

16TH ANNUAL MJCA PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



The purpose of this contest is to help MJCA members increase their communication skills through the creative display of a message or feeling through photography and provide a fun, educational and competitive activity for interested juniors who may or may not be able to participate in other programs.

A panel of qualified judges using the following guidelines will critique photographs.

60% - Creativity, message communicated and overall power

40% - Technical quality of photo, such as proper light exposure, true color, sharp focus, cropping techniques and photo composition

Winners will be selected for each of the four categories. Judging will take place on Saturday, June 13th. All photos will be put on display in the Beef Office. **Exhibitors do not need to be present to enter, but photos must be checked in at the registration table by no later than 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 11th.**

MCA will hold onto the photos and display them at the 2026 Missouri State Fair Beef House.

RULES:

- 1) Contestants must be members of the Missouri Junior Cattlemen's Association (MJCA).
- 2) All work must be that of the participant.
- 3) Photos are to be 8x10 inch (in) color or black-and-white prints mounted on a 10x14-in black foam board. Photos should not be matted or framed. Mount the completed entry form on the back side, in the upper left-hand corner of the foam board. Entry forms may be duplicated. The forms can be found on the MCA website under the Junior Show page.
- 4) Photos must be taken by the contestant during the past year. Photo cannot be altered or image-enhanced in any way.
- 5) There will be four subject categories: *Cattle, Landscapes, People and Around the Farm or Ranch*. Contestants may enter only one photo per category. Each entry may apply to no more than one subject category. The contestant should declare what subject category the photo is to be judged, as the photograph is representative of the contestant's interpretation of the category. Judges, however, reserve the right to move an entry to a more suitable category. Should the contestant already have a photograph in the more suitable subject category, judges are empowered to disqualify a photograph from competition. Further explanation of the subject categories is listed below:
 - Cattle—Photographs that highlight any breed of cattle on the farm or ranch or at an event with Cattle present. The cattle should be the dominate focus of the picture.
 - Landscape—Photographs that focus on scenery around the farm or ranch. Cattle should be included in the photo.
 - People—Photographs that show an MJCA member and/or family, friends, fellow junior members, etc., either involved in activities on the farm or ranch or at an MCA/MJCA event.
 - Around the Farm or Ranch—Photographs that highlight activities and scenes around the farm or ranch.
- 6) A maximum of four entries per contestant is allowed.
- 7) Entries must be submitted to the registration desk by no later than 6:00 p.m. on June 11th, 2026.