Neighborhood Village Youth
Craft & Baking Competition

On display during the 2026 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: Florida resident youth - ages 5-18 (K-12th grade) No entry fee
Deadline: Bring entry to the *Location* on entry date given in departments below.

RULE AND REGULATIONS NEED TO BE REVIEWED CAREFULLY

MANY HAVE CHANGED SINCE LAST YEAR

Open to all Florida Resident Youth ages 5-18 (K-12th grade).

.

There is a Junior and Senior Division for each department. Juniors are ages 5-12, 2026-2027 school year. Seniors are ages 13-18, 2026-2027 school year.

.

Departments 1 thru 4 entries for competition and exhibit will be due at the Festival on **Saturday, February 27, 2027,** 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 25, 2027**, between the hours of **1:00 p.m. and 6 p.m**. only. NO ENTRIES AFTER 6:00 P.M.

.

All articles, ribbons and awards MUST be picked up from **12:00 p.m**. until **6:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, March 17, 2027. A friend or family member is allowed to pick up for you. Make arrangements with someone else if you are unable to come on pickup day.** Unretrieved items are left at owner's risk and may be picked up by calling the Florida Strawberry Festival at 813-752-9194 to make an appointment during the following week at the convenience of available office staff.. After this time period any prize money will be forfeited. To claim article, you must show duplicate exhibit card stub showing item number.

.

.

All entries must be "NEW" since May 1, 2026 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. ENTRIES MAY BE DISQUALIFIED 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 or Connie Gerbasi-conniegerbasi@gmail.com

DEPARTMENT 1 CAKE DECORATING

Enter: Saturday, February 27, 2027.

ALL ENTRANTS MUST BE PREPARED TO SHOW TECHNIQUES THE DAY OF JUDGING. PLEASE CONTACT CHAIRPERSON TO SET AN APPOINTMENT FOR THE MORNING OF ENTRY (BETWEEN 9 AND 11AM)

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 27, 2027.
4. Senior division: use at least four tips/techniques and be proficient in techniques. Exhibitors must show judges your techniques on Saturday, February 27, 2027.
5. Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions.

Categories:

BASIC CAKE DECORATING
Examples: Holiday, Birthday, Character, Graduation etc

BASIC CUPCAKE DECORATING (BRING 6)
Examples: Holiday, Birthday, Character, Festival Theme, Graduation

STRAWBERRY THEME CAKE

STRAWBERRY THEME CUPCAKES (Bring 6)

MULTI-TIER
Examples: Wedding, Anniversary, Baby Shower etc.

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

DEPARTMENT 2 FOOD PRESERVATION

Enter: Saturday, February 27, 2027 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 4x8card 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
PRESERVES
JELLIES
MARMALADES
PICKLES
RELISHES
FRUITS
FRUIT JUICES
VEGETABLES
SOUPS
MEATS (EX. JERKY, DEHYDRATED MEATS, CANNED MEAT ETC.)
MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT (EX. SAUCES, SYRUPS, DRY RUBS, TEA MIXES ETC)

DEPARTMENT 3 PIE

Enter: Saturday, February 27, 2027, 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.
4. Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions.

Categories:
CREAM/CUSTARD
FRUIT
NUT (Ex. Pecan)
SAVORY (Ex. Chicken Pie, Quiche)
SHEPHERD'S PIE

DEPARTMENT 4 BAKING / COOKING

Enter: Saturday, February 27, 2027, 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

SOURDOUGH BREADS (submit 6 pieces or ½ loaf per entry)
Examples: Plain, Sweet or Savory Rolls / Plain, Sweet or Savory Loaves

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
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.

SAVORY Food Item (submit 6 pieces or square pan or bowl)

Examples: Appetizers, Side Dishes, Entree item, Stew, Soup

DEPARTMENT 5 NEEDLEWORK (only handwork will be judged)
Enter: Thursday, February 25, 2027, 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: <u>One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories.</u>

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…
KNITTING – HOME
Examples: Blankets, Wall Hangings, Potholders, Home and Kitchen Accessories, Toys, etc.
KNITTING – PERSONAL
Examples: Sweaters, Scarves, Decorated Clothing, Accessories, Hair Bows etc.
BEAD WORK
Examples: Decorated clothing, beaded purse

DEPARTMENT 6 SEWING (only machine work/construction are judged, must be clean and unused.)
Enter: Thursday, February 25, 2027, 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: <u>One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories.</u>

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

PERSONAL SEWING

Examples: Aprons, Casual Wear, Sports Wear, Formal Wear, Strawberry Apparel

PERSONAL ACCESSORIES

Examples: Purses, Tote Bags, Hair Bow

MACHINE EMBROIDERY HOME

Pillows, Throws, Pillowcases, Towels, Table Runners Napkins, Placemats etc

MACHINE EMBROIDERY PERSONAL

Clothing, Totes, Purses, Makeup, Bags, Hats

MACHINE APPLIQUE HOME

Totes, Towels, Pillows etc

MACHINE APPLIQUE PERSONAL

Clothing etc

DEPARTMENT 7 CRAFTS

Enter: Thursday, February 25, 2027, 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 wall craft art must have a hanger for display purposes. Points may be deducted for failure to follow directions. **REMEMBER, YOU MAY ONLY ENTER <u>ONE</u> ITEM PER CATEGORY!**

Categories: ***<u>One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories.</u>***

HOME

Examples: Hangings (non-sew), Wreaths, Ceramics, Baskets, Centerpieces, Holiday, Frames, Photo Albums, Decorated Boxes. . .

PERSONAL

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

MIXED MEDIA / CANVAS ART

(no pieces of loose paper)

Examples: Glued Artwork, Sculptures, Mosaic , 3-D, Collage, etc.

DEPARTMENT 8 CITIZENSHIP
Enter: Thursday, February 25, 2027, 1 p.m. until 6 p.m.
only Entries will be judged on:

Workmanship 30
Theme 30

Depth of Project 30

Overall Presentation 10

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.
   MUST BE STURDY (no regular/weight paper, hard poster board ONLY.)
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 25, 2027, 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

CHANGE FOR THIS YEAR-NO SCIENCE FAIR BOARDS.

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 25, 2027, 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. only

Entries will be judged on: Creativity 25 Theme 25, Attractiveness of Display 25 Detail 25

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 25, 2027, 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 and display so must be on a sturdy base. (NOT JUST A LEGO MAT.) Every entry must be displayed on sturdy wood or foamcore board, minimum of 1/8" thick. **No base larger than 15 X 15** unless you contact the

department chairs for permission. Space is limited. YOU MAY ENTER ONLY **ONE** ITEM PER CATEGORY.

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 entrants - 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 25, 2027, 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"**. **We will NOT receive loose jewelry. 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 25, 2027, 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

This includes any writing done by hand (NOT COMPUTER). Brush lettering, Calligraphy, Cursive, Print etc. All wall art must have a hanger on the back for display purposes and use a sturdy card stock.. 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: <u>One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories.</u>

PERSONAL LETTER WORK

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

SIGNS

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

DEPARTMENT 14 WOOD, METAL + LEATHER CRAFTS

Enter : Thursday , February 25 ,2027 , 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. only entries

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

Categories: <u>One overall champion will be selected in each of these categories</u>

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
- I**f you have a conflict on pickup day it is your responsibility to have a friend or family member pick up your items for you on pickup day.**
- 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.