

2025 Congressional Art Competition

HOSTED BY CONGRESSWOMAN EMILIA SYKES

Each spring, a nationwide high school arts competition is sponsored by the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. The Congressional Art Competition is an opportunity to recognize and encourage the artistic talent in the nation, including Ohio's 13th Congressional District. The winning artwork of our district's competition will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol. The exhibit in Washington will include the winning artwork from all participating districts from around the country.

1. GENERAL GUIDELINES

All high school students in grades 9 through 12 who live in Ohio's 13th Congressional District are eligible to submit one piece of artwork. Artwork entered in the contest may be up to 28 inches by 28 inches, may be up to 4 inches in depth, and not weigh more than 15 pounds. If your artwork is selected as the winning piece, it must still measure no larger than the above maximum dimensions while framed. The following mediums are accepted:

- Paintings - including oil, acrylics, and watercolor
- Drawings - including pastels, colored pencil, pencil, charcoal, ink, and markers (It is recommended that charcoal and pastel drawings be fixed.)
- Collages - must be two dimensional
- Prints - including lithographs, silkscreen, and block prints
- Mixed Media - use of more than two mediums such as pencil, ink, watercolor, etc.
- Computer-generated art
- Photography

All entries 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 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 must adhere to the policy of the House Office Building Commission. Pieces may not depict a "contemporary political controversy" or be "sensationalistic or gruesome." According to the official guidelines, "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 traveled area leading to the Capitol."

MARCH 24, 2025
is the deadline for
interested students to
submit their artwork.

ART COMPETITION GUIDELINES

2. TIMELINE

The following is an approximate timeline for the 2025 Congressional Art Competition:

- February: Congresswoman Emilia Sykes' Office begins accepting student submissions.
- March 24: Deadline for students to submit artwork for consideration to one of the approved drop off locations.
- Late April: The overall winner from Ohio's 13th Congressional District will be announced.
- June: The Congressional Institute will hold a reception in Washington D.C. for the winners across the country.

3. HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Applicants must submit their original piece of artwork. Scanned images of artwork will not be accepted. All artwork should be matted or framed. Along with their artwork, students must include the 2025 Student Submission Form attached to this packet. Use the checklist to the right to ensure your submission is complete and meets all of the requirements. Artwork can be dropped off at the following locations:

- Rep. Sykes' District Office
- North Canton Public Library
- Massillon Museum
- EN-RICH-MENT
- Twinsburg Public Library

4. NEXT STEPS

Once the March 24 deadline to submit artwork passes, a judging panel of art professionals will evaluate each submission. The overall winner will be announced in late April. More information about that announcement will be provided to those who participate in the competition. The overall winner for Ohio's 13th Congressional District will have the opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. in June 2025 to participate in a reception with the other district winners from across the country.

5. QUESTIONS

Any questions you may have can be directed to Simara Vines in Congresswoman Sykes' District Office. She can be reached at 330-400-5350, or at Simara.Vines@mail.house.gov.

ART COMPETITION

Checklist



- Confirm you live in Ohio's 13th Congressional District by using the "Find Your Representative" tool on house.gov.
- The artwork is one of the accepted mediums for the competition.
- The artwork is no larger than 28 inches by 28 inches, may be up to 4 inches in depth, and not weigh more than 15 pounds.
- Artwork adheres to the policy of the House Office Building Commission.
- The Student Submission Form is attached to the back of the artwork and arrows are attached to indicate the orientation of the art.
- Artwork is submitted in its original form to Congresswoman Emilia Sykes' District Office by March 24, 2025.

Do you plan to participate? Let us know by scanning the QR code!



ART COMPETITION SUBMISSION FORM

STUDENT INFORMATION

Prefix: _____ Full name: _____
First Last

Permanent Address: _____
Number and Street

City State Zip Code

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Grade: _____ School: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Prefix: _____ Full name: _____
First Last

Permanent Address: _____
Number and Street

City State Zip Code

Phone: _____ Email: _____

ART TEACHER INFORMATION

Prefix: _____ Full name: _____
First Last

School Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

ART COMPETITION SUBMISSION FORM

ARTWORK INFORMATION

Artwork Title: _____

Brief Artwork Description: _____

Medium Used: _____

ARTWORK RELEASE

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 An Artistic Discovery (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 reproduce, distribute and 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, distribute and publicly display the art entry for any non-commercial purpose. This release allows the undersigned and their families, as well as the office of a Member of Congress, to purchase additional copies of the Exhibition Catalog or similar product, without it being a 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.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

ART COMPETITION SUBMISSION FORM

STUDENT QUESTIONS

Please use the space provided to explain your inspiration behind your artwork:

What did you find most difficult about creating this piece?

What did you learn through creating this piece that you can apply towards your artwork in the future?
