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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1602

February 10, 2014

I am pleased to invite your students to participate in the 2014 Congressional Art Competition, *An Artistic Discovery*.

The Congressional Art Competition was founded by Members of the U.S. House of Representatives in 1982 to offer high school students across the country the opportunity to showcase their artistic talent.

We are excited to announce that we now are accepting submissions from the Sixteenth Congressional District students. Artwork must adhere to all of the competition guidelines and must be submitted to my district office in Ottawa by **Friday, April 18, 2014 by 5:00 pm**.

The first place artwork from each congressional district will be displayed in a year-long exhibit in the Cannon tunnel that leads to the U.S. Capitol. The first place winner will also be awarded travel for two to Washington, D.C. to attend the official art show opening and a reception in his or her honor along with other contest winners from congressional districts throughout the nation. Second and third place prizes will also be awarded. Please find additional guidelines and rules of the competition enclosed in this packet.

Our office will be partnering with the Ottawa Art Gallery for a press conference held the week of April 21st to name and recognize the winning student, their parents and their teacher. We will send out a letter to all applicants in March with information on the reception and press conference for those students who are participating.

Please encourage your students to take part in this exciting opportunity and do not hesitate to contact Patrick Doggett (Patrick.Doggett@mail.house.gov) in my district office with any questions you have. Thank you for your consideration and for the work you do to teach and mentor the youth of the Sixteenth Congressional District.

Sincerely,



Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress



2014 RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

General Guidelines

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.

Suitability Guidelines

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.

Student Information and Release Form

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.

Framing Guidelines (Overall Winner)

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.

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.

2014 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.

MEMBER/DISTRICT INFORMATION	
MEMBER OF CONGRESS NAME:	STATE:

STUDENT INFORMATION		
NAME:	GRADE:	
STREET ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT):		
STUDENT EMAIL:		
T-SHIRT SIZE:		
PARENT OR GUARDIAN NAME(S):		
PARENT PHONE:	PARENT WORK PHONE:	

SCHOOL		
SCHOOL NAME:		
STREET ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
ART TEACHER NAME:		
ART TEACHER PHONE:	ART TEACHER EMAIL:	

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

PLEASE COMPLETE THE RELEASE FORM ON PAGE 2.

2014 Congressional Art Competition Student Information & Release Form

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)	
STUDENT NAME:	STATE:
TITLE OF ENTRY:	

ORIGINALITY CERTIFICATION	
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: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> STUDENT SIGNATURE	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> ART TEACHER SIGNATURE

ARTWORK RELEASE	
<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, for a period of two years from the latest date on this form. The undersigned acknowledge that the final decision regarding the suitability of an art entry to be displayed in the Capitol will be made by a House panel chaired by the Architect of the Capitol. The undersigned also grant the Member, the House, their employees and agents, and the United States the right to reproduce the art entry for any non-commercial purpose. The undersigned further release the Member, the House, their employees and agents, and the United States 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, and the United States 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: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> STUDENT SIGNATURE	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (IF UNDER 18)

MEMBER APPROVAL (FOR OVERALL WINNER ONLY)	
I have viewed the above-signed student's artwork and approve of its content. I understand that by signing this form I am supporting this artwork and am responsible for its content.	
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> MEMBER SIGNATURE	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> PRINT DISTRICT OFFICE CONTACT NAME <hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> PRINT DC OFFICE CONTACT NAME