

STAMP EXHIBIT PROSPECTUS  
for the  
**GREATER HOUSTON STAMP SHOW 2026**  
77<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition and Bourse

Sponsored by the  
GHSS Foundation, Inc. in association with the Houston Philatelic Society

**September 18-20, 2026**

**Humble Civic Center  
8233 Will Clayton Parkway  
Humble, Texas 77338**

## **Rules and Conditions:**

### **COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS**

Anyone is eligible to apply to exhibit at the Greater Houston Stamp Show (GHSS). **Entry forms will be accepted until August 1, 2026, or whenever the maximum number of exhibits or frames are filled, whichever occurs first. No exhibits will be accepted after August 1, 2026.** All fees **MUST** accompany the attached Entry Form. An exhibitor may enter more than one exhibit, but a separate entry form is required for each exhibit. Multi-frame exhibits are limited to no more than ten frames. There is also a single frame exhibit class. Exhibits which have won a grand award at the GHSS since 2019 can only be shown non-competitively.

The GHSS committee reserves the right to refuse any exhibit. In such cases, the exhibit fees will be refunded. Failure to exhibit after notification of acceptance by GHSS will cause forfeiture of all entry fees. All material exhibited must be owned by the exhibitor(s). Exhibits with dual ownership are not eligible as competitive exhibits unless owned by husband and wife or parent and child (in which case it must be entered as an adult exhibit). Pages **must be numbered on the back** and be in page protectors. Exhibits must not identify the exhibitor on the front of the exhibit pages in any way.

### **YOUTH EXHIBITS**

Youths (exhibitors who will not have reached the age of 17 by the opening of the GHSS) are encouraged to enter an exhibit. Youth exhibits are limited to a maximum of five frames, and do not require an entry fee.

### **ONE FRAME EXHIBITS**

One frame exhibits will be accepted from both youth and adults but will be judged separately from the multi-frame competition. As a subset of the regular one frame competition, there is a special one frame “gray” competition. “Gray” exhibits must be based in some way on the color gray (including shades of gray and silver), whether by the actual color of some element of the material or by a theme or topic related to the color gray. The final decision as to whether an exhibit qualifies to compete in the gray competition will be made by the judges.

### **FRAME FEES**

The entry fee for adults is \$15.00 per frame for multi-frame exhibits and \$20.00 for one frame exhibits. There is no entry fee for youth exhibitors. **Please make all checks payable to "GHSS Foundation, Inc.". EXHIBITS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNTIL ALL FRAME FEES AND ESTIMATED RETURN COSTS HAVE BEEN PAID.**

### **FRAME SPECIFICATIONS**

The frames are made to hold **16** standard 8 ½” by 11” pages, four rows of four pages each. Larger pages or page protectors with outside punched flaps may require some overlapping. Exhibitors may specify fewer pages per row for oversized pages, but still must request the total number of frames required when filling in the Entry Form.

## **EXHIBIT SET-UP – TIME and DATE**

The GHSS exhibits will be set up on Thursday, September 17th, between 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM. Any exhibits not available for mounting by 6:00 PM will be refused with no refund of exhibit fees. Exhibitors may either personally deliver, or have an agent deliver their exhibits to the Humble Civic Center. See below for mail-in exhibits.

## **MAIL-IN EXHIBITS**

Mail-in exhibits must arrive by Tuesday, September 15th. **Do not send your exhibit by UPS or Federal Express**, as they will not deliver to a post office box. Send all mail-in exhibits by USPS mail to: GHSS c/o Ronald Strawser, P.O. Box 840755, Houston, TX 77284-0755. Mail-in exhibits not received by the 17th will not be displayed and no refund given. It is suggested that express mail be used. **Registered mail is not recommended** as this greatly increases delivery time.

## **EXHIBIT TAKE-DOWN**

Exhibitors may retrieve their exhibits beginning 15 to 30 minutes after the show closes on Sunday at 4:00 PM. For security reasons **no exhibits will be removed from the frames before 4:00 PM**. Exhibitors wishing to have their exhibits returned by mail **MUST** include mailing instructions with the Entry Form and funds estimated to cover the return mailing costs. If using an agent, the exhibitor must provide written authorization on the Entry Form for the agent to pick up the material after the show closes. Exhibits will be mailed back to the exhibitor within 72 hours of the show closing.

## **JUDGING**

The GHSS committee will select a panel of three judges. The committee will endeavor to use APS accredited judges whenever possible. All decisions of the judges will be final.

**Exhibitors are strongly encouraged** to submit 4 copies of the title page, and/or synopsis (with bibliography) with the entry form, but no later than August 1 for study by the judges. This material should **not** include the exhibitor's name. The committee will distribute these pages to the judges in advance, but distribution will be **limited to no more than three different pages** per exhibit. The committee **MUST receive these pages by August 1, 2026** in order to distribute them to the judges.

## **AWARDS**

Competitive exhibits will be evaluated by the judging panel and will be eligible to win one of the five medal levels: Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze, or Bronze, or a Certificate of Participation. The judging panel will also select the Grand Award and Reserve Grand Award winners. Society and other special awards will be presented when available and when exhibits have met the award's requirements.

One frame exhibits will be judged separately, with their own set of awards given. There will also be special awards for the one frame "gray" competition.

Awards will be given out at the Awards Dinner scheduled for Saturday evening, September 19th. Those not attending the dinner will receive their award(s) during exhibit take-down or via the mail.

## **LIABILITY AND INSURANCE**

All reasonable care will be taken for the safe keeping of each exhibit, and armed guards will be on duty 24 hours a day at the exhibit facility, but the GHSS Foundation, Inc. and the Houston Philatelic Society and their members and officers, the GHSS committee members, and the Humble Civic Center, its employees or agents shall not be liable for any damage or loss of any exhibit material arising from any cause or for any reason whatsoever.

Exhibitors desiring insurance must make their own arrangements.

**An exhibitor's signature on the attached entry form signifies acceptance of these rules and regulations.**

**EXHIBIT ENTRY FORM**  
**GREATER HOUSTON STAMP SHOW**  
**September 18-20, 2026**

**To the exhibitor:** Please fill out both pages of this form and mail the form, fees, synopsis and title pages to:  
Ronald Strawser, PO Box 840755, Houston, TX 77284-0755. Checks should be made payable to GHSS Foundation, Inc.  
**Entries along with copies of the exhibit title page and synopsis must be received by August 1, 2026.**

Please enter the following exhibit subject to the attached Rules and Conditions: (**PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY**)

1. Name of Exhibitor: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Title of Exhibit: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Short Description of Exhibit: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Number of **frames** (sixteen 8 ½" X 11", or equivalent oversized pages per frame) in my exhibit: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Has this exhibit won a GHSS Grand Award since 2019? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Exhibit is being entered as: Competitive \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Competitive \_\_\_\_\_

7. Exhibit Type: Multi-frame \_\_\_\_\_ One Frame \_\_\_\_\_ One Frame "Gray" \_\_\_\_\_ Youth (Show age) \_\_\_\_\_

8. I will deliver my exhibit (Check one)

In Person \_\_\_\_\_ By Mail \_\_\_\_\_ By Agent \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Agent: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Exhibit return. (Check one)

Exhibit will be picked up by: Myself: ( ) Agent (name): \_\_\_\_\_

Return my exhibit by mail: ( ). For mail returns:

Return by: Express Mail ( ) (**Recommended**) Priority Mail ( ) Registered Mail ( )

Insure for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ No extra insurance required ( )

10. Fees: (Make checks payable to "GHSS Foundation, Inc."). **DO NOT SEND CASH.**

Youth Frame Fee	FREE
Adult Frame Fee (\$15 per frame for multi-frame exhibits)	\$ _____
Adult Single Frame Fee (\$20)	\$ _____
Estimated Return Mail and insurance Fees ( <u>Must include for mail backs</u> )	\$ _____
Awards Dinner \$25 per person	\$ _____
Total Enclosed:	\$ _____

11. Are you a novice (first time anywhere) exhibitor? \_\_\_\_\_

12. **Society memberships for special awards:** Since special awards available from the organizations shown below are limited to their own members, please check mark each organization listed below in which you are a member:

Houston Philatelic Society \_\_\_\_\_ Texas Philatelic Association \_\_\_\_\_ American Philatelic Society \_\_\_\_\_

13. **Your listing in the program and Palmares:**

Check one of the below options. (No addresses will be printed in the show program or Palmares):

You may list my name in the program and Palmares. \_\_\_\_\_ Do not list my name - use 'Anonymous' \_\_\_\_\_

Please list using the pseudonym: \_\_\_\_\_

14. **Your name and address: (Please print legibly)**

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

15. **I have included title page ( ) and synopsis ( ) to be distributed to the judges: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Will send later \_\_\_**  
(Title page and a synopsis are highly recommended – send 4 copies of each. Must be received by August 1, 2026.)

16. **Signature:**

By signing this form, 1) I signify my acceptance of all the Rules and Conditions as shown on the 1/23/26 version of the GHSS 2026 Stamp Exhibit Prospectus , 2) I agree that the decision of the judges shall be final, and hereby release and agree to hold harmless the judges, the GHSS Foundation, Inc. and the Houston Philatelic Society and their respective officers, directors and representatives and the GHSS committee from any damages, including, but not limited to, damages to my reputation or that of my exhibit, suffered or incurred as a result of the judging, and 3) I agree the GHSS Foundation, Inc. and the Houston Philatelic Society and their respective officers, directors and representatives, the GHSS committee members, and the Humble Civic Center, its employees or agents shall not be liable for any damage or loss of any exhibit material arising from any cause or for any reason whatsoever. (**Note: Entry will not be accepted without your signature.**)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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SPACE BELOW IS FOR THE USE OF THE GHSS COMMITTEE

Date entry form received: \_\_\_\_\_ Entry receipt acknowledgement verbal/mailed/e-mailed: \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Received: \_\_\_\_\_ To Treasurer on: \_\_\_\_\_ Add'l \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Payment on: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Exhibit Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibit receipt acknowledgement mailed/e-mailed: \_\_\_\_\_

Exhibit returned via \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_