

2012 Congressional Art Competition Guidelines

General Guidelines

- The competition is open to high school students only. However, *only* students who are legal residents of the 16th Congressional district of Ohio may submit entries through my office. Please confirm that you are a resident of the 16th District before submitting an entry. This can be done easily by visiting <http://www.house.gov/htbin/zipfind> or call the District Office at 330-489-4414. If you do not reside in the 16th District, please contact the Member of Congress who represents the district in which you reside.
- In the interest of upholding the public trust, no full or part-time staff member, intern, nor their immediate family members will be considered as applicants or contestants for any competition or contest affiliated with our office. This rule applies to the Congressional Art Competition.
- In the interest of widening the scope of opportunities for Congressional Art Competition participants, only entrants who have not previously won “Best in Show” will be considered for the grand prize.
- All artwork must conform to the following restrictions:
 - **Entries to the district competition do not require frames however the winning entry will need to be framed before exhibition in the U.S. Capitol; therefore the following requirements should be followed for all entries to the district competition.**
 - All works, including frame, should be **no larger** than 28 inches high, 28 inches wide, and 4 inches deep, to the outside of the frame, and 15 lbs. in weight. Please double check the size before sending the entry. Due to wide participation, framed work larger than the specified dimensions will be turned away.
 - Do not attach labels, ribbons, etc. to the front of the piece or underneath the glass or Plexiglas.
 - Matting can enhance or detract from a work of art and should be carefully prepared.
 - If the artwork is abstract in design, please indicate on the backside which side is “up” with arrows.
 - **Framing guidelines for the winner of the Congressional Art Competition:**
 - Frames should be kept as simple and sturdy as possible. Metal frames are recommended. No “snap on” frames with glass are to be used.

- Artwork must be protected by Plexiglas or glass.
 - Use sturdy picture hangers on the back of the frame. Two sturdy eye hooks should be attached at the top right and left sides of the back of the work for hanging in order to prevent the work from leaning forward or hanging unevenly. Do not put wire between the hooks for hanging; these will be added when the artwork is hung in the Capitol.
 - **If the winner has not already done so, the artwork will be given to them after the competition to fame before the piece is sent to the U.S. Capitol for “Art Intake Day” (Exact date TBA, though it will occur during the month of May)**
- **Artwork must be two dimensional**
 - **Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate U.S. copyright laws.** Any entry that has been copied from an existing photo (not the student’s own), painting, graphic, advertisement, or any other work produced by another person is a violation of the competition rules and **will not** be accepted. Work entered must be in the original medium (that is, not a scanned reproduction of a painting or drawing).
 - **A typed and securely affixed LARGE label must be applied to the back of each piece (see sample).**

Student Name, Address, and Phone No.
Title
Medium
Member’s Name
State and District

Artwork accepted mediums are as follows:

- Paintings: oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.
- Drawings: pastels, colored pencil, pencil, charcoal, ink, markers
- Collage: must be two dimensional
- Prints: lithographs, silkscreen, block prints
- Mixed Media: use of more than two mediums such as pencil, ink, watercolor, etc.
- Computer-generated art
- Photography

****The final decision regarding the suitability of all artwork for the 2012 Congressional Art Competition exhibition in the capitol will be made by a panel of qualified persons chaired by the Architect of the capitol. Artwork must adhere to the policy of the House Office Building Commission. In accordance with this policy, exhibits depicting subjects of contemporary political controversy or a sensationalistic or gruesome nature are not allowed. It is necessary that all artwork be reviewed by the panel chaired by the Architect of the Capitol and any portion not in consonance with the Commission's policy will be omitted from the exhibit.****

Entry Form

- Each entry **MUST** be accompanied by **2 typed copies** of the 2012 Student Entry and Release Form. One is to be attached to the back of the artwork to certify the originality of the piece. The other is to be turned into the staff when the piece is delivered to the Canton Museum of Art. Be sure these are signed by both the art teacher and the student.

Timeline

- Artwork is to be delivered to the Canton Museum of Art on March 6th or 7th between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The CMA is located at 1001 Market Avenue North in Canton, Ohio. If you need directions, they can be reached at 330-453-7666.
- All artwork will be on display at the Museum from Saturday, March 10th through Sunday, March 11th. See www.cantonart.org for hours of operation.
- Artwork will be judged by an independent panel formed by professionals associated with the Canton Museum of Art.
- Tuesday, March 13th, at 6:30 p.m., an awards ceremony and small reception will be held at the Museum for participants and their families. We will be awarding Best in Show (which will go on to hang in Washington D.C.) and 1st runner-up and 2nd runner-up (which will hang in the District office in Canton).
 - Artwork chosen to hang in the United States Capitol will remain there for an entire year and **cannot** be returned to the student earlier. Students should, therefore, submit artwork they will not need for other purposes.
- Artwork will be checked in during "Art Intake Day" in Washington D.C. - TBA

- Official Reception for winners and their guests/family members - TBA