

## SCHOOL FAIR RULES & REGULATIONS

**Exhibitors please note:** There is no entry fee required.

All entry forms and tags are available at the Burnside Agriplex or online at [www.stratfordagriculturalsociety.com](http://www.stratfordagriculturalsociety.com)

For questions contact the SDAS Office 519-271-5130

1. Entries must be placed on Wednesday September 23, 2026, between 1 p.m. – 8 p.m., in the Community Hall of the Stratford Rotary Complex.
2. Exhibits must remain until 4 p.m. Sunday, September 27, 2026. **DOORS TO THE EXHIBIT HALL WILL CLOSE AT 3 P.M. SUNDAY! DOORS WILL RE OPEN SUNDAY AT 4 P.M. Please be sure to pick up your exhibits between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m.**
3. Students are required to fill out an entry tag for each entry including a class number, their name, and the name of their school.
4. Students must also fill out an entry form listing all classes entered. This form must also have their name, name of school and class(es) entered.
5. All entries must be the work/property or product of the exhibitor, from his or her own farm or garden and produced in 2026, or results of your labour from a summer job on a farm.
6. Exhibitors to show in their grade as of June 30, 2026. Students beginning Jr. Kindergarten in September 2026 may also show.
7. One entry allowed per exhibitor per class, per section.
8. All entries are placed at owner's risk.
9. Open to all students and or residents of Stratford and surrounding areas.
10. Judges' decisions are final.
11. Prize money will be mailed out to exhibitors following the fair.

### Section A - School & Class Displays

This is a non-competitive art and writing display using the Fair theme, "City Gardens and Country Fields".

Mount the display as a mural (*no bigger than 4' x 8'*)

It can showcase the work of one class, one grade, or be a composite of many grades.

This display is open to all public, separate and private schools as well as nursery and daycare centers.

**All entries must be accompanied with a fair entry form!**

**Exhibit drop off between 1-8 p.m. on Wednesday September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Pick up Sunday September 27<sup>th</sup> @ 4 p.m.**

#### Classes:

**1. School and Class Displays Prize: \$15**

This is a non-competitive art and writing display using the Fair theme.  
Mount the display as a mural (no bigger than 4' x 4')

**2. School Vegetable Garden Display Prize: \$10**

Display Gourds, pie pumpkin, pumpkin, squash  
Seed will be provided for this class



- 3. Tallest Sunflower Prize: \$5**  
Seeds will be provided for this class



## Section B - 4-H Club Members

Prize monies generously sponsored by the Homecraft and School Fair Division of the Stratford & District Agricultural Society

### Classes:

**1. 4-H Club Displays Prize: \$15**

Each exhibit shall include the name of the club and topic of exhibit.  
The official 4-H logo shall be displayed on each exhibit.

Space provided shall be 3' x 4'.

Exhibit drop off between 1-8 p.m. on Wednesday September 23rd. Pick up Sunday September 27th @ 4 p.m.

All Entries must be accompanied by a fair entry form or entered online with Assist Expo.

## Section C - Communications

### Classes:

#### Creativity:

186th Fall Fair Theme "Pumpkin Spice and Everything Nice" Sept. 23-26, 2027.

**Prize: \$25 GC**

**1. 2027 Stratford Fall Fair Cover**

Create a cover page for the 2027 Fall Fair prize book. - max 8"x11" Can be done by hand or computer.

\$25 gift certificate generously sponsored by Canadian Tire Gas Bar Stratford

**2. 2027 Stratford Fall Fair Back Cover**

Max 8"x11" Can be done by hand or computer

\$25 gift certificate generously sponsored by Canadian Tire Gas Bar Stratford

### Creative Computers:

Enter a page about 21.5 x 28 cm in black & white or colour using the theme "City Gardens & Country Fields".

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

**3. Grades 1-2**

**4. Grades 3-4**

**5. Grades 5-6**

### **Creative Writing:**

You may use a computer for this portion of the communication class!

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

**7. JK - Grade 2**

A story beginning with "In my garden I grew..."

**8. Grades 3-4**

An Acrostic poem using the words "City Garden" or "Country Fields".

**9. Grade 5-6**

A poem or story about "Farming a country field..." or "Planting a city garden..."

### **Creative Writing - En Francais:**

**Prizes:** 1st: \$6, 2nd: \$5, 3rd: \$4, 4th: \$3, 5th: \$2

**10. Grade 1-3**

Ecrire un poème (un acrostiche) en utilisant "Jardin"

Show off your French writing skills! (You may use a computer.)

Prize monies generously sponsored by The Milton Family

**11. Grade 4-6**

Écrivez une histoire intitulée "Ce que je préfère voir dans un champ à la campagne." (une page)

Show off your French writing skills! (you may use a computer)

Prize monies generously sponsored by The Milton Family

### **Penmanship:**

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

**12. JK-SK**

Print in pencil on unlined paper "Fields"

**13. Grade 1**

Print in pencil on lined paper

"You can grow flowers in both city gardens and country fields."

**14. Grade 2**

Print in pencil on lined paper

"You can grow food to eat in city gardens and country fields."

**15. Grade 3**

Print or write in pencil on lined paper

"City gardens and country fields are many different sizes and shapes. Gardens and fields can both grow fruits, vegetables and flowers. Both need soil, seeds, sun and water to make things grow."

**16. Grade 4**

Print or write in pencil on lined paper

"As early as 1909 school fairs were an important role in Canadian Agriculture. This became a way for school children to learn more about improving rural life. Today students in public school can enter their writing, arts, crafts, Lego and cooking. They can also enter a poster with their class."

## 17. Grade 5&6

Print or write in pen on lined paper

"The first Stratford Fall Fair was held in 1841 at the Shakespeare Inn in Stratford Ontario. The fair was an opportunity to show off produce and stock at the time it was plentiful and at peak condition. 150 years ago, fairs were designed to educate the farmer about agriculture and rural lifestyles. Today, we are striving for the same goal, but now we tend to concentrate on educating the urban population about farming practices.



## Section D - Creative Arts

**Important Note:** Pictures drawn, coloured, pasted, sketched should be on sheets approximately 21.5 cm x 28 cm.

**Please bring Duplo, Lego, and K'nex entries in a plastic bag or container.**

**Classes:**

**Pre-School: Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

### 1. Colour a picture of a clown or farm animal

Please print from website as needed

**JK/SK:**

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

### 2. Create a dog or cat using Duplo/Lego

### 3. Using your age as how many to draw a fruit or vegetable - using craft supplies

Use your imagination

**Grades 1&2:**

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

### 4. Create a robot using Lego

No larger than 8"

### 5. Print your birthdate using bubble letters and decorate

**Grades 3&4:**

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

### 6. Create a dinosaur using Lego

No larger than 8"

### 7. Draw a jack-o-lantern using charcoal or pencil

**Grades 5&6:**

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

### 8. Create a Christmas Tree with presents using Lego

No larger than 12"

- 9. Create a poster for an upcoming event at school**  
e.g. meet the teacher night; school sport try out

**Sponsored:**

Class #10: Gr. 1-3 Class #11: Gr. 4-6

Art is another way to communicate.

**Prizes:** 1st: \$6, 2nd: \$5, 3rd: \$3

**10. Artist Choice**

Prize monies generously by Dr. Mark Straus

**11. Artist Choice**

Prize monies generously by Dr. Mark Straus

## Section E - Environmentally Friendly Projects

Convenor: Shannon Wilhelm 519-801-8837

Prize Monies for this section are generously donated by Shakespeare Opti-Mrs. Club.

**Classes:**

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

**Pre-School:**



**1. Decorated letter using recycled material**

On an 8.5"x11" piece of paper or cardstock print out a template for the first letter of your child's name.

Using any recycled materials (yarn, scrap paper, grass, dry pasta) to fill in the letter.

**2. Shape art collage. Using recycled materials**

Use an 8.5"x11" piece of paper or cardstock use recycled materials to make a shape are collage. e, g, use recycled material like a stamp with the paint

**JK/SK:**

**3. Use a recycled egg carton to make any insect or animal you want!**

Decorate with paint and other recycled materials

**4. Using recycled materials create a collage**

Use an 8.5"x11" piece of paper or cardstock using recycled materials. (i.e. yarn, paper, plastic bottle caps)

You can use markers or paint to give colour and dimension to your collage.

**Gr. 1 & 2:**

**5. Create your name using recycled materials**

Use an 8.5"x11" piece of paper or cardstock using leaves, twigs or sticks...anything from nature create your name.

**6. Using recycled materials create a bird feeder**

**Gr. 3 & 4:**

**7. Create a wind chime using recycled materials**

**8. Create a torn paper art country or city scene**

On an 8.5"x11: sheet of paper create a country or city scene using scrap pieces of paper (torn paper art)

**Gr. 5 & 6:**

**9. Create a country or city scene**

On an 8.5"x11" piece of paper or cardstock make a country or city scene using seeds, grains, pebbles, or stones.

**10. Using recycled materials make a 3D object.**

i.e. barn, house...use your imagination

## Section F - School Photography

1. All photographs **MUST** be taken by the entrant except in Class #7.
2. All photographs entered in the sponsored classes **MUST** be mounted on a black background.
3. Photos can be colour or black and white.
4. A child is welcome to place 1 entry in each class. (Note: only pre-school aged children can compete in Class #1)
5. All classes will be judged by the following Grades:

JK&SK

1&2

3&4

5&6

**6. More classes available for the OAAS Provincial Competition**

**Classes:**

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

**Pre-School:**

1. **Your favourite thing to play with**  
1 picture taken by preschool students  
Open to Preschool students ONLY

**OPEN:**

2. **A River or Pond**
3. **Favourite Machine**  
Lawnmower, tractor, car, truck etc.
4. **Favourite Animal**
5. **Flower garden**
6. **Country field**
7. **Picture of you, taken by a different generation**
8. **Photographer's Choice**

**Sponsored (open to all ages):**

**Prizes:** 1st: \$10, 2nd: \$6, 3rd: \$4, others: \$0

9. **2 different animal pictures**  
2 pictures mounted on one piece of paper  
Prize monies generously sponsored by Blowes Travel
10. **2 different views - One city garden and one country field**  
2 pictures mounted on paper  
Prize monies generously sponsored by Blowes Travel



## Section G - School Flowers

Convenor: Janice Ward (519) 273-2367  
All prize monies generously sponsored by the Stratford Horticultural Society

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

### Classes:

1. **Soup's On**  
An arrangement of flowers in a soup can
2. **Geranium**  
One most perfect bloom with own foliage in a vase
3. **Sedum**  
One stem 13" or over
4. **Sedum**  
One stem under 13"
5. **Rose**  
One in a bud vase
6. **Any flower**  
Any one flower "floated " in a suitable container
7. **Marigolds**  
Five blooms
8. **Largest Hosta Leaf**
9. **Most Perfect Hosta Leaf**
10. **An Arrangement of Wildflowers**
11. **Brown Eyed Susan - 3 stems**
12. **Coleus - 1 Variety**
13. **Ivy - any variety**
14. **Any Succulent**

### Sponsored:

**Prizes:** 1st: \$8, 2nd: \$6, 3rd: \$4, 4th: \$2, others: \$0

15. **Succulent Garden**  
Must include a minimum of 3 varieties  
Prize monies generously sponsored by Stratford Horticultural Society
16. **An Arrangement depicting the fair theme - "City Gardens and Country Fields"**



## Section H - School Grains

Convenor: Marlene Ballantyne (519) 271-4873  
Prize monies generously sponsored by Hensall Co-Op

### Classes:

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

1. **Winter Wheat**  
2 cups of winter wheat in a Ziploc bag
2. **Barley**  
2 cups of barley in a Ziploc bag
3. **Oats**  
2 cups of oats in a Ziploc bag



4. **Soya Beans**  
2 cups of soya beans in a Ziploc bag
5. **White Beans**  
2 cups of white beans in a Ziploc bag
6. **Beans (any other variety)**  
2 cups of beans (any other variety) in a Ziploc bag
7. **Treats for birds, using grains/corn etc.**  
2 cups in a Ziploc bag containing treats for birds, using grains/corn etc.
8. **Longest Cob**  
Longest Cob - Any Variety
9. **Field Corn**  
3 ears (name not to be visible until after judging)
10. **Soya Beans**  
3 stalks with roots
11. **Largest Sunflower Head**  
Largest Sunflower Head
12. **Tallest corn stalk**  
Tallest corn stalk
13. **Tallest sunflower**  
Tallest sunflower
14. **Sheaf of corn**  
5 stalks, husks, pulled halfway back on cob
15. **Hay-1st Cut**  
20 cm slab in garbage bag
16. **Hay-2nd Cut**  
20 cm slab in garbage bag
17. **Haylage**  
1/2 bushel

## Section I - Fruits

Convenor: Marlene Ballantyne (519) 271-4873

All fruit to be home grown unless indicated

**Classes:**

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

1. **Apples - any variety - 3 named**
2. **Peaches – any variety - 3**
3. **Melon - any variety - muskmelon or cantaloupe**
4. **Watermelon – 1 melon**





## Section J - School Vegetables

Convenor: Marlene Ballantyne (519) 271-4873

### Classes:

Prizes: 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

1. **Beans - Green - 3 pods**
2. **Beets - globe with 2.5cm tops - 3**
3. **Beets - cylinder with 2.5 cm tops - 3**
4. **Carrots, short under 12cm - 3**
5. **Carrots, long over 12cm - 3**
6. **Cucumber - 2**
7. **Onions, yellow - 3**
8. **Onions, red - 3**
9. **Peppers, red, green or yellow - 3**
10. **Potatoes, red - 3**
11. **Potatoes, white - 3**
12. **Gourds**  
Group of 3 small/medium in size
13. **Pumpkin, pie - 1**
14. **Largest Pumpkin**  
Maximum 30cm in diameter  
Judged by weight
15. **Squash - any variety - 1**
16. **Tomatoes - cherry - 5**
17. **Red Tomatoes - 3**
18. **Heaviest Tomato**  
Judged by weight
19. **Zucchini - suitable for slicing-1**
20. **Largest Zucchini**  
Judged by weight
21. **A display of vegetables in a decorated container**  
Include at least 3 different vegetables.
22. **A tomato worm - in a ventilated jar**

## Section K - School Cooking

Convenor: Dorothy Fleming 519-274-1367

A child is welcome to place 1 entry in each class.

All classes will be judged by the following Grades:

JK&SK

1&2

3&4

5&6

**Prizes:** 1st: \$3.50, 2nd: \$3.00, 3rd: \$2.50, 4th: \$2.00, 5th: \$1.50

### Classes:

- 1. Favourite homemade after school snack**
- 2. Muffin - Bake your favourite homemade**  
3 on a plate
- 3. Your favourite flavoured popcorn**  
Store bought flavouring can be used  
1 cup in a Ziploc bag
- 4. Cupcake Flower**  
Decorate cupcakes and arrange them to look like a flower  
Must use a minimum of 5 cupcakes  
Optional cake mix can be used
- 5. Trail Mix**  
Using a minimum of 4 ingredients - one cup in a Ziploc bag
- 6. Favourite Cookie (excluding chocolate chip)**
- 7. Favourite Brownie - non iced**  
3 on a plate

### Sponsored:

**Prizes:** 1st: \$10, 2nd: \$6, 3rd: \$4

- 8. Backyard Eggs – 6 eggs of one kind (e.g. chicken, duck, quail, etc.)**  
Prize monies generously sponsored by the McGonigle Family



- 9. Gluten Free Double Chocolate Muffin**  
Recipe Included  
Prize monies generously sponsored by Dorothy Fleming



## 10. Favorite Chocolate Chip Cookie - 6 displayed on a plate

**Prizes:** 1st: \$10, 2nd: \$7, 3rd: \$5

Plain chocolate chip cookies with no nuts, size: no larger than 3" (6.75cm) and no smaller than 2" (5 cm)

Open to youth up to 15 years of age (as of December 31st of the current year)

Prize monies generously sponsored by Marlene Ballantyne

## School Fair Recipe

Gluten-Free Double Chocolate Muffins

By: Audrey from Mama Knows Gluten Free

Servings:12 muffins

### INGREDIENTS:

1½ cups gluten-free all-purpose flour

1 cup granulated sugar

½ teaspoon gluten-free baking powder

1 teaspoon baking soda

¼ teaspoon xanthan gum, leave out if your flour already has it

¼ teaspoon salt

½ cup cocoa powder

1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

2 large eggs, room temperature

⅓ cup butter, melted, dairy-free use Smart Balance butter

1 cup milk, dairy-free use almond, cashew or coconut milk

½ cup gluten-free mini chocolate chips – can use dairy free

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Pre-heat oven to 350°F. Use baking cup liners or gluten-free cooking spray for the muffin pan.

2. In a large bowl add the all-purpose gluten-free flour, granulated sugar, gluten-free baking powder, baking soda, salt, xanthan gum (leave out if your flour already has it), and cocoa powder and whisk together to combine the ingredients.

3. Add the two eggs, pure vanilla extract, melted butter, and milk to the dry ingredients and mix until fully combined. Mix in the chocolate chips.

4. Scoop the batter into baking cups lined/cooking sprayed muffin tin. I like to use a greased ice cream scoop. I also sprinkle more chocolate chips on top of the batter.

5. Bake for 20-25 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Please watch the muffins because all ovens are different. Allow the muffins to completely cool.



## Section L - Youth Corner

Obtain a NO FEE Exhibitor Number from the office (519) 271- 5130

Prize monies generously sponsored by Elaine Landsborough

Youth Corner:

1. **Create a sports field or playground using lego**  
Maximum 14"
2. **Paint by Number**
3. **Any holiday craft made by self**
4. **Tie-Dye T-Shirt**
5. **Favourite Cookie**  
Display 3
6. **Favourite After School Snack**  
Present in an appropriate way

Sponsored:

Prizes: 1st: \$10, 2nd: \$6, 3rd: \$4

7. **Any sewn article**  
1st prize money generously sponsored by Jane Hurst
8. **Drawing - charcoal or pencil**  
Prize monies generously sponsored by Ruth Moore
9. **Any item made by a different generation and youth**  
Prize monies generously sponsored by Susan Elliott
10. **Artist Choice Prizes:** 1st: \$8, 2nd: \$6, 3rd: \$4  
Prize monies generously sponsored by Dr. Mark Strauss
11. **Create a poster for the upcoming Ag. Society's Pork Chop Dinner Prize:** One free Pork Chop Dinner ticket  
Using a computer  
Stratford & District Ag. Society

## Section M - Livestock

Convenor: Elaine Standeaven (519) 301-1759

Exhibitors: \$10 donated by Sutherhill Farms Ltd.



Classes:

Dairy Calf

## Section N - BABY SHOW

Convenors: Paige Fawcett and Faith Knechtel

### Rules

1. A baby may only be entered in ONE specific category
2. There will be one baby chosen from each category as the winner.
3. Please email entries to [stratfordfairambassador@gmail.com](mailto:stratfordfairambassador@gmail.com)

**Please indicate Name, Age and What One Specific Category you would like your baby entered.**

#### **0 - 6 months:**

1. **The Most Hair**
2. **The Chubbiest Cheeks**
3. **The Biggest Smile**
4. **The Most Creative Pumpkin (Costumes allowed)**

#### **7 - 12 months:**

5. **The Best Hand Clapping**
6. **The Fastest Crawler**
7. **First to Wave Hello**
8. **The Most Creative Pumpkin (Costumes allowed)**

#### **13 - 18 months:**

9. **Best Baby Dancer**
10. **Walks Fastest to Mom or Dad**
11. **The Toothiest Grin**
12. **The Most Creative Farmer (Costumes allowed)**

