



U.S. Representative Mark Meadows is encouraging Western North Carolina high school students to enter the annual Congressional art competition. Each spring, a nationwide high school arts competition is sponsored by Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. The *Artistic Discovery Contest* is an opportunity to recognize and encourage the young artistic talent in the nation, as well as the 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of North Carolina.

The *Artistic Discovery Contest* is open to all high school students in the NC 11<sup>th</sup> District. There are several categories for the competition including paintings, drawings, collages, prints, mixed media, photography, and computer graphics. There will be a District-Wide Competition to provide the entire 11<sup>th</sup> District the opportunity to exhibit and view their local talent.

The overall winner of our district's competition will receive two round-trip tickets to the National Reception in Washington, DC from Southwest Airlines, a \$3,000 scholarship to Savannah College of Art and Design, and his or her art will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol. The exhibit in Washington will also include artwork from other contest winners nationwide.

Artworks entered in the contest may be up to 28 inches by 28 inches (including the frame) and may be up to 4 inches in depth. The artwork may be:

- Paintings - including oil, acrylics, and watercolor
- Drawings - including pastels, colored pencil, pencil, charcoal, ink, and markers
- Collage
- Prints - including lithographs, silkscreen, and block prints
- Mixed Media
- Computer Generated Art
- Photography

All entries must be an original in concept, design and execution.

The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nationwide competition.

This year's deadlines to submit your artwork is May 1, 2014.

Please read the attached files, and if you would like more information on the annual Congressional District Art Competition, please contact Deborah Potter at (828) 693-5660 or [Deborah.Potter@mail.house.gov](mailto:Deborah.Potter@mail.house.gov).



## 2014 Art Submission Checklist

When preparing for the Congressional Art Competition, please complete the following checklist. This will ensure that the Congressional Art Competition staff will accept the artwork.

Please consult the official rules and regulations for more information. Individual Members of Congress may institute other requirements in addition to these.

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### Requirements for the Students, Parents/Guardians, and Teachers:

- The artwork is no larger than 28" x 28" x 4" when framed. (Note: The winning artwork must be framed. Each Member of Congress may specify whether all entries should be framed.)
- The artwork meets suitability and originality guidelines.
- The Student Information and Release Form is attached to the back of the artwork.
  - The student, a parent/guardian, and a teacher have signed the release form.

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### Requirements for the Winning Student and Parents/Guardians:

- The artwork framed.
  - All labels, ribbons, etc., have been removed before framing.
  - The artwork is no larger than 28" x 28" x 4" and does not weigh more than 15 pounds, when framed.
  - Two sturdy eye hooks or the equivalent are attached at the top right and left sides of the back of the frame.
  - On the back of the work or frame, arrows indicate which direction is "up".

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### Requirements for Congressional Offices:

- If there are questions about the winning artwork's suitability or originality, the Curator of the Architect of the Capitol has been consulted. For a consultation, contact Dr. Barbara Wolanin ([bwolanin@aac.gov](mailto:bwolanin@aac.gov) or 202-228-2700).
- The winner's name, contact information, and artwork information were submitted to the Congressional Institute no later than May 7, 2014.
- The artwork has been packaged and shipped to Washington, DC, so that it arrives no later than May 27, 2014.
  - If the art is covered by glass, the artwork has been packed to prevent the pane from breaking. (Consult a shipping expert for assistance.)
  - The artwork has been mailed to the home of a DC staffer, **not** directly to the Congressional office.
- The Member has signed the second page of the Student Information and Release Form attached to the back of the artwork.



## 2014 RULES AND REGULATIONS

### FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

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#### General Guidelines

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The competition is open to high school students only. Exceptions may be made for schools that have 7th through 12th grades on one campus.

Artwork must be two-dimensional. Each framed artwork can be **no larger** than 28" x 28" x 4" (28 inches high, 28 inches wide, and 4 inches deep). If your artwork is selected as the winning piece, it must arrive framed and must still measure no larger than the above maximum dimensions. No framed piece should weigh more than 15 pounds.

**Framing guidelines apply only to the ONE winning artwork that will be sent to Washington, DC.** Each Member of Congress may include additional entry rules for his or her own District but is encouraged to follow the following guidelines for mediums and size. Please consult your Representative's office to see whether entrants must adhere to additional requirements, such as framing the artwork, for the district competition.

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.

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

Artwork will hang in the Capitol for the **entire year** of the exhibition and **cannot** be returned to the students earlier. Students should, therefore, submit artwork they will not need for other purposes.

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## Suitability Guidelines

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As outlined in these guidelines, the final decision regarding the suitability of all artwork for the 2014 Congressional Art Competition exhibition in the Capitol will be made by a panel of qualified persons chaired by the Architect of the Capitol. 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.

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.

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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 list their mailing addresses, if they differ from their home addresses.

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, due to the large number of works that would fit that description. The following is an example of an acceptable description: "A painting of two people; the one on the left wears a green sweater and khaki pants; the one 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 guidelines apply only to the ONE 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 Representative'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 exhibition, it must be delivered in a frame no larger than 28 by 28 inches in size.**

**All winning artwork must be enhanced and protected by a sturdy frame.** Frames must be made of wood or metal. No plastic "snap on" frames or metal frames that can easily come apart are to be used.

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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.

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 pounds in weight. Ensure 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.

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 eye hooks or the equivalent **must** be attached at the top right and left sides of the back of the frame for hanging in order to prevent the work from leaning forward or hanging unevenly. Wire between the hooks is not needed.

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.

Each work must have a label with this information securely applied to the back:

Student Name
Address
Phone Number
Title
Medium
Member's Name
State and District

Please use the largest label you have available. This information should be typed.