



2026 Art Submission Rules

Traditional Art Entries:

The entry divisions for traditional art forms are as follows:

- 1) **Primary Art** – Grades 1-3
- 2) **Elementary Art** - Grades 4-5
- 3) **Middle School Art** - Grades 6-8
- 4) **Senior High Art** - Grades 9-12

General Rules covering Traditional Art:

- 1) **The art must be original to the student.** Do not copy someone else's work. We are aware that copying the masters is somewhat a category and has value for instructional purposes, but we are not considering that category. **An artist statement must be signed** along with the entry, stating, among other things, that the artwork is original to the student.
- 2) **All entrants must sign an entry form.** This form, as well as an **artist statement form** will be available before the competition. It must be filled out and ready when you drop off art so that there is sufficient time to judge the art.
- 3) **Art must have been completed within the 12 months prior to entry.**
- 4) **No art may be entered that was done under direct supervision of a teacher or parent.** The student may use help such as reference books and so on but is not allowed to request direct suggestions from others in how to change their art for improvement for the sake of this competition. The student needs to rely on what he has learned to put forth his best effort for the competition. **(Exception: Elementary students may have parent or teacher guidance and suggestions, but the supervisor should in no way touch the student's work.)**
- 5) **Photo reference is allowed.** Be aware that cameras lie due to lens distortion and other limitations; just because a student uses a photograph does not mean he will have an unfair advantage. In fact, the student should be aware that following a photograph too closely could handicap his entry if the photograph suffers from much lens distortion.
- 6) **All traditional art must be framed.** This is part of the presentation of traditional art. It may be matted within the frame if so desired.
- 7) If a parent or teacher deems the student sufficiently advanced, **students may compete in a level higher than the grade division describes.** However, be aware that this is likely to make the competition for that student significantly more difficult.
- 8) **The following art may be realistic/representational or abstract.** If enough of each is entered, we may divide categories into Abstract/Non-Abstract divisions and award accordingly.
- 9) Entries are limited to **two-dimensional art only.**
- 10) There is no limit to the number of entries a student may submit in any one category, provided that all the work has been completed within the calendar year of March 2025-March 2026.

Primary Art Grades 1-3	Description:	Specific Rules:
Coloring Page:	Color: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crayon - Color pencil - Marker - 8.5x11 printed size 	1) Drawings must not be left on a pad. 2) Do not use copyrighted material, such as Disney character pages. 3) Color pages can be downloaded if they are free from copyright.

Elementary Art Grades 4-5	Description:	Specific Rules:
1) Drawing:	Color: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Color pencil - Watercolor pencil (this counts as a drawing if the overall picture still demonstrates a drawing style and has not been completely changed by use of a brush and water to appear like a painting – this is difficult to accomplish, so most watercolor pencil work will naturally fit in the drawing category) - Crayon (this does not have a previously existing image on the page like the coloring page category in the Primary Art division – any crayon entries should use higher quality art crayons rather than typical children’s crayons) - Ink/Ink & Wash (Multi-colored Inks) and/or Markers 	1) Drawings must not be left on a pad. 2) Drawings must be framed. 3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings. 4) Drawings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.
	Black & White/Monochromatic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pencil - Ink/Ink & Wash (single color) - Charcoal - Conté/Sanguine/Sepia/Chalk monochromatic drawings 	1) Drawings must not be left on a pad. 2) Drawings must be framed. 3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings. 4) Drawings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.
2) Watercolor Painting	Paintings done in the watercolor medium (also includes gouache/opaque watercolor)	1) Paintings must not be left on a watercolor pad. 2) Paintings must be framed.

		<p>3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings.</p> <p>4) Paintings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
3) Oil Painting	Paintings done in the oil painting medium (including traditional paints and the more recent water-soluble oils)	<p>1) Paintings must not be left on a paper pad if a painting is done on one of the recent papers designed for oils and acrylic paintings.</p> <p>2) Paintings must be framed.</p> <p>3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings.</p> <p>4) Paintings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
4) Acrylic Painting	Paintings done in the acrylic painting medium (These will be judged together even if the style of painting mimics oils or watercolors.)	<p>1) Paintings must not be left on a paper pad if a painting is done on one of the recent papers designed for oils and acrylic paintings.</p> <p>2) Paintings must be framed.</p> <p>3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings.</p> <p>4) Drawings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
5) Pastel	Paintings done in a pastel medium (All pastels will be judged together whether they are soft pastels or oil pastels.)	<p>1) Paintings must not be left on a paper pad.</p> <p>2) Paintings may be submitted on any type of pastel support: paper, sanded paper, treated canvas, or hardboard.</p> <p>3) Paintings must be framed.</p> <p>4) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings.</p> <p>5) Paintings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>

Middle School Art Grades 6-8	Description:	Specific Rules:
1) Drawing:	<p>Color:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Color pencil - Watercolor pencil (this counts as a drawing if the overall picture still demonstrates a drawing style and has not been completely changed by use of a brush and water to appear like a painting – this is difficult to accomplish, so most watercolor pencil work will naturally fit in the drawing category) - Crayon (this does not have a previously existing image on the page like the coloring page category in the Primary Art division – any crayon entries should use higher quality art crayons rather than typical children’s crayons) - Ink/Ink & Wash (Multi-colored Inks) and/or Markers 	<p>1) Drawings must not be left on a pad. 2) Drawings must be framed. 3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings. 4) Drawings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
	<p>Black & White/Monochromatic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pencil - Ink/Ink & Wash (single color) - Charcoal - Conté/Sanguine/Sepia/Chalk monochromatic drawings 	<p>1) Drawings must not be left on a pad. 2) Drawings must be framed. 3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings. 4) Drawings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
2) Watercolor Painting	<p>Paintings done in the watercolor medium (also includes gouache/opaque watercolor)</p>	<p>1) Paintings must not be left on a watercolor pad. 2) Paintings must be framed. 3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings. 4) Paintings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
3) Oil Painting	<p>Paintings done in the oil painting medium (including traditional paints and the more recent water-soluble oils)</p>	<p>1) Paintings must not be left on a paper pad if a painting is done on one of the recent papers designed for oils and acrylic paintings.</p>

		<p>2) Paintings must be framed.</p> <p>3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings.</p> <p>4) Paintings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
4) Acrylic Painting	Paintings done in the acrylic painting medium (These will be judged together even if the style of painting mimics oils or watercolors.)	<p>1) Paintings must not be left on a paper pad if a painting is done on one of the recent papers designed for oils and acrylic paintings.</p> <p>2) Paintings must be framed.</p> <p>3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings.</p> <p>4) Drawings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
5) Pastel	Paintings done in a pastel medium (All pastels will be judged together whether they are soft pastels or oil pastels.)	<p>1) Paintings must not be left on a paper pad.</p> <p>2) Paintings may be submitted on any type of pastel support: paper, sanded paper, treated canvas, or hardboard.</p> <p>3) Paintings must be framed.</p> <p>4) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings.</p> <p>5) Paintings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>

High School Art Grades 9-12	Description:	Specific Rules:
1) Drawing:	<p>Color:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Color pencil - Watercolor pencil (this counts as a drawing if the overall picture still demonstrates a drawing style and has not been completely changed by use of a brush and water to appear like a painting – this is difficult to accomplish, so most watercolor 	<p>1) Drawings must not be left on a pad.</p> <p>2) Drawings must be framed.</p> <p>3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings.</p> <p>4) Drawings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>

	<p>pencil work will naturally fit in the drawing category)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crayon (this does not have a previously existing image on the page like the coloring page category in the Primary Art division – any crayon entries should use higher quality art crayons rather than typical children’s crayons) - Ink/Ink & Wash (Multi-colored Inks) and/or Markers 	
	<p>Black & White/Monochromatic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pencil - Ink/Ink & Wash (single color) - Charcoal - Conté/Sanguine/Sepia/Chalk monochromatic drawings 	<p>1) Drawings must not be left on a pad. 2) Drawings must be framed. 3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings. 4) Drawings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
2) Watercolor Painting	<p>Paintings done in the watercolor medium (also includes gouache/opaque watercolor)</p>	<p>1) Paintings must not be left on a watercolor pad. 2) Paintings must be framed. 3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings. 4) Paintings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
3) Oil Painting	<p>Paintings done in the oil painting medium (including traditional paints and the more recent water-soluble oils)</p>	<p>1) Paintings must not be left on a paper pad if a painting is done on one of the recent papers designed for oils and acrylic paintings. 2) Paintings must be framed. 3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings. 4) Paintings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
4) Acrylic Painting	<p>Paintings done in the acrylic painting medium (These will be judged together)</p>	<p>1) Paintings must not be left on a paper pad if a painting is done on one of the recent papers</p>

	even if the style of painting mimics oils or watercolors.)	<p>designed for oils and acrylic paintings.</p> <p>2) Paintings must be framed.</p> <p>3) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings.</p> <p>4) Drawings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>
5) Pastel	Paintings done in a pastel medium (All pastels will be judged together whether they are soft pastels or oil pastels.)	<p>1) Paintings must not be left on a paper pad.</p> <p>2) Paintings may be submitted on any type of pastel support: paper, sanded paper, treated canvas, or hardboard.</p> <p>3) Paintings must be framed.</p> <p>4) Frames must be mounted using framing wire stretched across the back of the frame. No picture hanger-type fittings.</p> <p>5) Paintings may be matted in the frame, but this is not required.</p>