

2026

# International Art Photography Contest and Show



Join us for the 39th year of a show diverse in its origins and rich with creativity, the show presents some of the finest original sheep dog artwork and photography to be found. Held in conjunction with the Meeker Classic Sheepdog Championship Trials in Meeker, Colorado, the show is held in the historic Wilber Barn at the trial site and will be viewed by thousands of visitors. The 2026 Winning artwork will be the POSTER artwork used for the 2027 Meeker Classic poster, official apparel and souvenir items. A separate Photography Contest is included in the show. The winning entry of the 2026 Photography Contest will be used in 2027 Meeker Classic publicity material. All images for entries submitted will be posted on our website and possibly used for social media and advertising purposes.

Dates:	September 9 - 13, 2026
Entry Deadlines:	Open March 1, 2026 entries close July 15, 2026
Location:	Wilber Barn at Ute Park, 1901 Market Street, Meeker, Colorado
Information:	<a href="http://www.meekersheepdog.com/art-show">www.meekersheepdog.com/art-show</a> <a href="mailto:meekerclassicsheepdogart@gmail.com">meekerclassicsheepdogart@gmail.com</a>

## Eligibility/Media

- Exhibit is open to all artists aged 15 years and older.
- The theme of artwork entries must reflect sheepdog trials (Sheep, dog or Handler) In order to be eligible for the judging for the contest, the theme must have two of the three subjects (sheep, dog, handler) in the work. \*\*Work can still be entered and sold regardless of the judging.
- Entries must be original artwork not previously entered in a Meeker Classic Art Contest. Any reproducible medium is acceptable. Sculptures and digital art are not eligible.
- Photography Class: Digital enhancement of images to improve photographic quality and impact is allowed.
- Size is at artist's discretion.
- All artwork must be available for sale by silent auction held by the Meeker Classic from September 9-13, 2026 at no less than the Minimum Sale Price specified by the artist. Price not seen by juror.
- **NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES' ARTISTS:** Due to the high cost of returning unsold artworks to artists who live outside of the USA, we ask that our neighboring countries' artists make arrangements to have their artwork return-shipped to a gallery near the border in the USA or to a friend within the USA. It will be the responsibility of the neighboring countries' artists to pickup their artwork from that gallery or friend in the USA or make arrangements with the gallery or friend in the USA to get their artwork returned to them across the border.
- **Entry Fee/Images:** \$35 non-refundable entry fee/piece for submission. \*we apologize for the increase in fees, but had to do so to cover operational and advertising costs of the show.
- **Jurors:** Show is juried by leading art professionals in the art and photography community. Jurors will select artwork following the theme of sheepdog trials (sheep, dog, handler) - must have 2 of 3 subjects to be judged. Jurors are encouraged to select artwork suitable for commercial art purposes as the work will be used to promote the Meeker Classic.
- **Juried Exhibition** - Winning artwork will be used on promotional material for the 2027 Meeker Classic. Artists will submit entries by July 15, 2026. These will be juried by July 25, 2026 and narrowed down to a maximum of 65 pieces. All artists will be immediately notified via email and these pieces will need to be received by the Meeker Classic by

August 28, 2026. Please do not mail your work until you receive notification of acceptance. Work will be displayed at the Trial Site. At the event, work will be on display in a secure location and up for silent auction. Please note that this location is a charming historic log barn - the Meeker Classic tries it's best to insure good lighting for each piece. On Thursday night of the event from 5:30 - 7:30 pm at the trial site, an Art Reception will be held where voting for the People's and Children's Choice Award will be held; and all of the winners will be announced.

- **ARTISTS NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN** - The silent auction will close on Sunday, 30 minutes into the lunch break. Following the event, all artists will be notified whether their piece sold or not, and checks or the piece will be mailed back to the artist during the month of October.
- **Photography Contest** : There is a separate photography section and separate People's Choice & Children's Choice awards for photography. Please be sure the correct medium is selected on your entry. Photography will be judged separately from all other mediums.

## Calendar

DATE	EVENT/DEADLINE
March 1, 2026	Entries Open
July 15, 2026	Entries Close
July 16 - 25, 2026	All entries are juried <i>**do not send entry until notified of acceptance.</i>
July 26, 2025	Notifications sent out via email from the Meeker Classic
July 26 - August 28, 2026	Work delivered for exhibition
September 9-13, 2026	Art and photography on display and auction at trial site
September 10, 2026	Reception from 5:30 -7:30 pm at trial site, All Art & Photography Winners (including People's Choice & Childrens Choice) Announced at 6:30
September 13, 2026	30 minutes into lunch break the auction closes
September 13 - Oct 31, 2026	Works picked up or returned to artist <i>**after close of show</i>

## Entry Process

All entries will be processed through the Meeker Classic website. Go to our website and click the link for the Art show at <https://meekersheepdog.com/art-show/>

From there you can enter through our entry submission form. This form will be clearly identified as a **BUTTON** on the Art Show page. You can enter multiple entries in one form - just make sure everything is identified correctly. \$35 non-refundable fee PER ENTRY ITEM.

### Digital Entry Specifications:

- File Format: JPEG
- File dimensions: 1200 pixels or greater on the longest side. Anything larger than 1200 px will be resized to fit these limitations. **File Size: Under 5 MB**
- If you experience technical difficulty with the entry process, **please contact us at [meekerclassicsheepdogart@gmail.com](mailto:meekerclassicsheepdogart@gmail.com) 541-670-8415 or [trials@meekersheepdog.com](mailto:trials@meekersheepdog.com) 970-878-0111**

### ACCEPTED WORK:

The Meeker Sheepdog Classic Art Contest reserves the right to remove any works from the exhibition based on special installation circumstances or discrepancies between the juried images and actual work. All accepted work must remain on display until the end of the exhibition September 13, 2026.

### DISPLAY SPECIFICATIONS

- Artwork must arrive unframed and ready to hang with the necessary hardware.

- Artwork on paper must be signed, matted with a mat, and adequately backed (for example, foam core). DO NOT mat artwork that is done on Masonite, clay board or stretched canvas.
- Artwork must be protected by a covering of clear plexi-glass, acetate or plastic, such as shrink wrap for shipping protection at artist's discretion. (please do not ship with glass)
- Pastels should be treated with a fixative before wrapping and shipping.
- If artwork or photography arrives without proper hanging material already adhered, it will be rejected automatically from the contest.
- If you have display concerns, please contact us at least 2 weeks prior to shipping so we have time to address your concerns.
- Artists cannot make changes to the artwork, its arrangement, or the bid sheets while on exhibit during the Meeker Classic.
- Please email Sarah Grimes, Art Committee Chair with questions at:  
[meekerclassicsheepdogart@gmail.com](mailto:meekerclassicsheepdogart@gmail.com)

Artwork must be shipped in a reusable container that can be used to return the artwork to the artist in the event the piece is not sold at the silent auction. **We can receive Fed/Ex. UPS or USPS but in Meeker we can only return items through USPS and UPS.** Please do not use "peanuts" as packing material. Artist is responsible for return shipping cost. We will invoice you or you can pick your art up at the show. **SEE SHIPPING ADDRESSES & INSTRUCTIONS at the end of this form. NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES' ARTISTS see additional note under "Eligibility".**

**SALES:** All work must be offered for sale and will be sold through silent auction during the Meeker Classic from *September 9-13, 2026* at no less than the Minimum Sale Price specified by the artist. Artists may only sell artwork accepted for the art show on the Meeker Classic premises. The Meeker Classic will handle all silent auction sales transactions to include a 30% commission and the balance to the artist (70%).

**LIABILITY:** Please note that the artist assumes the risk of loss or damage to the artwork during transportation and while the artwork is in the custody of the Meeker Classic. The artist is responsible for making such insurance arrangements as the artist deems appropriate.

## Important - Please Read



By entering the Meeker Classic Art & Photography Show, the artist grants to the Meeker Classic, its successors and assigns, the exclusive right to use and publish for art, advertising, sale or any other lawful use that furthers the promotion of the Meeker Classic, all artwork submitted that is a Classic Art Contest winner for one year from the date of judging of the Classic Art Contest, and a non-exclusive right thereafter in perpetuity. Artist waives any right I may have to inspect or approve the finished product or advertising or other copy that may be used for these purposes and release the Meeker Classic from any liability for any blurring, distortion, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite form that might occur or be produced in making copies or processing the completed product.

## HOW WE DETERMINE WHERE PIECES WILL BE PLACED:

The location is a charming historic log barn - the Meeker Classic tries its best to insure good lighting for each piece. We take a multitude of criteria into consideration when choosing where to display each piece. The layout is chosen to provide the best viewing experience for our visitors as possible. We consider floor spacing, lighting and flow when creating the layout. We will not alter/move the location of pieces once they are hung. After our display is set, it is very disruptive for us to move pieces throughout the art show. It is never as simple as switching pieces one for one. It has a cascading effect throughout the show which leads to us spending a large amount of time determining how to move pieces around to make the show return to our standards. Thank you for understanding.

**Awards** - Chosen by Jurors unless otherwise noted

<i>Photography</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>1st place</b> and image for 2027 marketing materials – \$500.00</li> <li>● <b>2nd place</b> – \$300.00</li> <li>● <b>People’s Choice Photography Award</b> – \$300 (voted at Trial Site &amp; Art Reception)</li> <li>● <b>Children’s Choice Photography Award in Memory of Johnny Wix</b> – \$100 (voted by children at Trial Site &amp; Art Reception)</li> </ul>
<i>All other Mediums</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>1st place</b> &amp; Poster Image for 2027 marketing materials and souvenirs – \$1500.00</li> <li>● <b>2nd place</b> – \$650.00</li> <li>● <b>Shirley Coy Best of Northwest Colorado</b> – \$250 (comprised of artists residing in Rio Blanco, Moffat, Routt, Mesa and Garfield counties)</li> <li>● <b>People’s Choice Award</b> – \$300 (voted by attendees at Trial Site &amp; Art Reception)</li> <li>● <b>Children’s Choice Award in Memory of Johnny Wix</b> – \$100 (voted by children at Trial Site and Art Reception)</li> </ul>

Your work must be in Meeker by August 28

**All artwork must arrive by Monday August 28, 2026.** Artist is responsible for the shipping cost and insurance of the work while in transit. Work must be shipped in a reusable container and return shipping is also to be paid by the artist. Sarah will make arrangements for return shipping after the event and will contact the artist. **Please make arrangements for hand delivery with Sarah.** This assures the safety of your work. Also, please see [www.airfloatsys.com](http://www.airfloatsys.com) one highly recommended way to package all 2-D work. **\*NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES’ ARTISTS see additional note under “Eligibility”.**

Delivery/Pick-up/Shipping	*packages must be addressed correctly or they will not be delivered
<b>All Shipments - USPS, UPS &amp; FedEx Ship to:</b>	Sarah Grimes, Art Chair Meeker Classic 975 Pinyon Street Meeker, CO 81641

Artwork may be picked up once the auction closes on Sunday September 13, 2026. Shipped work will begin to be returned Monday, September 21, 2026. The Meeker Classic Sheepdog Art Contest is not responsible for any work not picked up by October 1, 2026 unless arrangements are made ahead of time. **Fed Ex does not service Meeker for return shipping so we can only return items through the USPS and UPS, so please include an appropriate Mailing address.**

**Artists are welcome to visit the Meeker Classic** while your art is on display. Please contact us if you need some passes to get into the event. If you would like to come paint, draw, photograph or work on site, contact Sarah Grimes at: [meekerclassicsheepdogart@gmail.com](mailto:meekerclassicsheepdogart@gmail.com) and she can make arrangements. Due to the nature of our event, you must get authorization to do so. Thank you and looking forward to seeing your entries!

**About the Exhibit**

The official judging will occur while all work is displayed at the Wilber Barn at the Trial Site. The show will open on Wednesday, September 9, 2026. The Wilber Barn is a charming historic log barn located at the Meeker Classic Trial Site. The venue is easily accessible to event visitors and provides a nice setting for the show. All work is secure at the site. Due to space and lighting limitations in the barn, most work will be displayed on art panels. The Art Committee will hang the show to physically accommodate all entries while leaving space for the Art Reception and foot traffic during the event.