to a tenth place ranking. Example: If there are 10 participants, first place will receive the Alabama State Trophy and a first place ribbon; placing ribbons will be awarded for the next four ranked participants for placing of second through fifth. The other five participants will receive honorable mention ribbons.

A hint: Photos that made it to State have been made with all types of cameras. If you do not have access to a fancy camera, don't let that stop you from competing. Great photos can be taken with disposable cameras – and even toy cameras!

Disqualification in The World I See

- >Photos are in frames and/or matted
- >Photos are not within the dimensions in rules

Identification of Entry

Name(s), county and level of participation should be displayed with each entry. 4-H Project Exhibit cards are available, but not required.



For anyone who is in the **Operation Military Kid** this project would be an ideal way to share their experience. Choose from the cultural and heritage that your family has experienced. This can be in another state or on the other side of the world. Tell your story in an interesting and fun way. If you need suggestions, please contact the OMK Coordinator, Charlene Hines, 334-844-2294. All 4-H projects and events are open to OMK youth. For more information www.Alabama4H.com.

Career Connections

Photography is a great hobby that you *can* use all of your life. Skills that are developed through this project have direct connections to a number of exciting and rewarding careers. These include: Photo Journalism, Corporate Communications, News Photography, Portrait Photography, Wedding and Event Photography, Web-Based Design, Fine Art, Photo and Art Therapy, Advertising, Fashion Photography, Graphic Design, Illustration, Teaching, and Industrial Photography.

Further career-related skills are developed in the Above and Beyond section. These include planning, leadership, and organization. If you sell your photographic skills, there is also an element of entrepreneurship.

Above and Beyond

All 4-H projects can be taken “above and beyond” just being a short-term activity. Awards and recognition throughout Alabama 4-H are not based on how well you do in competitive events; they are based on your all-round community service, leadership, and project work.

Here are some ideas for taking your interest in Photography to a higher level. It can help you both grow as a person and have an impact on the lives of others:

- Work with your friends to take photos for “A Day in My Home Town.”
- Organize a community show of 4-H photographs and other art projects.
- Take lots of photos of your family and friends.
- Use your photos in a scrap book.
- Trail a wedding photographer or newspaper photographer.
- Talk with your newspaper editor about submitting your photos.
- Sell your photos on-line or at a community arts festival.
- Create a web site for your photos.
- Take portraits of your community leaders.
- Talk with a photographer about his or her training.
- Teach younger kids to take photos.
- Develop your skill as an animal photographer or child photographer.
- Use your photos for a Power Point presentation.
- Invite a photographer to provide a workshop.
- Use your photos to tell a story about your life, your community, or your family.

August, 2009

The World I See Score Card

Participant Name: _____ County: _____

Level: ___ **Junior** (Ages 9-11) ___ **Intermediate** (Ages 12-13) ___ **Senior I** (Ages 14-15) ___ **Senior II** (Ages 16-18)

Few photography events use a "score sheet" to determine what makes a good photo. An experienced photographer will be able to recognize superior work.

Please remember that the sole purpose of these events is to provide young people with an opportunity for self-expression and to learn more about photography. Competition and judging should emphasize creativity and the development of knowledge and skill.

The attached scoring sheet may be used or adapted to a local group's specific needs.

Photo (75 Points)

Composition/Arrangement (Possible 25 Points) _____

Composition and Arrangement - Are the objects in the photo arranged in a meaningful, pleasing manner? Did the photographer use the best angle or perspective?

Focus and Sharpness (Possible 10 Points) _____

Focus and Sharpness - Is the object of the photo in focus? If not in sharp focus, does it appear to be an intentional effect to enhance the image in an artistic way?

Lighting (Possible 10 Points) _____

Lighting - Did the photographer use proper lighting? Do any extremes of darkness or brightness lend to or detract from image?

Creativity (Possible 30 Points) _____

Creativity - Does the photographer show creative thought or an original idea?

Informal Interview (25 Points)

Does the photographer indicate knowledge (Possible 25 Points) _____

of photographic technique?

Total: _____

Judges' Comments:

Disqualifications: Check as appropriate

- Photos are in frames and/or matted
- Photos are not within the dimensions in rules. Prints must be 5" x 7" or larger. They should be no larger than 18" x 18".