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## Congress of the United States

### House of Representatives

**Eliot L. Engel**

16th District, New York

March 4, 2020

Dear Principal or Art Instructor:

I am pleased to announce the 16th Congressional District of New York will be participating in the 2020 Congressional Art Competition. This competition recognizes the talents of our nation's youth and promotes learning through creativity and artistic exploration.

This competition is open to all high school students, grades 9-12, who are enrolled in a school in New York's 16th Congressional District. On Sunday, April 26th, the competition will be held at the Yonkers Riverfront Public Library, located at 1 Larkin Plaza Yonkers, NY, at 1:00 PM the Yonkers Room. Please be sure to drop off your original artwork between 12:30 PM and 1 PM on the day of competition. The art cannot be dropped off prior to the event date as Yonkers Library personnel will not hold your artwork. The artwork will be judged by an independent panel. In case the student cannot attend in person, please be sure to have someone drop off the original artwork at the event location so that that it may be reviewed by our guest judges.

In the attached packet, I have enclosed the guidelines for this competition along with release forms that any student who wishes to participate must fill out and submit to my Washington D.C. office. This information can also be found on the web at: <https://engel.house.gov/congressional-art-competition/>

The selected entry will have the honor of hanging in the United States Capitol from June 2020 through early May 2021. To check if you reside within the 16<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of New York, you can verify by going to: <https://www.house.gov/>, and entering your address of residence.

I look forward to student participation and ask that interested students submit a digital photo of their artwork, along with their completed release forms, by 4p.m., April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to my office via email at: [engelartcompetition@mail.house.gov](mailto:engelartcompetition@mail.house.gov). Please feel free to share this information with your students. If you have any questions, please contact my staff member, Kenneth Switzer at my Bronx District Office at 718-796-9700, or via email at: [Kenneth.Switzer@mail.house.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Switzer@mail.house.gov).

Thank you for your interest and I look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Eliot L. Engel  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

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## 2020 RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

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### General Information

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The rules and regulations included here apply to the 2020 Congressional Art Competition generally. Each Member of Congress may establish additional rules for his or her district competition. Please consult with your Member's office to verify whether any additional rules apply and how to enter.

The competition is open to high school students. Members may choose whether to include 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the art competition if schools located in their districts house 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades on one campus. Teachers and/or students should verify their eligibility with the office of the Member of Congress. Artwork must be the creation of a single student. Students may not collaborate on an entry.

Artwork must be two-dimensional. Each framed artwork can be **no larger** than **26 inches high, 26 inches wide, and 4 inches deep**. If your artwork is selected as the winning piece, it must arrive in Washington, DC, framed. **Even when framed, it must still measure no larger than the above maximum dimensions**. No framed piece should weigh more than 15 pounds.

Accepted mediums for the two-dimensional artwork are as follows:

- Paintings: oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.
- Drawings: colored pencil, pencil, ink, marker, pastels, charcoal (It is recommended that charcoal and pastel drawings be fixed.)
- Collages: 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
- Photographs

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 or image (including a painting, graphic, or advertisement) that was created by someone other than the student is a violation of the competition rules and **will not** be accepted. For more information on copyright laws, we recommend you visit the Scholastic website: <http://www.artandwriting.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/A-Guide-to-Copyright-and-Plagiarism.pdf>.

Work entered must be in the original medium (that is, not a scanned reproduction of a painting or drawing).

Artwork will hang in the Cannon Tunnel for the duration of the exhibition. Students should only submit artwork they will not need for other purposes.

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### **Suitability Guidelines**

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Artwork must adhere to the policy of the House Office Building Commission (the Commission). In accordance with this policy, exhibits depicting subjects of contemporary political controversy or a sensationalistic or gruesome nature are not allowed. Each Member of Congress will be required to submit a Letter of Support confirming that the Member has determined that the winning artwork adheres to the Commission's policy. However, if another Member of Congress requests review of any artwork for compliance with the Commission's policy, the final decision regarding the artwork's suitability for display will be made by the Commission. While it is not the intent to censor any artwork, we do wish to avoid artwork that is potentially inappropriate for display in this highly travelled area leading to the Capitol.

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### **Student Information and Release Form**

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Each entrant must submit a Student Information and Release Form. The Student Information and Release Form is available through the office of your Member of Congress.

The information requested on the first page of the form should be provided as thoroughly as possible. Students should include their mailing addresses, if they differ from their home addresses. Students should also include contact information that will be valid for several years.

The form requires a description of the artwork, which should be detailed, clearly identifying the major elements of the work. For example, "self-portrait" or "a picture of two people" would be unacceptable, since many artworks would fit those descriptions. The following is an example of a useful description: "A painting of two people; the person on the left wears a green sweater and khaki pants; the person on the right wears a black shirt and a striped skirt. A dog sits at their feet."

The second page of the Student Information and Release Form contains a legal release and a certification that the artwork is original in design and execution. The student, an art teacher, and a parent or guardian must sign where appropriate. Entries without signed originality certifications and artwork releases may not be accepted.

A **TYPED** copy of the Student Information and Release Form, signed by the teacher, a parent or guardian, and the student, **must be** securely attached to the back of the artwork to certify the originality of the piece. Please retain a copy for your records.

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### **Framing Guidelines (Overall Winner)**

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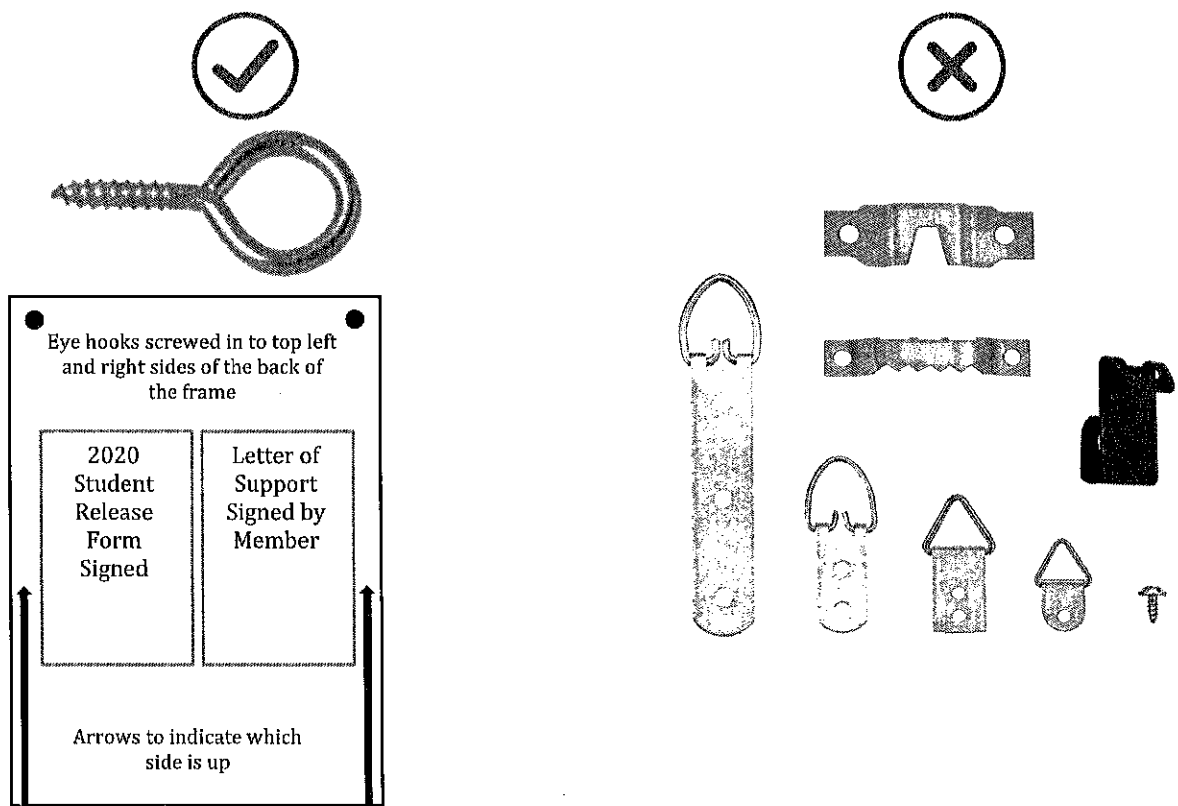
**Framing regulations apply only to the winning artwork that will be sent to Washington, DC.** Each Member of Congress may include additional entry rules for his or her own District; please consult your Member's office to see whether a frame is required for the district competition. Even if your Member of Congress does not require a frame to enter the artwork in the district competition, **if your artwork is selected for display in the Congressional Art Competition exhibit, it must be delivered to Washington, DC, in a frame. When framed, the artwork can be no larger than 26**

inches high, 26 inches wide, and 4 inches deep, including the frame.

**All winning artwork must be enhanced and protected by a sturdy frame.** Frames must be made of wood or metal. No plastic “snap on” or metal frames that can easily come apart are to be used. All artwork, except paintings in oil or acrylic on canvas, must be protected by Plexiglas or glass. Plexiglas is preferred. If glass is used, special packing and shipping arrangements are encouraged to ensure that the work is not damaged if the glass breaks.

Matting can enhance or detract from a work of art and should be carefully selected.

The artwork will be hung from vertical wires. Two sturdy screw-in eye hooks (see picture below) **must** be attached at the top left and right sides of the back of the frame for hanging to prevent the work from leaning forward or hanging unevenly. Wire between the hooks will need to be **removed** before it is sent to Washington, DC.



Do not attach labels, ribbons, etc., to the front of the piece or underneath the glass or Plexiglas.

Please indicate which side is up by marking arrows pointing towards the top on the back.

**All works, including frame, should be no larger than 26 inches high, 26 inches wide, and 4 inches deep, to the outside of the frame, and 15 pounds in weight. Ensure that the framer is informed of the size and weight limit and double check the size before sending the entry to Washington, DC. Due to wide participation of Member offices, framed works larger than the specified dimensions will be turned away.**

# 2020 Congressional Art Competition

## Student Information & Release Form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. THIS INFORMATION IS USED FOR CERTIFICATES AND AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS.  
INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

<b>MEMBER/DISTRICT INFORMATION</b>	
MEMBER OF CONGRESS NAME:	STATE & DISTRICT:

<b>STUDENT INFORMATION</b>		
NAME: <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms.		GRADE:
STREET ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT):		
STUDENT EMAIL:	STUDENT PHONE (CELL):	
PARENT OR GUARDIAN NAME(S):		
PARENT PHONE (HOME):	PARENT PHONE (WORK or CELL):	
PARENT EMAIL:	STUDENT T-SHIRT SIZE:	

<b>SCHOOL</b>		
SCHOOL NAME:		
STREET ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
ART TEACHER NAME:		
ART TEACHER PHONE:	ART TEACHER EMAIL:	

<b>ART COMPETITION ENTRY</b>		
TITLE OF ENTRY:		
MEDIUM:		
DESCRIPTION:		
Please include a detailed description of the artwork, clearly identifying the major elements of the piece.		
For office use only:		
FRAMED DIMENSIONS: Height: _____ inches    Width: _____ inches    Depth: _____ inches		
See official guidelines for framed size and artwork weight restrictions.		

## 2020 Congressional Art Competition

### Student Information & Release Form

<b>(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)</b>	
STUDENT NAME:	STATE & DISTRICT:
TITLE OF ENTRY:	

<b>ORIGINALITY CERTIFICATION</b>	
I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the art entry described above is an original work of authorship by the undersigned student and that it is not copied from, nor does it include, any other person's copyrighted work.	
<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> STUDENT SIGNATURE	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> ART TEACHER SIGNATURE

<b>ARTWORK RELEASE</b>	
<p>We, the undersigned, represent that the art entry described above is an original work of authorship personally created by the undersigned student to which the student is entitled copyright protection. In consideration for the acceptance of the art entry by the Member of Congress designated above in <i>An Artistic Discovery</i> (the Congressional Art Competition sponsored by the U.S. House of Representatives) and intending to be legally bound hereby, the undersigned grant the Member and the House the right to publicly display the art entry, if it is selected for display, in accordance with the rules of the Art Competition. The undersigned grant the Member, the House, their employees and agents, the United States, and the Congressional Institute, Inc., and its employees, the right to reproduce the art entry for any non-commercial purpose. The undersigned further release the Member, the House, their employees and agents, the United States, and the Congressional Institute, Inc., and its employees, from any and all liability for damage, loss, or misappropriation of the art entry during and subsequent to the Art Competition. The undersigned further agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and defend the Member, the House, their employees and agents, the United States, and the Congressional Institute, Inc., and its employees, against any and all claims of any nature whatsoever, including, but not limited to, claims of copyright infringement, by any party whatsoever, arising out of or in any way related to the submission of the art entry in the Art Competition.</p>	
<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> STUDENT SIGNATURE	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (IF UNDER 18)