

NORTHWEST INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION GUIDE

DIRECTOR IN CHARGE

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SUPERINTENDENT

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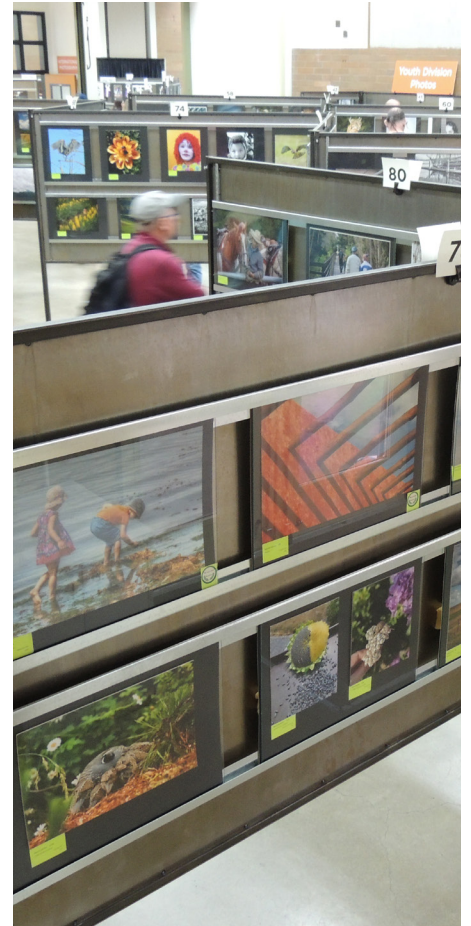
Marcie Shannon

COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS OFFICE

Washington State Fair
Hours: Mon.–Fri., 8 am – 4:30 pm
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WASHINGTON STATE FAIR
SEPTEMBER 4 - 27, 2026
(CLOSED TUESDAYS & SEPT. 9)

110 9th Avenue SW, Puyallup WA 98371-6811
24-Hour Hotline: 253-841-5045 | THEFAIR.COM



2026 NORTHWEST INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHY CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
JULY 12	JULY 13	JULY 14	JULY 15	JULY 16	JULY 17	JULY 18
						Online Entry Registration closes at 10pm
JULY 19	JULY 20	JULY 21	JULY 22	JULY 23	JULY 24	JULY 25
	LAST DAY TO RECEIVE ENTRY PACKAGES by 3pm					
JULY 26	JULY 27	JULY 28	JULY 29	JULY 30	JULY 31	AUG. 1
						JUDGING: 9am - 4pm (No public viewing)
AUG. 2	AUG. 3	AUG. 4	AUG. 5	AUG. 6	AUG. 7	AUG. 8
JUDGING: 9am - 3pm (No public viewing)						
AUG. 9	AUG. 10	AUG. 11	AUG. 12	AUG. 13	AUG. 14	AUG. 15
						Judging Completed
AUG. 16	AUG. 17	AUG. 18	AUG. 19	AUG. 20	AUG. 21	AUG. 22
						Notification letters will be mailed on or before today
AUG. 23	AUG. 24	AUG. 25	AUG. 26	AUG. 27	AUG. 28	AUG. 29
AUG. 30	AUG. 31	SEPT. 1	SEPT. 2	SEPT. 3	SEPT. 4	SEPT. 5
					OPENING DAY OF FAIR	
SEPT. 6	SEPT. 7	SEPT. 8	SEPT. 9	SEPT. 10	SEPT. 11	SEPT. 12
		FAIR CLOSED	FAIR CLOSED			
SEPT. 13	SEPT. 14	SEPT. 15	SEPT. 16	SEPT. 17	SEPT. 18	SEPT. 19
		FAIR CLOSED				
SEPT. 20	SEPT. 21	SEPT. 22	SEPT. 23	SEPT. 24	SEPT. 25	SEPT. 26
		FAIR CLOSED				
SEPT. 27	SEPT. 28	SEPT. 29	SEPT. 30	OCT. 1	OCT. 2	OCT. 3
LAST DAY OF FAIR					Prints may be picked up from the Photo Salon, 12pm - 8pm	Prints may be picked up from the Photo Salon, 11am - 3pm

Awards and entries for which exhibitor requests "Return Prints" and pays the \$10 return fee online will be mailed by **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16**

2026 NWIEP Catalog (including Awards) will be posted online at **THEFAIR.COM** by **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16**

Washington STATE FAIR

DO THE PUYALLUP!

SEPTEMBER 4 - 27, 2026
(CLOSED TUESDAYS & SEPT. 9)

By submitting an entry into the Fair, exhibitors agree to abide by all rules, regulations and entry requirements of the Fair and of the department(s) to which they are submitting their entries. It is important that exhibitors read and be familiar with the rules in this book, as well as the Departmental Exhibitors Rules and Regulations.

Please click here: [Enter a Competition](#) and scroll down to 'ADDITIONAL INFORMATION' to find:

- Departmental Exhibitors Rules and Regulations
- Vehicle Unloading Procedures
- Area Lodging

For additional WASHINGTON STATE FAIR information, driving directions, concert lineup, etc.:

Website: www.thefair.com

24-Hr. Hotline: 253-841-5045

IMPORTANT Online Entry Registration Instructions

Please read instructions and register information online before sending items.

- Read the complete rules, department and division descriptions and entry information in this Prospectus BEFORE going to Online Entry Registration.
- Then go to the Photo Salon [ONLINE ENTRY REGISTRATION](#) (available starting May 4)
- At TOP RIGHT of screen, click **Sign In**. At Type choose "**Exhibitor**"
 - Register using your First Name and Last Name and create a password (write your password down or make sure it is something you will remember for future use). Fill in requested information, including address, **country**, phone number, email address and PSA Honors. Click **Continue**.

- Click **Create Entries**. For each entry:
 - Select the **Department:** *Northwest International Exhibition of Photography*
 - Select a **Division:** *ex: Pictorial Prints - Large Color*
 - Select a **Class** which is also your Image Number. *ex.: class 01 - Print One (1)*
NOTE: You may enter one image per Class, 01 through 04; in other words you may enter up to four images in each division.
 - Fill in all requested information for the class(es) you are entering.
ex.: Title: Morning Serenity*
Description: *snow covered mountains, pink clouds*
*NOTE: **Titles** will appear in the exhibit **EXACTLY** as entered; **please type carefully!** *Brief* descriptions aid the show staff in visual identification of the images during judging and display.
 - Select your Division Star Ratings, if applicable.
 - At **Return Prints Options:** select your preference. (Note that additional fees must be paid at check out for mail-return or forward of prints.)
- When you have completed entering all your information, click **Continue** and follow the instructions to check out.
 - If you wish to have your **prints** returned or forwarded: Click on **Additional Items** and select the Return Photos fee for the prints you want returned/forwarded. *Shipping & Handling is a flat \$10 fee (U.S. currency) for **all** your prints.* IMPORTANT: Be sure to enclose the forwarding information with the appropriate prints in your package when you send them. Payment for Entry Fees AND Return/Forward Fee must be made at check out, using either MasterCard or VISA. No other payment options are available at this time.
- Fill in "**yes**" at the statement to agree to all the terms and conditions of entry as defined in this prospectus. Click **Submit**.
- Please print and enclose a copy of your online entry summary/receipt with your entries.
- Please contact us with any questions regarding online entry registration: 253-841-5150, CompExhibits@thefair.com

PRINT ENTRY SUBMISSION

LARGE PRINTS:

Enter up to four prints with maximum size of print 16 x 20 inches or A2, and must be more than A4. Mounts must not exceed 16 x 20 inches and must be flush with the print.

SMALL PRINTS

Enter up to four prints with maximum size of print 8.5 x 12 inches or A4. Mounts must not exceed 8.5 x 12 inches and must be flush with the print.

Mail prints and a printed copy of your online entry summary/receipt to:

**Northwest International Exhibition of Photography
Washington State Fair
110 9th Avenue SW
Puyallup, WA 98371-6811, USA**

Customs labels on exhibitor's entry packaging being sent to foreign countries must be clearly marked by the entrant: "Photographs for exhibition only," "To be returned to sender," "No commercial value" if required. All possible care will be taken to protect prints; however, responsibility cannot be assumed for lost or damaged entries.

The title on the backs of prints must match the titles on the Entry Form. Only pressure sensitive (self adhesive) labels may be used on the back of unmounted prints. The entrant must sign the entry submittal form in the space provided to verify authorization for the exhibition to destroy the exhibitor's prints in lieu of returning them otherwise the full entry fee shall apply if the exhibition does have separate fees for return of prints and non-return of prints.

Prints entered in Large Color Prints and Small Color Prints may not have the same title. Prints entered in Large Monochrome Prints and Small Monochrome Prints may not have the same title.

Minimum image size for Small Pictorial Prints is no less than 5 x 7 inches of printed surface area. Maximum image size for Small Pictorial Prints is 8½ x 12 inches including flush mounting. Minimum image size for Large Pictorial Prints is anything greater than 8½ x 12 inches. Maximum image size for a Large Pictorial Prints is 16 x 20 inches, including any flush mounting. Minimum image size for Photojournalism Prints is 4 x 6 inches of printed surface area. Maximum image size for Photojournalism Prints is 8½ x 12 inches of print surface including flush mounting. See page 13 for print flush mounting information.

Closing date to receive packages at the Photo Salon is Monday, July 20, 2026 at 3pm.

Prints accepted will be eligible for listing for PSA's Who's Who and Star Rating. All acceptance eligibility shall be in accordance with the Star Ratings or the Galaxy/Diamond Ratings requirements, as appropriate.

REMINDER

Entry information will be taken online (see step-by-step guide on page 8). Payment must be made online when you complete your online entry registration. Print a copy of your online entry summary/receipt to enclose and mail with your entries. Remember to include forwarding information with your entry if needed. If return or forward has been requested for prints, they will be returned by United Parcel Service or by U.S. Post Office via Parcel Post, at The Fair's discretion. If you wish any additional special handling (such as expedited service), please enclose a money order in U.S. funds sufficient to cover additional expenses.

RETURN/FORWARDING OF PRINTS

When you register your entries online please indicate if you wish to have your prints returned or forwarded after The Fair. If you want them returned by mail or forwarded to another exhibition there will be a \$10 shipping/handling fee per exhibitor. There is no additional fee if you wish to pick them up in person. If you do not wish to have your prints returned or forwarded, they will be destroyed. Entries will be forwarded to only one other United States or Canadian exhibition. The forward request must be indicated on the online entry registration form. A forwarding label must be enclosed or we will not forward.

Prints will be destroyed after two unsuccessful attempts to deliver them by mail. We will make every effort to contact the exhibitor to procure a correct mailing address.

If you do NOT wish to have your prints returned: When making your online entry registration, at "Non-Return Prints" please select the option "Yes, NWIEP is authorized to destroy my print."

If an exhibitor does not pay for return shipment of prints and does not select the authorization to destroy statement when making his/her entries, the NWIEP will hold the print for 90 days following the exhibition, after which it will be destroyed.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Reduce our work by complying with the rules. Fill in the online entry registration completely. If you have your entry forwarded from another exhibition, send forms, labels and fees well in advance. If forwarding your entries to another exhibition, enclose proper forwarding address labels. Thank you!

ADDRESS LABELS

(Please use to mail your entries):

<p>From: _____</p> <p>Contents: Photographs for exhibition; to be returned to sender. No commercial value.</p> <p>PICTORIAL PRINTS AND PHOTOJOURNALISM</p> <p>Please check appropriate Divisions:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> LARGE PRINTS <input type="checkbox"/> PHOTOJOURNALISM <input type="checkbox"/> SMALL PRINTS</p> <p>To: NORTHWEST INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHY Washington State Fair 110 9th Avenue SW Puyallup, WA 98371-6811, USA</p>	<p>From: _____</p> <p>Contents: Photographs for exhibition; to be returned to sender. No commercial value.</p> <p>PICTORIAL PRINTS AND PHOTOJOURNALISM</p> <p>Please check appropriate Divisions:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> LARGE PRINTS <input type="checkbox"/> PHOTOJOURNALISM <input type="checkbox"/> SMALL PRINTS</p> <p>To: NORTHWEST INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHY Washington State Fair 110 9th Avenue SW Puyallup, WA 98371-6811, USA</p>
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PRINTS

FIVE DIVISIONS:

Large Monochrome, Large Color, Small Monochrome, Small Color and Photo Journalism.
Exhibitors may enter all five Print divisions.

DIVISION #321 PICTORIAL PRINTS - LARGE MONOCHROME (LM) PSA AND FAIR AWARDS

- 1) **All prints must be solely the work of the exhibitor.**
- 2) Maximum of four (4) prints is allowed. **Some accepted prints may not be displayed.**
- 3) Entry fee is \$2.00 per print (U.S. currency).
- 4) Return/Forward of prints see page 4.
- 5) Minimum image size for Large Prints is anything greater than 8½ x 12 inches. Maximum size for a Large Print is 16 x 20 inches, including any flush mounting. Frames are **not** permitted. **See page 9 for mounting information.**
- 6) All prints must be sent FLAT without overlying mats; lightweight flush mounting is preferred for print entries, but may be sent unmounted.
- 7) **No names or titles are permitted on the front of the print.**
- 8) The following data should appear **on the back** of each print:
 - Name and current address of exhibitor
 - Division (i.e.: "Pictorial Prints Large Monochrome" or "LM")
 - Print number (which is also the class number; 01, 02, 03 or 04)
 - Title of the print
 - Only pressure sensitive (self-adhesive) labels may be used on the backs of unmounted prints.
- 9) An image is considered to be Monochrome only if it gives the impression of having no color (i.e. contains only shades of gray which can include pure black and pure white) OR it gives the impression of being a grayscale image that has been toned in one color across the entire image. (For example, by Sepia, red, gold, etc.) A grayscale or multi-colored image modified or giving the impression of having been modified by partial toning, multi-toning or by the inclusion of spot coloring does not meet the definition of monochrome and shall be classified as a Color Work.
- 10) Please enclose a copy of your online entry summary/receipt with your prints.

Click for [ONLINE ENTRY REGISTRATION](#) available starting May 4.

DIVISION #322 PICTORIAL PRINTS - LARGE COLOR (LC) PSA AND FAIR AWARDS

- 1) **All prints must be solely the work of the exhibitor.**
- 2) Maximum of four (4) prints is allowed. **Some accepted prints may not be displayed.**
- 3) Entry fee is \$2.00 per print (U.S. currency).
- 4) Return/Forward of prints see page 4.
- 5) Minimum image size for Large Prints is anything greater than 8½ x 12 inches. Maximum size for a Large Print is 16 x 20 inches, including any flush mounting. Frames are **not** permitted. **See page 9 for mounting information.**
- 6) All prints must be sent FLAT without overlying mats; lightweight flush mounting is preferred for print entries, but may be sent unmounted.
- 7) **No names or titles are permitted on the front of the print.**
- 8) The following data should appear **on the back** of each print:
 - Name and current address of exhibitor
 - Division (i.e.: "Pictorial Prints Large Color" or "LC")
 - Print number (which is also the class number; 01, 02, 03 or 04)
 - Title of the print.
 - Only pressure sensitive (self-adhesive) labels may be used on the backs of unmounted prints.
- 9) Hand colored prints or prints with more than one color (hue) added are considered color prints. **Monochrome images may not be entered in this division.**
- 10) Please enclose a copy of your online entry summary/receipt with your prints.

Click for [ONLINE ENTRY REGISTRATION](#) available starting May 4.

**DIVISION #323
PICTORIAL PRINTS -
SMALL MONOCHROME (SM)
PSA AND FAIR AWARDS**

- 1) **All prints must be solely the work of the exhibitor.**
- 2) Maximum of four (4) prints is allowed in each division.
Some accepted prints may not be displayed.
- 3) Entry fee is \$2.00 per print (U.S. currency).
- 4) Return/Forward of prints see page 4.
- 5) Minimum image size for Small Prints is no less than 5 x 7 inches of printed surface area. Maximum image size for Small Prints is 8½ x 12 inches including flush mounting. Frames are **not** permitted. **See page 9 for mounting information.**
- 6) All prints must be sent FLAT without overlying mats; lightweight flush mounting is preferred for print entries, but may be sent unmounted.
- 7) **No names or titles are permitted on the front of the print.**
- 8) The following data should appear **on the back** of each print:
 - Name and current address of exhibitor
 - Division (i.e.: "Pictorial Prints Small Monochrome" or "SM")
 - Print number (which is also the class number; 01, 02, 03 or 04)
 - Title of the print
 - Only pressure sensitive (self-adhesive) labels may be used on the backs of unmounted prints.
- 9) An image is considered to be Monochrome only if it gives the impression of having no color (i.e. contains only shades of gray which can include pure black and pure white) OR it gives the impression of being a grayscale image that has been toned in one color across the entire image. (For example, by Sepia, red, gold, etc.) A grayscale or multi-colored image modified or giving the impression of having been modified by partial toning, multi-toning or by the inclusion of spot coloring does not meet the definition of monochrome and shall be classified as a Color Work. 10) Please enclose a copy of your online entry summary/ receipt with your prints.

Click for [ONLINE ENTRY REGISTRATION](#) available starting May 4.

**DIVISION #324
PICTORIAL PRINTS -
SMALL COLOR (SC)
PSA AND FAIR AWARDS**

- 1) **All prints must be solely the work of the exhibitor.**
- 2) Maximum of four (4) prints is allowed in each division.
Some accepted prints may not be displayed.
- 3) Entry fee is \$2.00 per print (U.S. currency).
- 4) Return/Forward of prints see page 4.
- 5) Minimum image size for Small Prints is no less than 5 x 7 inches of printed surface area. Maximum image size for Small Prints is 8½ x 12 inches including flush mounting. Frames are **not** permitted. **See page 9 for mounting information.**
- 6) All prints must be sent FLAT without overlying mats; lightweight flush mounting is preferred for print entries, but may be sent unmounted.
- 7) **No names or titles are permitted on the front of the print.**
- 8) The following data should appear **on the back** of each print:
 - Name and current address of exhibitor
 - Division (i.e.: "Pictorial Prints Small Color" or "SC")
 - Print number (which is also the class number; 01, 02, 03 or 04)
 - Title of the print
 - Only pressure sensitive (self-adhesive) labels may be used on the backs of unmounted prints.
- 9) Hand colored prints or prints with more than one color (hue) added are considered color prints. **Monochrome images may not be entered in this division.**
- 10) Please enclose a copy of your online entry summary/ receipt with your prints.

Click for [ONLINE ENTRY REGISTRATION](#) available starting May 4.

DIVISION #325
PHOTOJOURNALISM PRINTS (PJ)
PSA AND FAIR AWARDS

- 1) **All prints must be solely the work of the exhibitor,** mounting excepted.
- 2) Maximum of four (4) mounts in the Photojournalism division, not to exceed 8½ x 12 inches. Photojournalism prints may be flush mounted. Frames are **not** permitted. **See page 9 for mounting information. Some accepted prints may not be displayed.**
- 3) Entry fee is \$2.00 per print (U.S. currency)
- 4) Return/Forward of prints see page 4.
- 5) Minimum size for photojournalism prints is 4 x 6 inches. Note: In photojournalism up to four 4 x 6 inch prints may be placed on a single 8½ x 12 inch mount. The images on one mount must show a sequence of events related to each other. This single mount of four images is counted as a single submission **for Photojournalism only**. Example: An exhibitor may submit four 8½ x 12 inch mounts, with each mount containing a sequence of events that are related to one another. The first mount may contain four 4 x 6 inch prints of the same soccer match, the second mount may contain four 4 x 6 inch prints of the same horse race, the third mount may contain four 4 x 6 inch prints of the same rodeo event, the fourth mount may contain four 4 x 6 inch prints of the same boxing match.

If an exhibitor submits four images in photojournalism that are unrelated to one another, then each of those images should be submitted separately and submitted as separate entries. Prints submitted in photojournalism may be a maximum size of 8½ x 12 inches, including mounting. **See page 9 for mounting information.**
- 6) All prints must be sent FLAT without overlying mats; lightweight flush mounting is preferred for print entries, but may be sent unmounted.
- 7) **No names or titles are permitted on the front of the print or on the border of the backing, if any.**
- 8) The following data should appear **on the back** of each mount:
 - Name and current address of exhibitor
 - Division (i.e.: "Photojournalism Prints" or "PJ")
 - Print number (which is also the class number; 01, 02, 03 or 04)
 - Title of the print. *Titles will not be read.*
 - Only pressure sensitive (self-adhesive) labels may be used on the backs of unmounted prints.

- 9) **PSA Photojournalism Definition:** Photojournalism entries are images with informative content and emotional impact, reflecting the human presence in our world. The journalistic (story-telling) value of the image should receive priority over pictorial quality. Images that misrepresent the truth, such as those from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography, are not eligible.
- 10) Please enclose a copy of your online entry summary/ receipt with your prints.

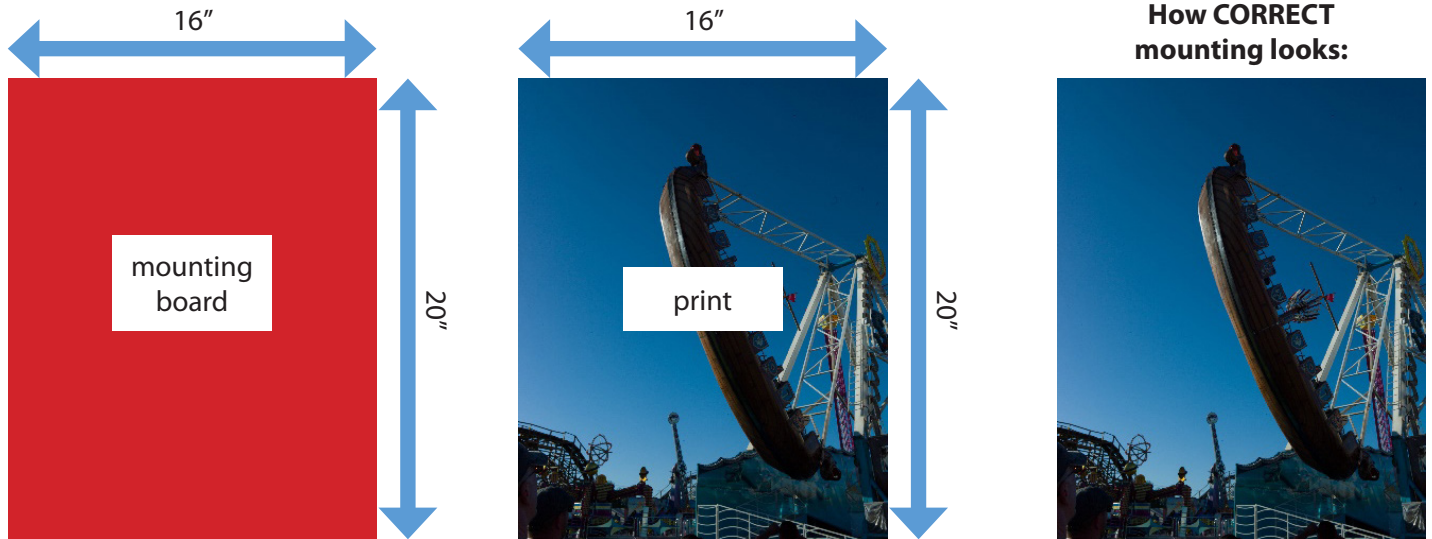
Click for [ONLINE ENTRY REGISTRATION](#) available starting May 4.

Flush Mounting Your Prints

For mounting prints please use regular picture mat board, no thicker than 1/8", such as that available at art and craft supply stores. Thick mounting board or foam core board is **NOT** acceptable.

Prints entered in our exhibition require **FLUSH MOUNTING**. Flush mounting means that the mounting board is the exact same size as the photographic print.

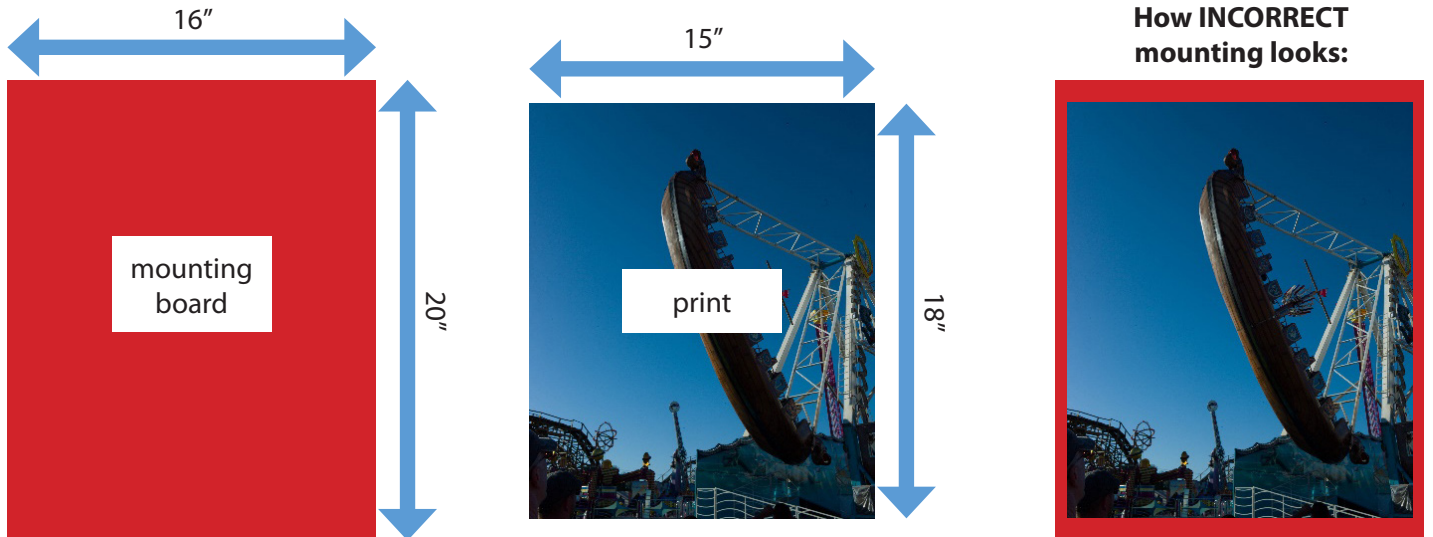
Example of CORRECT mounting:



Regardless of the size of print that is entered, the mounting board and the print must be the same dimensions. So, if the print measures 8" x 11¼" it must be mounted on a board that measures 8" x 11¼".

Mounting must **not** exceed print dimensions and prints must **not** have an overlying mat.

Example of INCORRECT mounting that is NOT ACCEPTABLE:



The example above would be disqualified. The mounting board is larger than the print and is not considered a "flush mount."