



THE WORLD I IMAGINE



2026–2027 Theme: STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)

What You Will Do

- Show off your creativity.
- Share your skill with photography and computers.
- Find what is interesting or unusual in your community, your school, or your home.

What You Will Learn

- Basics of good photography and image software.
- How to recognize good photographic composition and techniques.
- Personal preferences and choices.
- Skills that will be useful in a variety of careers.

Rules

1. This is an individual event. Teams are not appropriate.
2. Photos may be color, sepia, or black-and-white.
3. Finished prints must be 5" × 7" or larger. They may be no larger than 18" × 18".
4. Do not submit photos in frames or with cutout mat boards.
5. Photos should be simply mounted flat on plain white or black poster board or foam board. Mount the original photo(s) on the same board as the altered photo. Maximum mount board size is 20" × 20".
6. Project must be based on original photo(s) you took. It cannot be based on a scanned image from another source. Alteration must be more than just taking the red out of eyes.
7. Photos must have been taken by the youth submitting the entry. One entry is allowed per event.
8. Photos must have been taken during the current Alabama 4-H year.
9. Photos will be laid flat on a table for judging. No easels or props may be used.

For more information, visit “[Competitive Events General Policy](#)” and “[Alabama 4-H Eligibility](#),” both on the [Alabama Extension website](#) (aces.edu).

LEVELS OF COMPETITION

Junior Level I:

9 to 11 years old
on December 31 of the
current calendar year
(compete only at local
and regional levels).

Intermediate:

12 to 13 years old
on December 31 of the
current calendar year
(compete only at local
and regional levels).

Senior Level I:

14 to 15 years old
on December 31 of the
current calendar year.

Senior Level II:

16 to 18 years old
on December 31 of the
current calendar year.

10. You must accompany your photograph to the competition. Be ready to talk about your work.
11. The World I See and The World I Imagine are separate events. Rules regarding entering only one event apply.

Disqualification of Entry

- Photos are in frames and/or matted.
- Photos are not within the specified dimensions.
- Original photo is a scanned image.
- Senior Level 4-H member not submitting a community service report.

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 many exciting and rewarding careers. These include photojournalism, 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.

Community Service

Telling a great story, showcasing projects at a community library, speaking at a local nursing home, or organizing a community cooking or building blocks workshop are great opportunities to serve others. Serving others helps you build academic skills, learn civic responsibility, and develop leadership. It may also give you a good opportunity to meet new people, publicize 4-H, and practice your communication skills. Alabama 4-H is now requiring all Senior Level 4-H members to add a community service component to all 4-H Competitive Events. Each Senior Level 4-H member will have to complete the 4-H Community Service Report as a part of his or her project. 4-H members will be disqualified if the community service report is not included.

You must decide what service you can provide and not have a parent or 4-H leader make this decision for you. Groups of young people are encouraged to work together to discover how they can serve their community.

Identification of Entry

Name, county, and level of participation should be displayed with each entry. An introduction at the beginning of your time would be appropriate.





THE WORLD I IMAGINE



ALABAMA 4-H
Alabama Cooperative
Extension System

Score Sheet

Participant Name: _____ County: _____

Level: ___ Junior (Age 9–11) ___ Intermediate (Age 12–13) ___ Senior I (Age 14–15) ___ Senior II (Age 16–18)

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 design. Competition and judging should emphasize creativity and the development of knowledge and skill.

Suggested Points of Evaluation

The Photograph. Is the photograph a good work of art? Does the photograph indicate application of good photographic technique? Is the manipulation (through Photoshop, etc.) creative and effective?	(0–70 Points) _____
Judges will informally discuss the photograph with the photographer. Is the photographer able to communicate a basic understanding of technique and image selection? Is the photographer able to communicate his or her choices?	(0–30 Points) _____

Judges' Comments:

Total: _____

Disqualifications: Check the appropriate box.

- ☐ Photos are in frames and/or matted.
- ☐ Photos are not within the specified dimensions. Prints must be 5" × 7" or larger. They should be no larger than 18" × 18".
- ☐ Original photo was a scanned image.
- ☐ Original photo was not submitted with the altered photo.