



## Waupaca County Association for Home and Community Education

### Calendar of Events

Monday, March 23, **Waupaca County HCE Executive Board Meeting**, 10:30 am – Noon.  
Manawa City Hall, 500 S. Bridge Street, Manawa. Lunch on your Own

Monday, March 23, **Special Interest Program** Open to the Public, 1:00 – 2:30 pm “Meaningful  
Memories for Healthy Brains” Manawa City Hall, 500 S. Bridge Street, Manawa

April 1 – Deadline for **HCE ACCENT** articles and program booklet for May-June 2026 sent to  
HCE Secretary Marilyn Herman.

Sunday, April 19, Special Interest Program Open to the Public, 1:30 – 3:00 pm “**International  
Day - Germany**” Aster Living of Clintonville, 38 N. Main Street, Clintonville WI

Wednesday, April 22, **Central District Spring Meeting**, 9 am to 3 pm, hosted by Waushara  
County HCE Lion’s Club Building in Wild Rose.

Monday, April 27, **Waupaca County HCE Executive Board Meeting**, 10:30 am – Noon.  
Manawa City Hall, 500 S. Bridge Street, Manawa. Lunch on your Own

October through April: **Wisconsin Bookworms** Volunteer Readers read selected book each  
month at Headstart Centers in Waupaca, New London and Clintonville for the HCE Project.

**Consumer Questions? Contact the Extension Service AnswerLine Phone:** 1-866-540-4636  
Email: [answer@iastate.edu](mailto:answer@iastate.edu) Hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. & 1:00–4:00 p.m.  
CST  
Closed on holidays.

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## Special Notice

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Check the most recent **ACCENT** newsletter for the latest activity updates, change of date, time or place updates from your Program Booklet

**Program Cancellations:** In the event of inclement weather or hazardous roads, listen to WDUX Radio 8:30 AM and 92.7 FM or WIMQ 92.3 for cancellations and possible rescheduling.

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## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR HCE PRESIDENT

Winter is still here! Where is Spring? With winter weather---all those cold temperatures, wind, ice, and snow---what a great time to work on cultural arts projects. Changes and additions have been made to several cultural art's categories. The recent Update contains the new rules. And, the bonus category has returned with the theme of "Celebrate HCE."

With the winter weather constantly changing, I am wondering how spring will look for gardening this season. It's always a challenge to decide when to purchase flowers and vegetables. Too early means I haul plants inside the garage at night and back out in the morning. Too late means no good selection of plants left-- with vendors not re-ordering their stock.

At our March business meeting, we will be discussing the upcoming Central District meeting and the September WAHCE conference. We also will be hearing updates from our officers and our chair persons.

Stay healthy--Stay happy--Stay well!

*Lynn Marcks*

Waupaca County HCE President



## 2026 WAHCE Conference



The 2026 WAHCE Conference will be held on September 21-23 at the Lismore Hotel in Eau Claire. The location is 333 Gibson Street. The full bed rooms are at a rate of \$119 per night. Double occupancy rooms for Queen and King size are at a rate of \$139 per night. You may call 715.835.8888 to make your reservation. The group code is HCE. The cutoff date to register is August 21st.

Parking is a challenge. There is self-parking available in the city owned parking ramp that is attached to the hotel. One day parking is available by registering your vehicle and paying at the kiosk.

The theme for our conference is "*HCE: Party on Gibson Street.*" This is a focus on the 1920's era. Northwest District is our host. Next year, Central District will be hosting the 2027 WAHCE conference to be held in Oshkosh. Waupaca County will be sewing tote bags for conference attendees.

## 2026 Central District Annual Meeting

The annual Central District Spring meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 22nd at the Wild Rose Lions Club building. Waushara County is hosting the gathering. The time frame is 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Breakfast snacks with coffee, water, and juice will be available. A buffet lunch at noon is provided. The theme for the day is "*HCE Nurtures our Nature*", celebrating Earth Day.

The day includes the general business meeting with reports and updates. After lunch, Carl Mesman will present "*The Ice Age Trail--Walking with Nature.*"

Instead of a live auction that we have had the past few years, there will be a basket raffle. Each county is to bring a basket for the raffle. This may include craft items, baked goods, and books. Tickets will be on sale during registration and at the noon hour. Drawings will be done during closing of the day. The proceeds will benefit our Central District funds.



## Wisconsin Bookworm Early Reading Program

The Wisconsin Bookworm Early Reading program is in full swing at the three Head Start programs in Waupaca County. These includes Clintonville, New London, and Waupaca. We did receive \$1,000 in supportive funding from the Anthony Family Foundation. This funding is so appreciated as it keeps our reading program successfully operating.

I searched for information about the Wisconsin Bookworm Program and discovered that there were no representatives from Central District on the book selection review team. This review team reads and ranks books to possibly purchase for the 2026-2027 years. I pursued further and managed to get the book review list. I sent a copy of the doc to Helen Raddant for review. At least now, there are two reps from Central District involved in the book selection process. I also sent a copy of the doc to my friend Shirley Steinhorst in SW district. She also wanted to be included in the review team.

*Lynn Marcks and Diane Bonikowske*  
*Wisconsin Bookworm Co-Chairs*

## 2026 Cultural Arts



The recent February Update contains several pages of information concerning the 2026 changes and additions for the cultural arts submissions and judging. Pay special attention to the revised rules. Notice that the phrase "any other item/craft not listed" appears at the end of most categories. Also, the bonus item category has returned this year. The theme is "Celebrate HCE." This category is to be made with dried and/or silk flowers. An advanced copy of the 2026 Cultural Arts Form is included with this issue of ACCENT so you can better plan your entries.

## WAHCE Board Nominations 2026

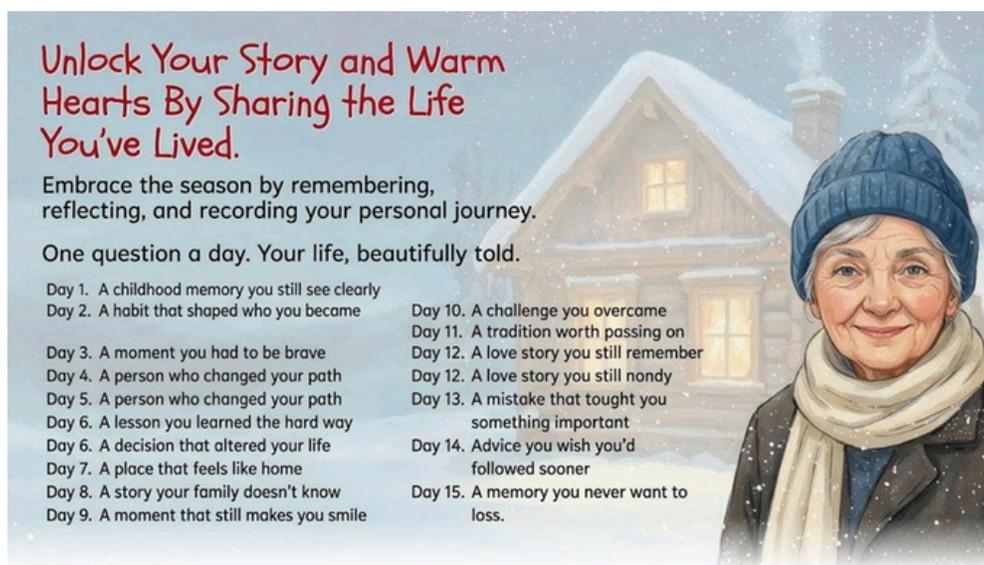
The WAHCE is seeking candidates to run for the office of President-Elect. The President-Elect position is for one term to learn about the duties and expectations of being state president of our organization. Following the one-year learning term, the candidate will serve three years as the state president.

If you are interested in learning more about this important position, please contact the nominating committee chair: Shirley Steinhorst @ 608.356.3531.

# HCE's Winterwear Hats, Mittens and Scarf Project

The Winterwear Projects were needed more than ever this year. A special thank you to Helen Heise for securing a Thrivent grant to purchase yarn from Herrschner's in Stevens Point to be delivered soon with other community donated yarn to Oshkosh Correctional for the inmates. HCE continues to reach out to our members and community. If you or anyone you know is no longer using their leftover new or used yarn please donate. No skeins of yarn are too small. Some of the cutest mittens and pompoms are a hodge podge of colors.

~Doris Budwit, Project Chair



**Unlock Your Story and Warm Hearts By Sharing the Life You've Lived.**

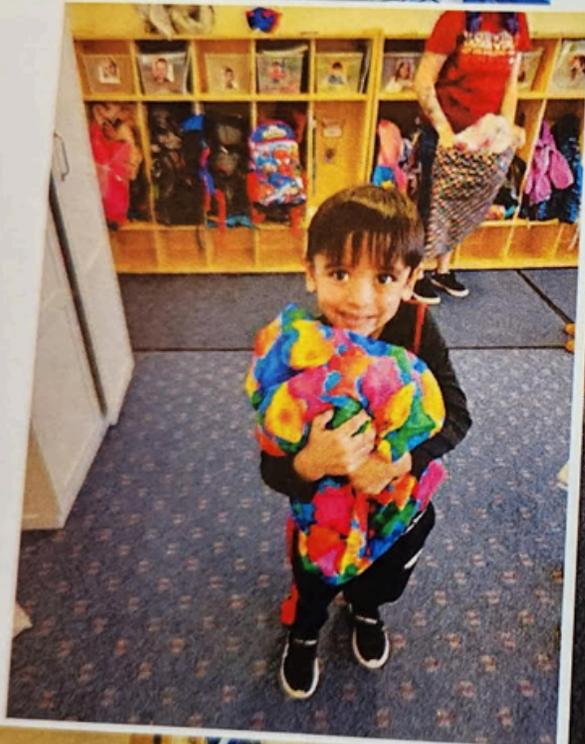
Embrace the season by remembering, reflecting, and recording your personal journey.

One question a day. Your life, beautifully told.

Day 1. A childhood memory you still see clearly	Day 10. A challenge you overcame
Day 2. A habit that shaped who you became	Day 11. A tradition worth passing on
Day 3. A moment you had to be brave	Day 12. A love story you still remember
Day 4. A person who changed your path	Day 12. A love story you still fondly
Day 5. A person who changed your path	Day 13. A mistake that taught you something important
Day 6. A lesson you learned the hard way	Day 14. Advice you wish you'd followed sooner
Day 6. A decision that altered your life	Day 15. A memory you never want to lose.
Day 7. A place that feels like home	
Day 8. A story your family doesn't know	
Day 9. A moment that still makes you smile	

## Warm Hands and Hearts at Headstart Centers in Waupaca County

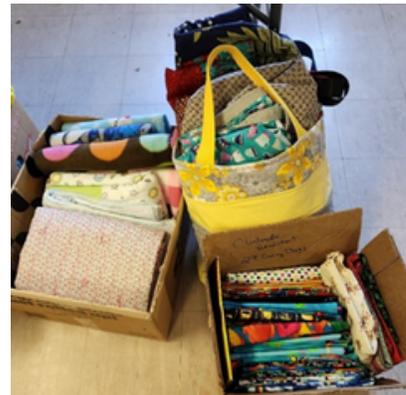
In December our little Headstart Students at Clintonville, New London and Waupaca received two pairs of hats, mittens and scarves for every child as part of our HCE Winter Warm Project. That's 180 sets of winter wear gear as well as 70 child-size fleece lapquilts and carry bags were donated by members of Creative Caring Hearts of Waupaca; Pieceful Hands Quilt Guild and Waupaca County HCE. A special thank you to Karen Euhardy for finding warm gloves and mittens on sale at end of season, the family of Myrtle Kutchenriter for fleece hats and mittens, and HCE members that donated yarn throughout the year for inmates at Oshkosh Correctional to crochet hats and mittens for our projects and Doris Budwit and Marilyn Herman for transporting yarn and finished gear to our key partners.



# Tracking 2025 Winter Wear Donations

From December, 2025 through February 2026 HCE has received and delivered the following Warm Winter Project items to community partners.

Items Received	Count	Recipient Organization
Knit or Crochet Hats	130	Waupaca and New London Headstart
Polar Fleece Hats	105	Goodfellows/Salvation Army Clintonville and Marion – Coats for Kids Clintonville Headstart
Knit or Crochet Scarves	140	Goodfellows/Salvation Army Clintonville and Marion – Coats for Kids Waupaca and New London Headstart
Polar Fleece Scarves, adult	36	Goodfellows/Salvation Army Clintonville Family Warm Weather Project
Polar Fleece Scarves, child	125	New London, Clintonville Headstart Goodfellows/Salvation Army Coats for Kids
Cape	4	New London Homebound Meals on Wheels
Mittens, Polar Fleece	142 pair	New London Mitten Tree Goodfellows Coats for Kids Clintonville Headstart
Mittens, Knit Small	130 pair	New London Mitten Tree CESA Title 1 School Programs
Mittens, Knit Medium	40	New London Mitten Tree CESA Title 1 School Programs
Mittens, Knit Large	30	New London Mitten Tree CESA Title 1 School Programs
Afghans, Knit or Crochet	42	New London Homebound Meals on Wheels Clintonville Homebound Meals on Wheels
Quilted Lap Robes or Blankets	65	New London Homebound Meals on Wheels Clintonville Homebound Meals on Wheels
Carry Bags, sewn	140	Clintonville and New London Headstart New London Homebound Meals on Wheels Clintonville Homebound Meals on Wheels
Hat/Scarf/Mitten Sets	60	CESA Title 1 School Programs
Play Snowballs	50	Child Care Center, Manawa



# March Special Interest Program “Meaningful Memories for Healthy Brains”

Always find a reason to laugh. It may not add years to your life, but it will surely add life to your years.



Loneliness can impact your brain health. We will learn some helpful strategies to keep your mind strong by practicing memory making activities. Try your hand at Brain Bingo, moving with music and reaching out to others for a few laughs. Invite a friend or family member to join you for this free program on Monday, March 23 starting at 1 PM at the Manawa Municipal Building sponsored by Waupaca County HCE.

## Understanding Food Recalls

Roger Hancock, CEO of Recall InfoLink explains that Recalls happen fast—often without much warning. Maybe you saw something on the news about a recall, a friend sent you a link, or you noticed a sign in the store after you bought the item. So, how can you tell which foods were recalled? What should you do if you think you’ve purchased or consumed a recalled item?

### **How do I know why something is being recalled?**

Recall notices should include the reason for the recall, and companies should be transparent about what happened. The reasons matter and can help consumers understand the risks they face. For instance, products contaminated by a pathogen or containing undeclared allergens pose higher health threats than strawberry ice cream that isn’t “pink enough.”

### **What should I do if a product I bought is recalled?**

Check the brand name, product size, UPC code, and expiration or “best by” date listed in the recall notice, and compare this information to the product you purchased. Look for a QR code on the package or visit the brand’s website for more details on the recall, including product identifiers, geographic locations impacted, etc. If you’re still unsure, err on the side of caution and don’t eat the product.

### **There is a recall on an item still on the store shelf. Should I say something?**

Yes! Let the store manager or a staff member know. The store’s staff may have mistakenly left the product on the shelves, the product may look similar to the recalled product but isn’t affected, or you heard about the recall even before the store did. Speak up to help protect others.

# International Day— Germany

**Sunday,  
April 19, 2026**

**Aster Living of  
Clintonville Dining Hall**  
38 N. Main Street Clintonville

**Program: 1:30 p.m.  
Light Desserts to Follow**

**Good Will Offering**



*We will be joined by Clintonville High School foreign exchange student, Greta Behnke. Greta will share information about the culture, family life and special places she enjoys in Germany and compare her life experiences here to her home.*



**Menu: Variety of German Desserts  
Beverage Choice**

*Sponsored by:  
Waupaca County Association for Home and Community Education (HCE)*



**On all "other" categories,** please attach a card with details of what the item is made from or how it was made, or what embellishments were used. All items with multiple or loose pieces please tie them together or put it in a box.

**Counties:** when you are bringing your items for check in, please have them in the same order as the Category Sheet. Also, whoever is keeping the claim tickets, there will be a sheet for your name and phone number if we need to contact someone.

- 1. Painting/Drawing:** Artwork Must be framed or canvas wrapped. Please spray charcoal or pencil drawings with fixative to avoid rubbing off onto another artwork. Must bring an easel with your name attached.
- 2. Photography:** Size Requirement: Must be an 8" x 10" print, unmatted and unframed. Place inside of an 8 ½" x 11" protective sheet.
- 3. Crafts:** 4 to 6 cards as stated on category sheet, without envelopes, must be mounted as a group on a 36" x 48" tri-board.
- 4. Diamond Art:** Size Requirement: No larger than 24" x 32". All pictures need an easel with a name attached.
- 6. Poem:** The writer must have two copies typed (12 pt font) which must accompany the registration form. Entries must NOT be framed or in book form. Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page. The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.

**7. Prose: 7A** This must be an original Non-Fiction piece of writing written or published in the current year. (August 2025 to July 2026). Written piece must be 3,000 words or less. The writer must have two copies typed (12-point font) which must accompany the registration form. Entries must NOT be framed or in book form. Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page. The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.

**7B Fiction:** This must be an original Fiction Short Story which has a beginning, middle, and end. Piece will need to be written or published in the current year. (August 2025 to July 2026). Written piece must be 3,000 words or less. The writer must have two copies typed (12-point font) which must accompany the registration form. Entries must NOT be framed or in book form. Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page. The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.

**7C Other:** This must be original piece of writing written and/or published in the current year (August 2025 to July 2026) Written piece must be 3,000 words or less. The writer must have two copies, typed (12 pt font) which must accompany the registration form. Entries must NOT be framed or in book form. Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page. The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.

**15. Bed Quilt:** Size Requirement: Must be larger than 60" x 80" (4,800 square inches). Measurement must be written on entry form and be confirmed by County Cultural Arts Chair. A 4"x6" picture is recommended for this category. The picture must be placed inside of a plastic bag along with the entry form and then attached to the right, bottom corner of quilt with a safety pin.

**16. Small Quilt:** Size Requirement: Smaller than 60" x 80" (4,800 Square Inches) Measurement must be written on entry form and be confirmed by County Cultural Arts Chair. A 4"x6" picture is recommended for this category. The picture must be placed inside of a plastic bag along with the entry form and then attached to the right, bottom corner of the quilt with a safety pin.

**17. Quilted Wall Hanging:** Size Requirement: No larger than 50" square. One Item only allowed. Must be submitted WITHOUT frames

**19. Bonus Category Theme:** "Celebrate HCE". Directions: This category is to be made with dried and/or silk flowers. Accessorize with other items. Size Restrictions: Container should not be larger than 10" square and 10" tall and needs to be measured by the County Cultural Arts Chair and size written on the entry form to be judged at the state level. Each county may submit one entry in the bonus category. The bonus category will be judged on originality and how unique and creative the concept is along with how well it has been crafted and designed.



**Wisconsin Association for Home & Community Education, Inc.  
Cultural & Textile Arts Show  
2026 Guidelines for County Chairs**



**ALL items, including Bonus Category, must be pre-registered. Registration is due August 1, 2026.** Any items NOT pre-registered will NOT be judged or displayed. Only one (1) entry on each registration form. Send all forms together immediately after the county show including written entries. Each County may enter a total of 12 entries. *No County may have duplicate entries in any lettered sub-category.* The County Cultural Arts Chair must include a self-addressed postcard or email address to verify receipt of registration forms. If you do not receive verification within three (3) weeks, please call or email the WAHCE Cultural Arts Chair.

**IMPORTANT: ALL entrants MUST sign the registration form.** Please read and sign below as entries will NOT be accepted if unsigned. Entrants will not hold WAHCE responsible for any loss or damage to any item submitted for use in the WAHCE Cultural Arts Show. Entrants give permission for their photo, photos of their entry, and/or print copies of their written entry to be used by WAHCE as seen fit. **Judges have authority to put items in the proper category, if needed.**

All work must be done by the entrant and completed after last year's county show. It must receive first place at the current year's county show or fair. All items must be clean or laundered or will be disqualified by the judge. Kits and patterns may be used if the entrant does all the work. *All easels must have a securely taped label with name, county, and district.*

**Color Coding of Registration Forms by Districts:**

Central – White

Northeast – Yellow

Northwest-Light Blue

Southeast – Green

Southwest – Orange

West – Pink

**Entry Day:** Deliver items Sunday (September 20th) from 4:00 -7:00 pm or Monday (September 21<sup>st</sup>) 9:00 am - 11:30 am. Judging will begin at 12:00 pm. Members may view the show after the Monday evening activity until 10:30 pm. The viewing hours on Tuesday will be announced or posted. Times to pick up items will be posted.

Send registration and written entries to:

**Susan Grotjahn**, Cultural Arts Chairperson  
W14737 Town Road 44, Hixton, WI 54635  
Email: [psydkick2@gmail.com](mailto:psydkick2@gmail.com) Cell (715) 896-2760

Cut on the dotted line and send in the **SIGNED** completed Registration Form and Claim Check **with both parts filled out.**

NOTE: You will receive your Claim Check when you bring in the items.

**2026 Registration Form**

**Registration # and People's Choice Vote #:** \_\_\_\_\_

Category (i.e., 2D) \_\_\_\_\_

Class (i.e. Acrylic Oil) \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Color/Pattern Description:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please read and sign:** Entries will NOT be accepted if unsigned. Entrant will not hold WAHCE responsible for any loss or damage to any item submitted for use in the WAHCE Cultural Arts Show. Entrant gives permission for their photo, photos of their entry, and/or printed copies of their written entry to be used by WAHCE as they see fit.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**2026 Claim Check**

**Claim Reference #** \_\_\_\_\_

Category (i.e., 2D) \_\_\_\_\_

Class (i.e., Acrylic / Oil) \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Color/Pattern Description:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education, Inc.  
2026 Categories for Cultural Arts and Textiles Contest and Show**

**State Registration Deadline:  
August 1, 2026**



<b>1*</b>	<b>PAINTING/DRAWING</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>HERITAGE SKILLS</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>SEWING</b>
1A*	Oil	8A	Hardanger	14A	Children's Wear
1B*	Acrylic	8B	Tatting	14B	Adult Wear
1C*	Watercolor	8C	Wood carving or burning	14C	Useful Item
1D*	Alcohol Ink	8D	Basketry	14D	Purse or Tote
1E*	Pencil	8E	Spinning/Weaving	14E	Pillow
1F*	Charcoal	8F	Felting	14F	Item made from recycled materials
1G*	Any other item not listed.	8G	Wood Applique	14G	
<b>2*</b>	<b>PHOTOGRAPHY</b>	8H	Rug Making	14H*	Any other item not listed
2A*	Color – Landscape	8I	Rug Hooking	<b>15*</b>	<b>BED QUILT – 60" x 80"</b>
2B*	Color – Waterscape	8J	Quilling	15A*	Tied Quilt
2C*	Color – Skyscape	8*K	Any other Heritage Skill	15B*	Hand Quilted
2D*	Color – Plants	<b>9</b>	<b>CONSTRUCTED ITEMS</b>	15C*	Pieced-Machine/Computer Pattern Design
2E*	Color – Animals/Creatures	9A	Clay/Pottery	15D*	Other-Machine/Computer Pattern Design
2F*	Color – People	9B	Woodworking item	15E*	Pieced-Machine/Freehand
2G*	Any other photo not listed	9C	Textile/Fabric	15F*	Other-Machine/Freehand
<b>3*</b>	<b>CRAFTS</b>	9D*	Any other item not listed	15G*	Other - Embellishments
3A*	Glass Craft	<b>10</b>	<b>PAINTED OBJECT</b>	<b>16*</b>	<b>SMALL QUILT – Less 60" x 80"</b>
3B*	Plastic Canvas	10A	China	16A*	Tied Quilt
3C*	6 Cards – Paper only, hand drawn	10B	Glass	16B*	Hand Quilt
3D*	6 cards – Paper only, stamped	10C	Fabric	16C*	Pieced – Machine/Computer
3E*	6 cards – Mixed media	10D	Wood	16D*	Other – Machine/Computer
3F*	4 cards – fun fold cards	10E	Ceramic/Kiln Fired	16E*	Pieced – Machine freehand
3G*	Craft made from recycled materials	10F*	Any other item not listed	16F*	Other – Machine freehand
3H*	Any other craft not listed	<b>11</b>	<b>KNITTING</b>	16G*	Other - Embellishments
<b>4*</b>	<b>DIAMOND ART</b>	11A	Wearable Item	<b>17*</b>	<b>QUILTED WALL HANGING</b>
4A*	From a kit – full picture	11B	Wearable Accessory (hat, scarf, etc.)	17A*	Hand Quilted Fabric
4B*	From a kit – part picture, may include lights	11C	Afghan	17B*	Machine Quilted Fabric
4C*	From a kit – other not a picture	11D*	Any other item not listed	17C*	Other – Embellishments
4D*	Original design – not a kit	<b>12</b>	<b>CROCHETING</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>QUILTED TABLE TOPPER/ RUNNER</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>JEWELRY</b>	12A	Wearable item	18A	Hand Quilted
5A	Bracelet	12B	Wearable accessory (hat, scarf, etc.)	18B	Machine Quilted
5B	Necklace	12C	Afghan	18C*	Other - Embellishment
5C	Earrings	12D	Doily/dresser scarf	<b>19*</b>	<b>BONUS ITEM "Celebrate HCE"</b>
5D	Set of 2 or 3 pieces	12E*	Any other item not listed		
5E*	Any other item not listed	<b>13</b>	<b>HAND STITCHING</b>		
6*	<b>POEM</b>	13A	Embroidery		
7*	<b>PROSE</b>	13B	Cross Stitch		
7A*	Non-Fiction	13C	Counted Cross-Stitch		
7B*	Fiction – Short story	13D*	Any other item not listed		
7C*	Any other item not listed				

Forms updated 1/11/2026

Please see **Entry Requirement Criteria Sheet** (previous page) for any category marked with an (\*). All entries that do not meet the entry requirement criteria will be disqualified.