

INFORMATION FOR COMPETITIVE EXHIBITORS

The 58th Denver Gem & Mineral Show September 10, 11, 12, 13, 2026

The **58th Annual Denver Gem & Mineral Show** will take place at

The Westin Westminster Hotel, 10600 Westminster Blvd., Westminster, CO 80020

"Red, White and Blue" is the 2026 Show Theme. We hope to have many spectacular exhibits from both institutions and individual collectors that reflect the myriad possible interpretations of the theme.

For the **2026** show, these 5 competitive options will be offered: **Adult and Junior Prospector, Best of Species, the Pearl Competition (see entry form for description of this option) and Best of Fossil.** A **"Peoples Choice"** award is being considered to recognize the best exhibit (non-competitive) entered in **the Denver Gem and Mineral show.**

SET-UP AND TEAR-DOWN TIMES: Set-Up will be on Wednesday, September **9th** (Time TBD); Tear-down will start at close of show on Sunday, September 13th.

******* Please note the entry deadlines on the ENTRY/INFORMATION sheets. *******

******* AWARDS POLICY:** In any category of competition in which there is only a single person entering as of the deadline date, that competition category will be canceled, and the sole enterer will be notified.

For these competitive categories, the show committee will line the cases. You need only bring your entry(ies) to be placed in the appropriate case. With specimens that display better on some kind of mount, please be sure the specimen will be stable and firmly affixed to the mount.

Labels should provide adequate information for the interested public to understand your entry. Include at least the specie name of the specimen and the locality. Typed or professionally printed labels are preferred to hand-written labels.

Please provide a description of your specimens on the entry form; this information assists us in designing a more interesting exhibit layout.

If you are interested in entering a NON-COMPETITIVE case in the show, please contact Larry Havens, lwrnchavens@comcast.net, or 303-757-6577.

ENTRY FORM FOR SPECIAL COMPETITION – BEST OF SPECIES

Entry Deadline is Monday, August, 24, 2026

Each year the Denver Show Committee chooses a theme for the show and special competitions. For the 2026 Show, the committee has chosen "**Red, White and Blue.**". **For this competition, enter mineral/fossil specimens that reflect the theme.** An individual may enter only one specimen in each size or type category. A trophy will be

awarded for the best entry in each of the 5 categories listed below on the entry form (thumbnail, toenail, miniature, cabinet, self-collected, Best of Colorado). Specimen quality will be judged on the basis of established standards for the entry and its locale. An individual may enter only one specimen in each category.

Entries for this category will be placed in special group cases provided by the Denver Show Committee.

The exhibitor is responsible for the entries throughout the show, including set-up and takedown. Guards will be on duty at all times; however, neither the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council nor the Denver Show Committee assumes responsibility for any loss or damage. The exhibitor's signature on this form acknowledges consent to this statement.

Name _____ Date _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____, State _____, Zip _____

Species Competition Deadline for Entries is August 24, 2026

Thumbnail	_____	Specimen fits in a 1" cube as displayed *
Toenail	_____	Specimen fits in a 1.5" cube as displayed *
Miniature	_____	Specimen fits in a 2" cube as displayed *
Cabinet	_____	Specimen fits in a 5" cube as displayed *
Self-Collected	_____	No larger than cabinet size. please *
Best of Colorado	_____	Specimen fits in an 8" cube *

AWARDS POLICY

In any category of competition in which there is only a single entry as of the deadline date, that category will be dropped from the competition. The owner of the lone specimen will be notified.

Names for I.D. badges 1. _____ 2. _____

Signature(s) of Exhibitor(s) _____

For further information contact:

Larry Havens 303-757-6577 (lwrnchavens@comcast.net)

E-mail this application to Larry Havens at the comcast address or mail to 3031 S. Bellaire St., Denver, CO 80222

ENTRY FORM FOR SPECIAL COMPETITION – PROSPECTOR TROPHY

Entry Deadline is Monday August 24 2026

The Prospector Trophy Competition (Best Specimen Personally Collected in the Field)

This trophy is awarded in honor of the countless miners, prospectors, and mineral collectors who preceded us and collectively made a monumental contribution to the Earth Sciences. **The trophy is given to the best field collected mineral specimen found during the period from end of show September 2025 to August 18, 2026.**

The specimen(s) entered must have been personally (and actively) collected in the field by the exhibitor and may be any species, from any locality and any size. An exhibitor may enter up to three specimens. A specimen is eligible to win this trophy only once. Eligibility for the Prospector's Trophy is strictly limited to amateur participation. Those persons operating a mine or mining claim (particularly operations utilizing mechanized equipment) with the intent of specimen recovery for resale, principally commercial collectors, paid miners, individuals under contract, or owners and/or operators of working mines, are not considered to be of amateur status. Dealers or other "professionals" collecting on a recreational basis on properties other than their own are exempt from this restriction. **Specimens collected from FEE sites will be allowed.**

Specimens entered this category will be placed in special group cases provided by the Denver Show Committee.

The exhibitor is responsible for the exhibit throughout the show, including set-up and takedown. Guards will be on duty at all times; however, neither the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council nor the Denver Show Committee assumes responsibility for any loss or damage. The exhibitor's signature on this form acknowledges consent to this statement.

Name _____ Date _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City, State, Zip _____

Prospector Trophy - ENTRY DEADLINE – August 24, 2026

1. Specimen Description/Approximate Size
2. _____ Specimen Description/Approximate Size
3. _____ Specimen Description/Approximate Size
(Eligibility is restricted to amateur participants.)

Names for I.D. badges 1. _____ 2. _____

Signature(s) of Exhibitor(s) _____

For further information contact:

Larry Havens 303-757-6577 (lwrnchavens@comcast.net)

E-mail this application to Larry Havens at the comcast address above or mail to 3031 S. Bellaire St., Denver, CO 80222

ENTRY FORM FOR SPECIAL COMPETITION – BEST FOSSIL TROPHY

Entry Deadline is Monday, August 24, 2026

The Denver Council Trophy for Best Fossil (Best Fossil personally collected in the field)

This award is intended to encourage exhibitors to display fossils at the Denver Show, and to increase public awareness of the importance of this aspect of Earth Science. The trophy is given to the best field collected fossil found from the end of the 2025 show to August 124, 2026. The fossil(s) entered must have been personally (and actively) collected in the field by the exhibitor and may be any species, from any locality and any size that must fit in a four foot case. An exhibitor may enter up to three (3) fossils. **Each specimen must be labeled following AFMS fossil labeling rules as modified for the Denver Show. Labeling rules may be found on the AFMS web site (www.amfed.org). IN ADDITION, the FORMATION must be cited on the label.** The labels below are offered as examples. The information may be shown in any logical order so long as all required information is included.

TROUT PERCH
Amphiplaga brachyptera
 CHORDATA – Osteichthyes
 Green River Fm. – Eocene
 Kemmerer, Wyoming

Common Name
 Genus/Species
 Phylum/Class
 Formation/Age
 Location

BELEMNITE
Pachyteuthis densus
 MOLLUSCA: Cephalopoda
 Sundance Fm. – Jurassic
 Como Bluff, Wyoming

A fossil is eligible to win this trophy only once. Eligibility for the Best Fossil Trophy is strictly limited to amateur participation. Those persons operating a mine or mining claim (particularly operations utilizing mechanized equipment) with the intent of specimen recovery for resale, principally commercial collectors, paid miners, individuals under contract, or owners and/or operators of working prospects, are not considered to be of amateur status. Dealers or other "professionals" collecting on a recreational basis on properties other than their own are exempt from this restriction. Direct any questions about these rules to Larry Havens.

Specimens entered in this category will be placed in special group cases provided by the Denver Show Committee.

The exhibitor is responsible for the exhibit throughout the show, including set-up and takedown. Guards will be on duty at all times; however, neither the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council nor the Denver Show Committee assumes responsibility for any loss or damage. The exhibitor's signature on this form acknowledges consent to this statement.

Name _____ Date _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City, State, Zip _____

Best Fossil Trophy - ENTRY DEADLINE – Monday, August 24, 2026

1. Specimen Description/Approximate Size

2. Specimen Description/Approximate Size

3. Specimen Description/Approximate Size

(Eligibility is restricted to amateur participants.)

Names for I.D. badges 1. _____ 2. _____

Signature(s) of Exhibitor(s) _____

For further information contact:

Larry Havens 303-757-6577 (lwrnchavens@comcast.net)

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ENTRY FORM FOR SPECIAL COMPETITION
JUNIOR PROSPECTOR TROPHY FOR EXHIBITORS AGES 6 THROUGH 14 Entry
Deadline is Monday, August 24, 2026

The Junior Prospector Trophy Competition
(Best Mineral Specimen Personally Collected by an individual, aged 6 through 14)

This trophy competition follows exactly the same guidelines as those of the traditional Prospector competition; therefore, please refer to the full description of this competition on the enclosed form in this packet. The main requirements for the Junior Prospector Competition are:

- The entrant must be between six and fourteen years of age.
- The entrant may enter up to three mineral specimens (not fossils).
- The specimen(s) entered must have been personally (and actively) collected in the field by the exhibitor and may be any species, from any locality and any size.
- A specimen is eligible to win this trophy only once.
- Eligibility for the Prospector's Trophy is strictly limited to amateur participation.

Specimens entered this category will be placed in special group cases provided by the Denver Show Committee.

The exhibitor is responsible for the exhibit throughout the show, including set-up and takedown. Guards will be on duty at all times; however, neither the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council nor the Denver Show Committee assumes responsibility for any loss or damage. The exhibitor's signature on this form acknowledges consent to this statement.

Name _____ Date _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City, State, Zip _____ Birth Date _____

Junior Prospector Trophy - ENTRY DEADLINE – Monday August 24, 2026

1. Specimen Description/Approximate Size

2. _____
Specimen Description/Approximate Size

3. _____
Specimen Description/Approximate Size

(Eligibility is restricted to amateur participants.)

Names for I.D. badges 1. _____ 2. _____

Signature of Exhibitor _____

For further information contact:

Larry Havens 303-757-6577 (lwrnchavens@comcast.net) E-mail this application to Larry Havens at the above comcast address, or mail to 3031 S. Bellaire St., Denver, CO 80222 .