

2026 4-H SPRING ART CONTEST INFORMATION GUIDE

2026 Contest Theme = Biomorphic Art

2026 Contest Media = Watercolor, mixed

Youth will work with their choice of 2 liquid watercolors and use other visual effects to create abstract art pieces inspired by the natural world, or biomorphic art. "These shapes may look like leaves, flowers, clouds—things that grow, flow, and move. The term biomorphic means: life-form (bio=life and morph= form). Biomorphic shapes are often rounded and irregular, unlike most geometric shapes." -[National Gallery of Art, The Elements of Art: Shape](#)

ART CONTEST GUIDELINES

The Spring Art Contest officially opens on Monday, March 30, 2026.

- Art supplies can be picked up at the Ash-Co 4-H office Monday-Friday 8am-4pm, OR ask your Club Leader about organizing pickup for one of your meetings.
- Artists are welcome to use their own materials or ask the office for more materials.

The Contest closes on Monday, May 4, 2026.

- Artwork entries are due by 4:30pm to the Ash-Co 4-H office on the closing date.
- Remember to give your artwork a title on the back of the paper!
- Artwork is reviewed based Creativity, Craftsmanship, & Comprehension.

Open Category - New in 2026

- Got another idea of something you'd like to contribute? Submit to the open category
- These pieces will be judged separately from the main contest and as a single age group.
- Pieces will be judged with input from participants at the Spring Celebration

Awards announced at the Spring Celebration - Saturday, May 9, 2026 - 1pm -3pm

- Location: Vaughn Public Library in Ashland
- Optional activities before and after awards are announced. Plus, enjoy the Cookie Contest!
- All artwork entries displayed. Participants receive certificates and/or prizes.

Please keep in mind that each artwork...

- Needs to be an original work made by the youth participant
- Will be displayed at the Vaughn Library after the Celebration.
- Can later be submitted to the Ashland County Junior Fair Exhibit in August



Age groups

- ages 5-6
- ages 7-8
- ages 9-10
- ages 11-12
- ages 13-14
- ages 15-16
- ages 17-19

ARTIST DEMONSTRATION & WORKSHOP - Wednesday, April 8, at 6:30PM - Bretting Center in Ashland

Come learn from judges Jen and Joni about biomorphic art and get started on your contest entries! This session will be recorded and posted to the Art Contest website, if you are unable to attend.

4-H SPRING 2026 ART CONTEST ENTRY FORM

INSTRUCTIONS: Each artist must carefully write their age and artwork title on the back of their paper. Then submit artwork with the completed form below. A 4-H Club or family can submit multiple entries at once.

	YOUTH'S FIRST & LAST NAME	AGE	ARTWORK TITLE	PARENT/GUARDIAN NUMBER
ARTIST 1				
ARTIST 2				
ARTIST 3				
ARTIST 4				