

**Neighborhood Village Youth
Craft & Baking Competition**



On display during the 2025 Florida Strawberry Festival

Location

**Neighborhood Village Youth is located on the south side of the
Administration Building at gate 4, off BerryFest Place.**

Chairpersons: Connie Gerbasi and Ashlyn del Valle

Information Contact: Connie Gerbasi: text (813) 431-7949 Ashlyn del Valle: text (813) 523-9634

Competition open to: Hillsborough, Pasco & Polk County Youth - ages 5-18 (K-12th grade)

Applications available: no application, no pre-entry, no entry fee

Deadline: Bring entry to the *Location* on entry date given in departments below.

RULES & REGULATIONS

PLEASE REVIEW –SOME RULES HAVE CHANGED

- Open to all Hillsborough, Pasco & Polk County Youth ages 5-18 (K-12th grade).
- There is a Junior and Senior Division for each department. Juniors are ages 5-12, 2023-2024 school year. Seniors are ages 13-18, 2024-2025 school year.
- Departments 1 thru 4 entries for competition and exhibit will be due at the Festival on **Saturday, February 22, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** Departments 5 thru 14 entries for competition and exhibit will be due at the Festival on **Thursday, February 20, 2025, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 6 p.m. only. NO ENTRIES AFTER 6:00 P.M.**
- All exhibits and ribbons will be released to the exhibitors from **12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12, 2025.** Items are left at owner's risk and may be picked up by calling the Florida Strawberry Festival at 813-752-9194. To claim article, you must show duplicate exhibit card stub showing item number. Items not claimed within 30 days of exhibit release date will be donated to charity and premiums will be refunded to the festival.
- All champion award and blue-ribbon money will be presented on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, when articles are picked up.
- All entries must be "NEW" since May 1, 2024 and made by the person whose name appears on the entry.

- . All items and articles displayed must be CLEAN, free of spoilage, and suitable for public display.
- . *NOTE* Youth may enter only 1 item in each category in each department.
- . Blue and red ribbons will be awarded to outstanding articles in each department. Champions will be awarded rosettes and \$20 in each deserving department. Blue ribbon winners will each receive \$10.
- . All reasonable effort will be exercised to prevent damage or an accident of any kind. The Florida Strawberry Festival or the Department Chairs will not be held responsible for damage to any property.
- . POINTS MAY BE DEDUCTED FOR FAILURE TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS.
- . Anyone participating in this contest by way of entry, hereby agrees and consents to the use of any picture of contestant in any or all publications, TV, publicity brochure, internet, etc., that the Florida Strawberry Festival may desire.
- . Please contact by email one of the chairpersons if there is any confusion about rules, eligibility, category placement etc. [Ashlyn Del Valle-ashlyn511@gmail.com](mailto:AshlynDelValle-ashlyn511@gmail.com) or [Connie Gerbasi-conniegerbasi@gmail.com](mailto:ConnieGerbasi-conniegerbasi@gmail.com)

DEPARTMENT 1 CAKE DECORATING

Enter: Saturday, February 22, 2025.

ALL ENTRANTS MUST BE PREPARED TO SHOW TECHNIQUES THE DAY OF JUDGING.

Entries judged on:	Application & consistency of frosting	20
	How shells and other trimmings are applied	20
	Color coordination of flowers, design, etc.	30
	Overall appearance	30

1. Cake decorating entries must not exceed 20" square in size or 20" diameter round.
2. Styrofoam forms are required for decorations because decorations only will be judged.
3. Junior division: use at least two tips/techniques and be proficient in techniques. Exhibitors must show judges your techniques on Saturday, February 2, 2025.
4. Senior division: use at least four tips/techniques and be proficient in techniques. Exhibitors must show judges your techniques on Saturday, February 22, 2025.
5. Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions.

Categories:

BASIC DECORATING

Examples: Holiday, Birthday, Character, Festival Theme, Graduation, Strawberry

MULTI-TIER

Examples: Wedding, Anniversary, Baby Shower etc.

ADVANCED

Examples: Rolled Fondant, Gum/Sugar Paste, etc.

DEPARTMENT 2 FOOD PRESERVATION

Enter: Saturday, February 22, 2025 9 a.m. until 11 a.m.

Entries will be judged on:

Overall Attractiveness	15
Pick of Jar	15
Condition	30
Appearance of Contents	20
Uniformity, ripeness, size	20

Food preservation entries (3 jars per entry) must include recipe and processing method attached on a 3x5 or 4x8 card with product. All foods must be preserved according to RECOMMENDED METHODS and in REGULATION CANNING JARS. Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions.

Categories:

JAMS AND PRESERVES

JELLIES AND MARMALADES

PICKLES AND RELISHES

FRUITS AND FRUIT JUICES

VEGETABLES

MEATS (EX. JERKY, DEHYDRATED MEATS, CANNED MEAT ETC.)

MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT (EX. SAUCES, SYRUPS, DRY RUBS, TEA MIXES ETC)

DEPARTMENT 3 PIE

Enter: Saturday, February 22, 2025, 9 a.m. until 11 a.m.

Entries will be judged on:

Texture	25
Color	20
Flavor	30
Appearance	25

1. Baking entries must include recipes on a 3x5 or 4x8 card. Include your name and age and attach with tape to baked good BEFORE dropping it off.
2. Place entries in disposable pie pan. Recipes and exhibit cards must be securely attached to your entry. The festival is not responsible for pans, plates, platters, etc.
3. You must indicate in which category you want your entry placed. The committee reserves the right to change category placements. ENTRIES WITHOUT CATEGORIES WILL NOT BE JUDGED.
4. Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions.

Categories:

CREAM/CUSTARD

FRUIT

NUT (Ex. Pecan)

SAVORY (Ex. Chicken Pie, Quiche)

DEPARTMENT 4 BAKING

Enter: Saturday, February 22, 2025, 9 a.m. until 11 a.m.

Entries will be judged on:	Texture	25
	Color	20
	Flavor	30
	General Appearance	25

1. Baking entries must include recipe on a 3x5 or 4x8 card. Be sure your name and age are written on the back of your recipe card.
2. Place entry on a sturdy, oil-resistant, disposable tray cut to appropriate size. The festival is not responsible for pans, plates, platters, etc.
3. You must indicate in which category you want your entry placed. The committee reserves the right to change category placements.
4. No mixes can be used as part of the recipe.
5. Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions.

Categories: One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories.

YEAST BREADS (submit 6 pieces or ½ loaf per entry)

Examples: Plain Rolls, Plain Loaf, Decorated Loaf, Bagels, Pita, and English Muffins

QUICK BREADS (submit 6 pieces or ½ loaf per entry)

Examples: Coffee Cakes, Biscuits, Cornbread loaf, Sweet Bread

COOKIES (submit 6 pieces per entry)

Examples: Molded (shaped with hands), Specialty (no-bake, decorated, meringues), Rolled (use cookie cutters), Pressed (cookie press), Dropped, Bar

CANDY (submit 6 pieces per entry)

Examples: Fudge, Caramel, Hard Candies, Divinity, Crystallized, Molded

CAKES (submit ½ cake per entry)

Examples: Layer Cakes, Sheet Cakes, Sponge/Angel, Fruitcake, Torte

CUPCAKES

(submit 6 cupcakes) Examples: Frosted, Filled, Savory

STRAWBERRY (submit 6 pieces or ½ cake/loaf)

Examples: Cake, Yeast Bread, Cookies, Quick Breads, Candy

GLUTEN FREE (submit 6 pieces or ½ cake/loaf.)

Examples: Cake, Bread, Cookies, Etc.

MUFFINS

Examples: Fruit, Savory, Spice, Etc.

DEPARTMENT 5 NEEDLEWORK (only handwork will be judged)

Enter: Thursday, February 20, 2025, 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. only

Entries will be judged on:	Workmanship	40
	Style and Suitability of article to purpose	20
	Overall attractiveness	15
	Harmony of color and material	25

Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions.

Categories: *One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories.*

CROCHET – HOME

Examples: Blankets, Wall Hangings, Pot Holders, Home and Kitchen Accessories, Toys, etc.

CROCHET - PERSONAL

Examples: Sweaters, Scarves, Decorated Clothing, Accessories, Hair Bows etc.

HAND SEWING AND EMBROIDERY

Examples: Needlepoint, Cross Stitch, Smocking, Hand Embroidery, Hand Quilting, Latch Hook, etc.

KNITTING – HOME

Examples: Blankets, Wall Hangings, Potholders, Home and Kitchen Accessories, Toys, etc.

KNITTING – PERSONAL

Examples: Sweaters, Scarves, Decorated Clothing, Accessories, Hair Bows etc.

DEPARTMENT 6 SEWING (only machine work/construction are judged, must be clean and unused)

Enter: Thursday, February 20, 2025, 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. only

Entries will be judged on:	Workmanship	30
	Style and Suitability of article to purpose	30
	Overall Attractiveness	15
	Harmony of color and material	25

Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions.

Categories: *One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories.*

QUILTS

Examples: Bed Quilts, Baby Quilts, Quilted Throws, Quilted Throw Runners

HOME SEWING

Examples: Table Linens, Room Accessories, Comforters, Pillows, Curtains, School Logo, Doll Clothing, Stuffed Dolls, Stuffed Animals, Machine Embroidery, Machine Appliqué

PERSONAL SEWING

Examples: Aprons, Casual Wear, Sports Wear, Formal Wear, Strawberry Apparel, Machine Embroidery, Machine Appliqué

PERSONAL ACCESSORIES

Examples: Purses, Tote Bags, Hair Bow

DEPARTMENT 7 CRAFTS

Enter: Thursday, February 20, 2025, 1 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Entries will be judged on :	Workmanship	45
	Style and Suitability of article to purpose	15
	Harmony of color and material	25
	Overall Attractiveness	15

ALL crafts art must have a hanger. Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions.

Categories: **One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories.**

HOME

Examples: Paper Crafts, Wall Hangings (non-sew), Wreaths, Ceramics, Baskets, Centerpieces, Holiday, Frames, Photo Albums, Candy Bouquets, Decorated Boxes etc.

PERSONAL

Examples: Decorated Clothing (non-sew), Soap, Bath Bombs, Decorated Accessories, tote bags etc.

MIXED MEDIA

Examples: Glued Artwork, Sculptures, etc.

CANVAS ART

Examples : Paint, 3-D, Collage, etc.

DEPARTMENT 8 CITIZENSHIP

Enter: Thursday, February 20, 2025, 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. only

Entries will be judged on:	Workmanship	30
	Theme	30
	Depth of project	15

Overall Presentation 25 Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions.

Entries may be created by individual students or by a group of students.

Categories:

GENEALOGY

1. Genealogy Category exhibit should be ½ size poster of family tree. Be sure name, age, address, telephone number, school and/or 4-H Club is on the back of your poster.
2. Short Explanation of project (2-3 pages) Include:
 - A. *Names and relationship of family members who helped with project.*
 - B. *Why you decided to research your ancestors.*
 - C. *List of references used to acquire information.*
 - D. *Information you learned about your ancestors that may be special or unique.*
 - E. *Trace back four generations on one lineage line, starting with yourself.*

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT (Individual)

Ex: Volunteer Work, Mission Trips, Global Service

1. Include a 2-3 page report with the following information, in a 3 ring binder.

- A. *Why did you decide to do the project?*
- B. *Who helped you with the project?*
- C. *What did you do?*
- D. *What happened as a result of your project?*
- E. *How many people were affected by your project?*
- F. *You may include photos and memorabilia.*

DEPARTMENT 9 NATURAL RESOURCES

Enter: Thursday, February 20, 2025, 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. only

Entries will be judged on:	Workmanship	30
	Theme	30
	Visual Impact	15
	Neatness	25

Check with chairpersons if your display is larger than 12 X 12 to check for available space.

Categories: One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories.

NATURAL RESOURCES-LIFE SCIENCES

Examples: Entomology, Agriculture, Beekeeping, Wildlife, Conservation, Marine Science, Aquaculture

NATURAL RESOURCES-EARTH SCIENCES

Examples: Forestry, Geology, Meteorology, Astronomy etc

DEPARTMENT 10 COLLECTIONS

Enter: Thursday, February 20, 2025, 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. only

Entries will be judged on:	Creativity	30
	Size of Collection	15
	Theme	25
	Attractiveness of Display	30

1. All reasonable effort will be exercised to prevent damage or accident of any kind to entries. The Florida Strawberry Festival or the Department Chairs will not be held responsible for damage to any entries.
2. **A 5x7 card must be attached to your display and contain the following information:**
 - A. How you became interested in collecting.
 - B. Number of items in your collection.
 - C. How long you have had this hobby.
3. All collections **MUST** be securely attached in display box, scrapbook, etc and no larger than 24x12 inches without contacting for special permission.

DEPARTMENT 11 MODELS

Enter: Thursday, February 20, 2025, 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. only

Entries will be judged on:	Creativity	30
	Difficulty	15
	Assembly	25
	Overall Presentation	30

Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions. Call for authorization of oversized items due to space limitations. All reasonable effort will be exercised to prevent damage or accident of any kind to entries. The Florida Strawberry Festival or the Department Chairs will not be held responsible for damage to any entries. Models will be moved during judging so must be on a sturdy base. Every entry must be displayed on sturdy wood or foam board, minimum of 1/8" thick. No base larger than 15 X 15 unless you contact the department chairs for permission. Space is limited.

Categories: **One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories.**

MODEL KITS

Examples: purchased kits, online or purchased patterns/designs - cars, trucks, buildings, machines, planes, animals, etc.

ORIGINAL MODEL

Examples: designed by entrant - cars, trucks, buildings, machines, planes, animals etc.

LEGO TYPE MODEL FROM KIT

Examples: purchased kits - cars, trucks, buildings, machines, planes, animals, etc.

LEGO TYPE MODEL ORIGINAL

Examples: designed by entrant- cars, trucks, buildings, machines, planes, animals, etc.

LEGO TYPE MODEL STRAWBERRY/FESTIVAL THEME

ORIGAMI

Examples: animals, flowers, vases, boxes etc.

DEPARTMENT 12 JEWELRY

Enter: Thursday, February 20, 2025, 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. only

Entries will be judged on:	Craftsmanship	40
	Originality	15
	Overall attractiveness	20
	color Selection	25

Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions. All reasonable effort will be exercised to prevent damage or accident of any kind to entries. The Florida Strawberry Festival or the Department Chairs will not be held responsible for damage to any entries. All entries must be "display ready". You may use cardboard stands, velvet, frames etc.

Categories: **One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories**

NECKLACES

Examples: Beaded, Chains, Woven, Wire Wrapped, Wood, Clay etc.

EARRINGS

Examples: Beaded, Drop, Studs, etc.

BRACELETS

Examples: Beaded, Bangles, Woven, Wire Wrapped, Wood, Clay etc.

RINGS

Examples: Beaded, Woven, Wire, Hammered, Etc

KEY CHAINS

DEPARTMENT 13 HAND LETTERING

Enter: Thursday, February 20, 2025, 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. only

Entries will be judged on:	Workmanship	40
	Effective use of color/design/font	20
	Overall presentation	15
	Creativity	25

This includes any writing done by hand (NOT COMPUTER). Brush lettering, Calligraphy, Cursive, Print etc. All entries must have a hanger on the back for display purposes. Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions. The Florida Strawberry Festival or the Department Chairs will not be held responsible for damage to any entries.

Categories: One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories.

PERSONAL LETTER WORK

Examples: Stationery (cards, sheets, envelopes, place cards, invitations, business cards),
Tableware (glasses, mugs, plates, serving piece) etc.

SIGNS

Examples: Wood, Posters, Canvas, Cloth, Chalkboard, Glass etc.

DEPARTMENT 14 WOOD, METAL + LEATHER CRAFTS

Enter : Thursday , February 20 ,2025 , 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. only entries

Entries will be judged on:	Workmanship	40
	Originality	30
	Overall Presentation	30

Categories: One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories

HOME DÉCOR

Examples : signs (without hand lettering), small shelf, storage box, candlesticks, lamp base, wooden spoons etc.

TOYS

Examples : Toys made from wood, metal, leather or combination.

PERSONAL USE

Examples : Knives, Letter openers, lathe turned items, wallets, book covers, purses, bags etc

Tips for Success!

- Read and follow all rules carefully
- Make sure items are sturdy and able to be displayed
- If your item is large, make sure you have permission to bring it (our space is limited)
- Work on tidiness and presentation
- Craft an item that is age appropriate
- Be sure the items are CLEAN and UNUSED
- If you have a conflict on pickup day it is your responsibility to have a friend or family member pick up your items for you.
- If you have something you have made and are not sure if you are allowed to enter it, PLEASE contact one of the chairpersons. We want you to take part in the fun of the competition.

