

# 2010 Congressional Art Competition Guidelines

## General Guidelines

- The competition is open to high school students only. Exceptions will be made for schools that have 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades on one campus. Each Member's office can choose whether or not to include 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades in the art competition if there are schools in its district that fit these criteria.
- In order to allow artwork to hang in the Cannon Tunnel to the U.S. Capitol, the following restrictions are enforced:
  - All artwork must be framed according to the appropriate framing guidelines, listed below.
  - Artwork must conform to these restrictions:
    - Artwork must be two dimensional
    - Each piece can be **no larger** than 28"x28"x 4" (28 inches high, 28 inches wide, and 4 inches deep) including the frame. Artwork cannot weigh more than 15 lbs.
    - Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate any 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).
- 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.
- 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

A typed and securely affixed large label must be applied to the back of each piece (see sample below).

- The final decision regarding the suitability of all artwork for the 2010 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.

### Framing Guidelines

- **Framing guidelines apply only to the ONE winning artist/artwork that will be sent to Washington, DC.**
- **All artwork must be framed.** Frames should be kept as simple and sturdy as possible. Metal frames are recommended. No "snap on" frames with glass are to be used.
- All artwork 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 lbs. in weight..
- Matting can enhance or detract from a work of art and should be carefully prepared.
- 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.
- Do not attach labels, ribbons, etc. to the front of the piece or underneath the glass or Plexiglas.
- If the artwork is abstract in design, please indicate on the backside which side is "up" with arrows.

A **typed** copy of the Student Information & Release Form **must be** securely attached to the back of the artwork.

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

Student Name, Address, and Phone No.

Title

Medium

Member's Name

State and District